
City Centre Access Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee

20th February 2013

Report of the Assistant Director Governance and ICT

Final Steps – City Centre Access Scrutiny Review

Summary

1. This report sets out the final steps required for this Committee in relation to their review on City Centre Access.

Background

2. In June 2011 Councillor Gillies submitted a scrutiny topic in relation to access and foot street enforcement in the city centre which was progressed to review. The following remit for the Committee to work to was subsequently agreed:

Aim

3. How do we minimise vehicular movement in the city centre footstreets and immediate area to ensure the safety of pedestrians?

Key Objectives

- (i). 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 cycle storage facilities
- (ii). 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 currently and should there be any changes
 - The current barriers to enforcing the policy

4. Over a series of meetings this Committee considered various pieces of evidence culminating in them submitting a report to Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee on 12th November 2012 with an overview of their findings and some concerns over process and the support they had received during the course of the review, this is attached at **Appendix A** to this report. Based on the evidence within this report CSMC were given the following two options:

Option 1 Agree that there is no further role for this Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee in relation to this review

Option 2 Continue the work of this Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee giving clear objectives in order that it can be completed
5. On consideration of the report submitted to them and the options set out above Corporate and Scrutiny Management agreed that there was no further role for this Committee. However they felt that one further meeting (today's meeting) should be convened in order to collate a full summary of the Committee's findings for submission to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transport and Sustainability prior to any further decisions in respect of the City Centre Footstreets Review. This would allow for the work that has been undertaken by this Committee to date, and any further comments they may wish to make, to be taken into consideration as part of the ongoing Footstreets Review.

Consultation

6. The Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee consulted with various officers and North Yorkshire Police during the course of this review. In addition to this today's meeting has been convened in response to a request from this Committee's parent body, Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Options

7. Whilst there are no direct options associated with the recommendations in this report Members are asked to collate the information arising from this scrutiny review and any additional information they would like to be taken into consideration before formally submitting to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transport and Sustainability.

Analysis

8. Members are asked to consider formally submitting the report at **Appendix A** to this report and also to identify any further issues that they

might want the Cabinet Member to take into consideration when making decisions in regard to the ongoing Footstreets Review. In particular the Chair of this Committee, when speaking at Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee in November 2012 had mentioned disabled access and parking provision; enforcement of traffic restrictions as contraventions seemed to largely go unenforced and the need to address moving and non-moving traffic offences.

Council Plan 2011-2015

9. The work of this Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee directly relates to the 'Get York Moving' theme set out within the Council Plan 2011-15. As part of the 'Get York Moving' theme there is a commitment to look at 'improving movement in the city centre'.

Implications

10. **Financial** – there are no known financial implications associated with the recommendations within this report. However many of the ideas raised in **Appendix A**, and those that may come out in discussion at this meeting could have financial implications. These will need to be considered by the Cabinet Member as part of the decision making process in relation to the ongoing Footstreets Review.
11. **Human Resources** – There are no known Human Resources implications associated with the recommendations within this report.
12. **Other** – There are no other known implications associated with the recommendations within this report.

Risk Management

13. There are no known risks associated with the recommendations within this report. However, risks may arise dependent on which, if any, of the ideas contained within **Appendix A** the Cabinet Member may choose to implement as part of the ongoing Footstreets Review.

Recommendations

14. Members are recommended to formally submit **Appendix A** to this report to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transport and Sustainability along with any additional comments they may wish to make.

Reason: In order that the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee's views are taken into consideration when decisions on the ongoing Footstreets Review are taken.

Contact Details

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Report
Approved



Date 07.02.2013

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected: Guildhall Ward

All ☐

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes & Appendices

Appendix A Report of the City Centre Access Ad Hoc Scrutiny Committee submitted to Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee 12.11.2012