

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2023/2024

MEMBERS: Cllrs Hannah McKerchar (Chair) John Taylor, Matthew McLoughlin, Timothy Bamford, Hannah McKercher, Matthew McLoughlin , Will Simpson, Garry Kitchen (Coptee) and Jane Emery (Coptee)

SUPPORT: Jodie Harris – Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
THEME/ISSUE	APPROACH / AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES / ACTIONS
Cumulative Impact Assessment	<p>New Issue:</p> <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 4th July 2023</u></p> <p>The purpose of this report is to brief Members of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel on proposals to introduce a Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy under the Licensing Act 2003.</p>	<p>The Panel recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The data be reviewed where it was felt to be incorrect (particularly in relation to Dewsbury Town centre) and be shared with the Panel. 2. The maps be made clearer and shared with the Panel following review with the Public Health Department. 3. Where figures less than 50 had been blocked out in the report that liaison took place with the Public Health Department to obtain actual figures and that these be shared with the Panel. 4. The quality of the report presented be improved and formatted to a higher standard before presentation to the Panel moving forwards. 5. A review of areas be undertaken where streets may be excluded by the boundary line and allow for issues to persist (i.e.- Trinity Street). 6. The ambition for the Public Consultation was made clear and that a statistically valid figure against the overall population for the number of public respondents be set to ensure broad representation and meaningful engagement. 7. Consideration be given to amending the period within which the Public Consultation was to be held to ensure the student population be represented. 8. The Panel be informed with the outcomes of the Public Consultation if approved by the Licencing Panel.

		<p>9. The Panel be provided with information in relation to; those licences that were being reviewed (i.e.- where areas were congested with premises selling cheap alcohol), the scope for refusal and evidence of good practice.</p> <p>10. It was important to be inclusive in the approach and that consideration continue to be given to the inclusion of other areas.</p> <p>11. If the Consultation be approved, that an email be sent to all Ward Members asking them to put forward the areas that they represent for consideration if they felt it would be useful.</p> <p>12. The Panel to be informed if the Consultation was approved and for an update be provided on progress prior to further consideration by Licensing and Full Council.</p>
<p>White Rose Forest – Summary Review 2022/23</p>	<p>New Issue:</p> <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 4th July 2023</u></p> <p>The Panel considered a presentation in relation to White Rose Forest – Summary review 2022/23 and looking ahead to 2023/24</p>	<p>The Panel noted the report, White Rose Forest – Summary review 2022/23 and looking ahead to 2023/24 and recommended that Kirklees specific data be provided in relation to the Green Streets be provided to the Panel.</p>
<p>Waste Strategy Update</p>	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 30th August 2023</u></p> <p>In 2023/2024, the Environment and Climate Change Panel will receive an update around work undertaken to refresh the strategy in light of recent financial challenges and changes to legislation.</p> <p><i>Background:</i></p> <p><i>The former Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel first scrutinised the new Waste Strategy in 2021. In 2022/23 there was a focus on pre-decision scrutiny of the Waste Strategy Capital Update and the Cabinet decision 2nd August 2022 was taken to approve funds.</i></p>	<p>The Panel noted the Re-profile of the Kirklees Resource and Waste Strategy 2021- 30, and it was recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work be undertaken around increasing capacity for the emptying of community recycling points. 2. Data be obtained to understand any potential impacts the reuse shop may have on local charities. 3. Data be provided to the Panel in respect of the projected impact of contamination.

	<p><i>Overall, the Panel were supportive of the strategy and recommended that, ‘the idea of rewarding individual businesses be considered in the development of the Community Reward Scheme. A joined up and borough wide approach be taken to the reuse shop and bulky waste initiatives in later stages of development’.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Comparison between Kirklees and other Local Authorities with a similar demographic be undertaken in respect of contamination rates. 5. Information in respect of any impact on net zero targets be included in scrutiny reports going forwards. 6. The presentation material be provided to the Panel in advance of the meeting. 7. A mechanism to allow businesses to express their interest in the recycling service be investigated further. 8. Engagement with local businesses around collection points be implemented. 9. The possibility of (i) enabling vulnerable residents to dispose of garden waste through assisted bulky waste collections and (ii) the 5-year timeframe for the ‘Period Dignity Scheme’ be investigated.
<p>Snow Warden Volunteer Scheme Update</p>	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 30th August 2023</u></p> <p>In 2023/2024, the Environment and Climate Change Panel will receive an update around learning from snow wardens, under the theme of Winter Maintenance.</p> <p><i>Background:</i></p> <p><i>The former Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel reviewed the approach taken to Winter Maintenance 7th September 2021 which included a focus on the link to planning.</i></p> <p><i>Key issues noted included the maintenance of active travel routes during winter and of the challenges around housing growth, resources, and capacity for winter maintenance. It was agreed that the current policy for winter maintenance should be assessed. This work was undertaken an update was given 30th August 2022.</i></p>	<p>The Panel noted the Snow Wardens Volunteer Scheme and recommended that a consistent approach be taken to communications and raising awareness of the scheme across the Council through the provision of (i) social media guidance, (ii) handouts for elected members to share with residents and (iii) the promotion of the scheme through community events.</p>

<p>Council Owned Tree and Woodland Management Policy</p>	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 25th October 2023</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the finalised draft replacement Council Owned Tree and Woodland Management Policy.</p>	<p>The Panel noted the draft Council Tree and Woodland Management Policy and recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An update on the work being undertaken with the White Rose Forest in respect of quantifying canopy cover be provided to the Panel. 2. The emergency contact details be added to the councils web page and that a link to the documents referenced be added to the proforma. 3. There should be more transparency around the timeframes in relation to the enforcement of dangerous trees/highways obstructions to manage public expectations. 4. The benefits of green space as an important aspect of public health/mental health be taken forward as an additional consideration.
<p>Air Quality Update</p>	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 25th October 2023</u></p> <p>Background:</p> <p><i>The former Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel received an update in October 2019. A number of areas to monitor were identified following implementation of the Action Plan.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Which measures have proven effective, and which provide good value for money.</i> 2. <i>Addressing the issue of vehicles with idling engines particularly outside schools.</i> 3. <i>How the planning system can be used/will address issues in relation to infrastructure to encourage sustainable transport/active travel.</i> 	<p>The Panel noted the Update on Local Air Quality Management and the 2023 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) and recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The documents identified in the report as opportunities for pre-decision scrutiny be presented to the Panel going forwards. 2. It be confirmed with the air quality lead, if the output from the incinerator had any impact on AQMA No.9 3. Work be undertaken to investigate Gas to Liquid fuel to increase understanding of any potential benefits as part of the refresh of the Air Quality Action Plan and Air Quality Strategy 4. To maintain a good relationship with Highways England as a key external stakeholder and to continue building on this

	<p>4. <i>Improving infrastructure to encourage travel by public transport/cycling and walking.</i></p> <p>5. <i>Encouraging/ facilitating better options for travel to school to reduce use of private cars.</i></p> <p><i>In 2022/23 the Panel received notification of the publication of the Annual Status Report (ASR) for consideration with a view for a formal update to follow. The ASR provided a look back on Air Quality monitoring data for the calendar year of 2021 as well as some progress made in relation to the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP)</i></p> <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 25th October 2023</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider the 2023 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) and will receive a presentation providing an update on Local Air Quality Management.</p>	<p>partnership as part of the refresh of the Air Quality Action Plan and Air Quality Strategy.</p> <p>5. The scientific literature review in relation to the potential benefits of Roadvent be shared with the Panel.</p> <p>6. Clear, effective, and positive communications be developed with regards to the Roadvent project to increase public understanding of the benefits</p>
<p>2 Year Highways Capital Plan Update</p>	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 10 January 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider an update in relation to the 2 year Highways Capital Plan</p>	
<p>Highways and Road Safety</p>	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 10th January 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider an update in relation to Highways and Road Safety.</p> <p><i>Background:</i></p>	

	<p><i>The former Economy and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Panel received a presentation around Highways Safety which set out The Councils statutory responsibilities, (as per the Highways Safety Act), (i.e.- Safe vehicles, speeds, roads and behaviours as well as Post collision learning and care). The presentation also covered issues in relation to capital funding, and the Vision Zero ambition to eliminate road deaths and serious injuries (KSI's) to zero by 2040 and improve road safety for everyone using a safe systems approach. The Panel recommended that more emphasis be placed on enforcement and that the council continue to promote, persuade and influence driver behaviour as well as maintaining strong partnership work with the Police.</i></p>	
Environmental Sustainability Strategy	<p>New Issue:</p> <p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 21 February 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will receive an update on the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.</p>	
Waste Re-Procurement	<p><u>Meeting of the Panel to be held 27th March 2024</u></p> <p>The Panel will consider an update on Waste Re-Procurement in relation to work undertaken in the scrutiny of the Waste Strategy update.</p>	
LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING ISSUES		
THEME/ISSUE	APPROACH / AREAS OF FOCUS	LEAD OFFICER
1.		

2.		

Items scheduled:

- Cumulative Impact Assessment (July)
- White Rose Forest – Summary review 2022/23 and looking ahead to 2023/24 (July)
- Waste Strategy Review (August)
- Snow Warden Volunteer Scheme Update (August)
- Air Quality Action Plan (October)
- Tree Policy (October)
- 2 Year Highways Capital Plan (January)
- Highways and Road Safety (January)
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy (February)
- Waste Procurement (Private Item) (March)

Items not yet scheduled:

- Fleet Replacement
- Street Lighting
- Statutory Food Hygiene Plan 2024 – 2025 / Statutory Health & Safety Plan 2024 – 2025
- Future Bereavement Services Offer
- Heat District Energy Network
- Parks and Greenspace Vision (TBC)
- Events (Woven/Pride/Year of Music) (TBC)
- Parking Strategy Review (TBC)

Upcoming Panel visits Ideas:

- Energy from Waste (EfW) and Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) Scrutiny Visit (September)