

Contact Officer: Steve Copley

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

POLICY COMMITTEE

Monday 9th January 2017

Present: Councillor Rob Walker (Chair)
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Fazila Fadia
Councillor David Hall
Councillor James Homewood
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Hilary Richards
Councillor John Taylor
Councillor Judith Hughes
Councillor Bill Armer

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor Naheed Mather

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were noted on behalf of Cllr Robert Light for today's meeting. Cllr Bill Armer substituted for Cllr Light.

Cllrs Martyn Bolt and Naheed Mather attended the meeting as observers.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Policy Committee meeting on 28 November 2016, were approved as a correct record.

Cllr Rob Walker also provided a brief progress report on the work being undertaken by the members of the task and finish group on social value, prior to the completion of a formal report and recommendations for the Policy Committee in February 2017.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

Today's meeting was held in public session.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were submitted.

6 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

7 Member Question Time

No questions were submitted.

8 Dealing with refuse and waste in Kirklees

Will Acornley, Head of Environment and Greenspace, and Lory Hunter, Commercial and Technical Development Manager, introduced a presentation on the “Strategy for dealing with waste in Kirklees”

The presentation highlighted:-

- What the council and its services currently have to do and provide in 2016/17, within the SITA PFI contract up to 2022/23
- The financial costs of the services at present, and the predicted changes in those costs, demands and volumes in the period up to 2023
- Kirklees and its performance when compared to other local authorities and their figures on the recycling and disposal of waste
- What we may have to pay in the future because of the impact of the growth in waste on future disposal costs from 2017/18 through to 2027/28
- The changes described within the Government 2025 vision for dealing with recycling and waste.
- Areas where the Policy Committee may be able to help with the development of the changes and any policy issues. For example helping to set the ‘vision’:
 - Do we want to prepare for the different options?
 - What recycling rates do we want to aim for?
 - Do we want a ‘sort ourselves out’ treatment solution or a wider regional vision?
 - Do we want to send our waste to regional treatment facilities?
 - Is the current site the right location?
 - Do we want to move our operations?

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Members went on to discuss the concerns and issues raised by the presentation, which included:-

- The Government vision for 2025 and how we will deal with the new demands and targets for the collection and recycling of waste including the proposed collection of food waste
- An acknowledgement of the changes, demands and pressures which the council will have to address in the period from 2017-2023, to provide collection and recycling services
- Changes in the costs and markets for the collection and recycling of waste at a local, regional, national and international level
- The investment which the organisations in the public and private sector will have to make to deal with these challenges
- The location of any new homes and businesses in Kirklees, and how to deal with the extra demands which they will place on our collection and recycling facilities and services
- Selecting those areas of policy development e.g. awareness raising, promoting waste minimisation and new opportunities for the recycling of waste, where the Policy Committee may be able to help in 2017/18.

Resolved – Members of the Committee resolved that:-

- (1). Will Acornley and Lory Hunter be thanked for today's presentation
- (2). That further consideration of the issues raised by the presentation and today's discussion be picked up the Policy Committee, or through an informal task and finish group, from March 2017 onwards, to allow members to complete the current work on "Social value"
- (3). That Cllr Rob Walker, plus Steve Copley, Governance Team, share news of today's discussion and decisions with all members of the council, and to seek the names of any councillors that may want to participate in the proposed task and finish group from March 2017 onwards.

9 Passivhaus

Steve Copley, Governance Team, reminded members of the work undertaken by Cllr Andrew Cooper and a task and finish group on "Passivhaus" in 2015/16, news of which was shared with the Policy Committee on 12 September 2016.

It was noted that the work of the group, plus their work on a draft policy statement, had generated a number of requests for supplementary information and meetings, to try to help complete the document and work.

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Cllr Andrew Cooper agreed to share the information which he had obtained along with an invite for any members of the committee and the task and finish group to meet to consider this before the next meeting of the Policy Committee on 20 February 2017, in order to try to complete a formal report and final version of the policy statement.

Resolved – Members of the Committee resolved that:-

(1). Today's progress report be received and noted.

(2). Cllr Andrew Cooper to share the information which he has obtained and an invite for any members of the committee and the task and finish group to meet to consider this before the next meeting of the Policy Committee on 20 February 2017 in order to try to complete a formal report and final version of the policy statement.