

Executive

29 June 2017

Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee

One Planet York Scrutiny Review – Cover Report

Summary

1. This cover report presents the Final Report from the One Planet York (OPY) Scrutiny Review and asks Executive to approve the recommendations arising from the review.

Review Recommendations

2. In May 2017 the Corporate & Scrutiny management Policy & Scrutiny Committee (CSMC) considered the Final Report of a Task Group which carried out a scrutiny review into a framework to help achieve the objectives of the One Planet York strategy. The Committee recognised the opportunities that exists within the One Planet York framework and urges the Executive to show its ambition to become a One Planet Council by playing a leading role in further building the OPY network and maintaining a strong focus on the OPY vision. CSMC agreed to endorse the review recommendations, listed below, in relation to the scrutiny review remit, detailed in italics, below:
 - i. *Review what leading sustainable cities and those similar to York are doing in seeking to balance economic, social and environmental needs.*

Recommendation

- a) The Council fully utilises the opportunities presented by the One Planet York framework to drive organisational efficiency and effectiveness through the principles of a One Planet Council and further mobilise the wider city towards a more sustainable and resilient One Planet York future.

ii. Explore potential of the One Planet York framework to:

- *Enable benchmarking with other cities through a new One Planet York 'city scorecard' (basket of measures)*
- *Increase understanding and wider awareness about what makes cities sustainable and resilient.*

Recommendations

- b) Communication of the One Planet York framework, vision and 10 principles are sustained across all media platforms and that widespread use of the One Planet York or One Planet Council logos is encouraged to demonstrate a united commitment in the One Planet York principles by City of York Council and our city partners.
 - c) That progress towards the One Planet York vision is measured via a new city scorecard and that the One Planet Council objectives are measured via a new council scorecard.
 - d) As the city scorecard will be based on the Grant Thornton Vibrant Economy Index, which includes a basket of measures across a range of economic, social and environmental themes, this scorecard is formally reported to CSMC on an annual basis to coincide with the Grant Thornton refresh in November each year.
 - e) That the One Planet York Task Group is reconvened in 12 months' time to review the impact of the Council's emerging service plans within the One Planet Council framework; how Key Performance Indicators align to the One Planet principles and to gauge the efficiency and effectiveness of internal communications.
- iii. Review statutory and local decision making tools, engagement and collaboration methods to help cities best balance economic, social and environmental needs.*

Recommendations

- f) City of York Council supports the full integration of the Better Decision Making Tool in the key decision making process.
 - g) Alongside the full integration of the BDMT, a plan is developed to support officers in the understanding and use of the tool to ensure its effectiveness.
 - h) CSMC review progress on embedding and implementing the BDMT in 12 months' time.
 - i) A specific heading relating to resilience and sustainability is added to the risks and implications section of CYC report templates.
 - j) The Council makes the BDMT available to partner organisations aligned to the One Planet York framework and explores whether a simplified version of the BDMT can be developed to assist ward committees when they consider the allocation of devolved budgets.
 - k) One Planet York notice boards, literature and static presentations are made available for ward committees interested in utilising the framework to further mobilise neighbourhoods / communities to get behind the OPY vision and to stimulate new neighbourhood conversations.
 - l) An elected member toolkit / resource pack is developed to assist ward committees, and is made available to community and voluntary groups to assist in making informed decisions within the One Planet York framework.
 - m) The Council arranges training for ward teams / committees to deliver One Planet York presentations to spread the One Planet message at local level.
- iv. Explore how the city's Urban Living Pilot Project – 'York City Environment Observatory' – could bring new knowledge and insight regarding economic, social and environmental interdependencies.*

Recommendation

- n) That CSMC request a report on the Urban Living Pilot Project once this work has been completed.

Background

3. At a meeting of the Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee in early May 2016 the Committee considered a Council motion on a proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) which had been referred to the Committee for further consideration. The Committee agreed that parts of the motion be referred back to Council but that more local implications included in the TTIP should be considered for cross-party scrutiny.
4. In June 2016 this was considered as a potential topic for review and Members discussed elements of the TTIP motion to support the work of One Planet York. It was agreed that rather than focus solely on one aspect of One Planet York the review should look at a framework to help achieve the objectives of the strategy.
5. CSMC subsequently appointed a Task Group to carry out this work which, after a series of meetings, made the review recommendations detailed in paragraph 2, above.

Options

6. Having considered the Final Report at Appendix 1 and its associated annex, the Executive may choose to amend and/or approve, or reject the recommendations arising from the review.

Council Plan

7. This report links to the focus on frontline services, a council that listens to residents and a prosperous city for all elements of the Council Plan 2015-19.

Implications

8. The implications arising from the review recommendations are detailed in the Final Report at Appendix 1

Risk Management

9. There are no risks attached to the recommendations in the Final Report. However, a failure to press the One Planet York message may lead to missed opportunities to build value into new work across the council and city, to reduce the city's carbon footprint and generate financial savings.

Recommendation

10. Having considered the Final Report and its annex, the Executive is asked to approve the recommendations as set out in paragraph 2, above.

Reason: To conclude the Scrutiny review in line with City of York Council scrutiny procedures and protocols.

Contact Details

Author:

Steve Entwistle
Scrutiny Officer
Tel: (01904) 554279
steven.entwistle@york.gov.uk

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director – Legal & Governance
Tel: (01904) 551004

Report Approved Date 25/05/2017

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Appendix

Appendix 1 – One Planet York Scrutiny Review Final Report