
**City Centre Access Ad Hoc Scrutiny
Committee**

14th November 2011

Report of the Assistant Director Governance & ICT

City Centre Access Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review

Summary

1. This report asks Members to scope and timetable the City Centre Access Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review.

Background

2. In June 2011 Councillor Gillies submitted a scrutiny topic in relation to access and foot street enforcement in the city centre. This proposed topic was subsequently considered at a scrutiny work planning event held on 25th July 2011 where it was decided that the topic should go ahead; it was initially allocated to the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee, with the possibility that it could be held jointly with the Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
3. However, further discussions with officers and Councillor Gillies led to the decision that the formation of an ad hoc scrutiny committee would be a better way forward, as the topic potentially cut across the remits of several of the standing scrutiny committees.
4. The topic was subsequently presented to Scrutiny Management Committee who agreed to form an Ad Hoc Committee to undertake the work.
5. The following focus for the review was presented to SMC:

'How do we minimise the amount of vehicles in the city centre during footstreet hours to ensure the safety of pedestrians?

1. *Are the current footstreet hours right? Are the right streets included?*

2. *Do changes need to be made to the (City Centre Area Action Plan/City Centre Access Study/Footstreets Policy) to ensure:*

- *Appropriate disabled access and parking provision*
- *The safety of pedestrians during footstreet hours*
- *City centre cycling storage facilities*

3. *How could City of York Council and the Police improve partnership working in order to fully enforce the 'footstreets policy' including understanding;*

- *'Who is responsible for what*
- *The current barriers to enforcing the policy'*

Consultation

6. Consultation on whether to progress this topic to review was undertaken at the recent scrutiny work planning event. Recent conversations between the scrutiny officer and Councillor Gillies led to the above focus being suggested.
7. During the course of the review there will be further consultation with officers and partners as appropriate.

Options

8. There are no specific options associated with the recommendations in this report. Members are asked to agree the focus of the review (as set out in paragraph 5 of this report) and to scope and timetable the Ad Hoc Committee's work on this review.

Analysis

9. Members are asked to consider the information contained in this report and that within the original topic registration form attached at Annex A in order to scope and timetable the review. As part of this process it is suggested that the Committee considers the currently unanswered questions set out in Annex A.
10. The Assistant Director (Strategic Planning and Transport) and the Traffic Engineer at City of York Council will be in attendance at the meeting to assist the Committee to scope and timetable the review. In particular they will be able to provide information on the already ongoing Footstreets Review and the City Centre Movement & Accessibility Study including the timescales they are working to.

Corporate Strategy 2009/2012

11. This scrutiny topic is linked to both the Inclusive City and Safer City themes of the Corporate Strategy 2009/2012.

Implications

12. Financial – There are no known financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report, however implications may arise as the review progresses.
13. Human Resources – There are no Human Resources implications associated with the recommendations within this report however, implications may arise as the review progresses.
14. Legal – There are no known legal implications associated with the recommendations within this report however, implications may arise as the review progresses.
15. There are no other known implications associated with the recommendations within this report.

Risk Management

16. There are no known risks associated with the recommendations within this report.

Recommendations

17. Members are asked to:
 - i. Agree the focus as set out in Paragraph 5 of this report.
 - ii. Scope and timetable the review.

Contact Details

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Report Approved

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Date 03.11.2011

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected: Guildhall

All

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For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex A Topic Assessment Form (One Page Strategy)