

POLICY AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY PANEL

Thursday, 26 May 2016 (7:00 pm – 8:53 pm)

PRESENT:

Councillor Clarke (Chair); Councillors Mrs Broadhurst, Holden-Brown, Parkinson-MacLachlan, Lear, Pragnell, Balaam, Garton and Hatfield

Also in attendance: Councillors Winstanley, Airey and Grajewski

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cross and Mignot

---

RESOLVED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS ONLY)

1. MINUTES

**It was AGREED -**

**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 4 February 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.**

(NOTE: Councillor Grajewski referred to Minute 492 – Chairman’s report, final paragraph, and stated that Members had not received the response that the Vice Chairman had agreed to email the following day. The Chairman advised that he would follow this up.)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman thanked previous Panel members for all their hard work over the past year, with special thanks to the former Vice-Chairman, Councillor Paul Bicknell who had done a lot of work on Air Quality and also Councillor Grajewski. He welcomed Councillors Hatfield, Balaam and Garton alongside the new Democratic Officer, Clare Hooper who replaced Jack Grounds. Thanks were also given to Cheryl Kemsley who had stood in, in the interim.

The Chairman concluded by introducing Matt Blythe, Housing and Environmental Health Manager, and advised that there would be a more general report on Environmental Health in Eastleigh from Matt in October, and Members should email the Chairman with any questions or concerns by 15 June 2016 in order to give Matt time to address them in his report.

#### 4. AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN EASTLEIGH

Matt Blythe, Environmental Health Manager, and Neil Scott, Senior Scientific Officer, gave an in-depth presentation on the Air Quality Management within the Borough. It followed the narrative of the report and on conclusion the Chairman thanked Matt and Neil for their presentation and opened up the floor to questions.

With regards to Southampton International Airport (SIA), technical information on emissions of air pollution from their operations was late and although officers were due to attend a technical meeting the following week Members requested that SIA be called in to attend and answer questions at a future meeting of the Panel.

Members were also concerned that bidding had been unsuccessful by the Solent Transport to the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to purchase a fleet of 'Euro 6' compliant buses for the Bluestar 2 route that operated within the Eastleigh AQMA and agreed that the Chairman and officers would work together to gain a greater understanding as to why the bid was unsuccessful.

It was noted that the Air Alert notification system was due to go live imminently. This was a service (free subscription) for residents which would give mobile phone alerts and notifications ahead of times of increased levels of air pollution. This had been funded by a grant from Hampshire County Council Public Health. For a number of reasons it had suffered a very long gestation period but officers had now successfully negotiated with the suppliers and Southampton City Council to arrive at a joint scheme which would give the best quality forecasting and deliver value for money for both Eastleigh and Southampton. Members were keen that this be up and running by July 2016.

Eastleigh Local Area Committee (ELAC), Environmental Health (EH) and Transportation and Engineering (TE) worked together to support the part-funding of a low-emissions hybrid Co-wheels car using Developers' Contributions. This followed the replacement of two diesel Ford Fiestas with electric vehicles and associated rapid chargers on the Co-wheels car club in early 2016. These were the first electric vehicles available on a car club anywhere in the south of England and were purchased using funding secured via a successful funding bid prepared by TE to the Department for Transport (DfT) / Carplus. Members wanted to see the use of these vehicles promoted more to target colleges and other associations/users.

With regards to the graphs shown at Appendix 1 to the report, Members requested that these were not colour coded as the agendas were in black and white and it was difficult to see and, to understand a trend, they needed to be produced on a quarterly basis if possible.

The Chairman thanked Members and it was agreed that the above areas of concern be added to the Action List.

**It was AGREED –**

- (1) That the ongoing work carried out by Council Officer in relation to Air Quality be noted;**
- (2) That Southampton International Airport be called in to attend a future meeting of the Panel;**
- (3) The officers will work with the Chair to gain a clear understanding of what is required in order for bids for funding to be successful;**
- (4) That the ‘Air Alerts’ website be up and running by July 2016;**
- (5) That the use of Common Wheels be promoted more widely in the Borough;**
- (6) That graphs set out in Appendix 1 to the report be published with an index on a quarterly basis to identify trends; and**
- (7) That recommendation 2-6 above be added to the Action List.**

(NOTE: (i) A member of the public asked questions on a number of issues including the co-use of data across the country; the availability of real-time air pollution be on the website; and the unsuccessful bid for low emission buses; and (ii) Cllrs Grajewski and Airey who were present at the meeting also spoke in relation to this item.)

## 5. ACTION LIST

The Panel considered its action list from previous meetings, which set out the recent decisions and actions arising from the Panel.

It was also agreed that the recommendations from Agenda Item 5 be added to the list.

**It was AGREED -**

**That actions with a completion date should be removed from the list and the items listed above be included.**

## 6. FORWARD PLAN

The Panel considered the Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

**It was AGREED -**

**That the Forward Plan be noted.**

7. WORK PROGRAMME

Panel members considered their Work Programme to February 2017.

**It was AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.**