

---

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change
Date	16 December 2020
Present	Councillors Widdowson
Apologies	

---

## 10. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or discloseable pecuniary interests she may have in respect of business on the agenda. None were declared.

## 11. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 24 September 2020 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

## 12. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the session under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

## 13. York Climate Commission

The Executive Member considered the option to approve the establishment of a York Climate Commission. She highlighted that she was pleased with the speed at which York had acted to prepare for the creation of a Climate Commission and agreed that the collaborative work between the public, private, and civic sectors in York would play an important role in York reaching its aim of net carbon zero by 2030.

It was noted that the Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee had considered the proposal for the establishment of a York Climate Commission prior to a decision being made and recommended that Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change chair the Commission for an initial period that would not exceed 12 months from formation. At which point, the Chair would be appointed from amongst the other Commission members, with the Executive then taking up the role of

Vice-chair. The Executive Member thanked the Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee for their pre-decision scrutiny work leading to this decision.

Resolved:

- i. Approved the establishment of a York Climate Commission;
- ii. Agreed to the Commission's Terms of Reference, with the amendment that the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change will chair the Commission for an initial period that will not exceed 12 months from formation. At which point, the Chair will be appointed from amongst the other Commission members, with the Executive member for Environment and Climate Change taking up the role of Vice-chair.

Reason: To create cross city coordination towards achieving a net carbon zero York by 2030.

#### **14. York Community Woodland delivery Pathway**

The Executive Member considered the delivery platform and outlined that the project would be a great opportunity for York. They noted that this would allow for a multiuse new woodland with 50,000 new trees that would improve York's air quality, create new jobs, and help York reach its aim of being carbon neutral by 2030. It was also outlined that the project would garner a lot of support from across the city and would draw in a lot of funding from government grants.

Resolved:

- i. Noted the progress made to date;
- ii. Reviewed and approved the following:
  - a) Draft project initiation document (PID);
  - b) Draft project plan and key milestones;
  - c) Draft engagement framework and strategy;
  - d) Communications plan.

Reason: To create a new woodland for York which will help the city reach net zero carbon by 2030.

Cllr. P. Widdowson, Executive Member  
[The meeting started at 11.00 am and finished at 11.07 am].