

## **Scrutiny Management Committee**

**22 January 2007**

### **Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services**

## **Proposed Scrutiny Review of Traffic Congestion in York**

### **Summary**

1. The purpose of this report is to ask members to reconsider a registered scrutiny topic which was deferred from the meeting of 23 October 2006. Members may make a recommendation as to whether it can be the subject of an Ad Hoc Scrutiny Sub-Committee either immediately or in the future.

### **Background**

2. At their meeting on 23 October members considered Topic 120 on the subject of Traffic Congestion in York which was originally submitted by Cllr Tracey Simpson-Laing (see Annex A for original topic registration form) . At that meeting, it was decided to defer a decision to enable a draft remit to be produced and discussions to take place with the relevant officers.
3. At the meeting of 23 October 2006 the Head of Financial Services mentioned funding sources specifically aimed at reducing congestion on roads. Further investigation of this has revealed that this has been allocated to funding a review by consultants Kendrick Ash and that there is no additional funding via that route.
4. The suggested draft remit based on the topic registration form was considered at the meeting on 20 November 2006 - see Annex B. Members considered the impact on resources of undertaking this review and requested that a report or presentation on the key issues be brought to the next meeting by relevant officers from City Strategy to enable them to decide whether to proceed to review. An outline of the information to be provided in the presentation is attached at Annex C.

### **Consultation**

5. Consultation with relevant officers was carried out when this topic was originally registered and further detailed discussions have been held in order to provide the information presented to date. This should enable members to

decide if it would be useful to take this topic further.

## **Options**

6. Having regard to the draft remit and presentation made at this meeting members may decide to:
  - a. Not progress the topic further, giving reasons
  - b. Form an Ad Hoc Sub Committee to consider the topic and make amendments to the remit as they consider appropriate. Also establish a timescale for any such review.

## **Analysis**

7. If members decide to create an Ad Hoc Sub-Committee immediately, this will mean that currently the resources of Scrutiny Services will be working to capacity. Brief, clear remits and short to medium timescales should ensure that reviews are progressed efficiently. Progress with current reviews is being regularly monitored to assess workflow and resource capacity to ensure completion during the current municipal year.

## **Corporate Priorities**

8. Members might consider that this topic would contribute to Corporate Priority no 2 – Increase the use of public and other environmentally friendly modes of transport.

## **Implications**

9. There are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT or other implications associated with this report. Should Members decide to proceed with a review of this topic, naturally, there will be usual costs associated with resourcing the review, depending on its agreed remit.

## **Risk Management**

10. In compliance with the Councils risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

## **Recommendations**

11. Members are asked to consider the outstanding scrutiny topic in line with the options above, and to agree a remit and timescale for any review which might be authorised.

**Reason:** In order to carry out their responsibilities in managing the Scrutiny function in York

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**Report Approved**

**Date** 12/01/2007

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None at this stage

**Wards Affected:**

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Annexes**

Annex A – Draft remit for Topic 120  
Annex B – Presentation Outline

**Background Papers**

None