



**Notice of a public meeting of
Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

- To:** Councillors Vassie (Chair), Baker (Vice-Chair), S Barnes, Fisher, Hook, D Myers and Wann
- Date:** Tuesday, 15 October 2019
- Time:** 5.30 pm
- Venue:** The Thornton Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G039)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, members are asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which they may have in respect of business on this agenda.

- 2. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 6)
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2019.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting, members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Committee's remit can do so. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Monday 14 October 2019.**

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and Officers at all meetings open to the press and public. This includes the use of social media reporting, i.e. tweeting. Anyone wishing to film, record or take photos at any public meeting should contact the Democracy Officer (whose contact details are at the foot of this agenda) in advance of the meeting.

The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at:
http://www.york.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/11406/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings_20160809.pdf

**4. Attendance of the Executive Member for (Pages 7 - 10)
Environment and Climate Change**

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change will be in attendance to discuss the priorities and challenges for 2019/20.

5. Baseline Data and Funding Opportunities (Pages 11 - 14)

To consider what baseline data the Committee would find useful and to receive information from representatives of the Stockholm Environment Institute (on behalf of the University of York), together with a presentation from the Head of Energy and Sustainability at West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) on regional climate change activity.

6. Work Plan 2019-20 (Pages 15 - 16)

To consider the Committee work plan for the 2019-20 municipal year.

7. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer

Angela Bielby

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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Date	10 September 2019
Present	Councillors Vassie (Chair), Baker (Vice-Chair), S Barnes, Fisher, Hook, Wann and K Taylor (Substitute)
Apologies	Councillors D Myers

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare, at this point in the meeting, any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any prejudicial or discloseable pecuniary interest that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda. Cllr Barnes declared a personal non-prejudicial interest through his employment with an off shore renewable energy company. The Chair also declared a personal non-prejudicial interest through his employment with a Fair Trade company. There were no further declarations of interest.

2. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been eight registrations to speak under the general remit of the Committee.

June Tranmer, a local resident, explained that she was a founding Member of One Planet York. She updated the committee on the work of One Planet York and expressed concern regarding the withdrawal of council support for it. She added that One Planet York hoped to collaborate with the Committee. She noted the energy efficiency of city centre premises and the new discretionary rate for businesses going into listed premises not currently occupied, and she asked for this to be included in the Committee remit. She also asked for trees not to be cut down.

Caroline Lewis, a local resident, welcomed the overdue commitment to the climate change emergency. She welcomed the changes to traffic flow on Micklegate and the positive impact this would have on pedestrians. She further welcomed the involvement of the Green Party in the new administration and expressed that she hoped to see more round table discussions with the public.

Thea Jacob, a local resident and independent small trader, also welcomed the council declaring the climate emergency. She outlined the work she did with young families and noted the concerns of those families about climate change. She felt that council leaders and local communities could work together to show that York is doing everything it can to address climate change.

Izée Desrouchesseux spoke about her PhD at the University of York Environment Department. This was a European Commission funded project entitled Eco Risk 2050, which involved 21 universities and other institutions in Europe analysing and studying the effect of global changes (including climate change) on the chemical risk to aquatic risk eco systems by 2050. She explained that York was chosen as one of cities in the project scenarios used. She asked for there to be a joint meeting involving researchers and the council to mitigate the risk from chemical pollution.

Richard Maddalena, a local resident, spoke in the interests of efficiency and compassion and said that he loved York.

Kate Lock, a local resident, had been involved in looking at environmental issues affecting the city for a number of years as the former Chair of York Environment Forum (YEF) and as a campaigner, writer and journalist. She had written a report for YEF on York being a sustainable city by 2020 and she expressed disappointment that York had been unable to reach this. She highlighted a number areas of climate change around the world and welcomed council declaration of a climate emergency. She welcomed the supplementary budget proposals to address this and asked for the involvement of different groups, citing the work of the Leeds Climate Commission.

Chloe Wilcox spoke on behalf of York Youth Strikes for Climate. She asked for a council Member to explain in an official capacity what progress had been made since declaring the climate emergency.

Cllr Craghill, Guildhall Ward Councillor welcomed the committee's ways of working including themed meetings. She encouraged the committee to push the boundaries in engaging the local community and experts in participating in round table discussions. She added that it would be good to see Members and officers attend the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Climate Emergency Conference on 25 September and the Lancaster City Council launch of 'cutting carbon whilst improving lives' networking event on 8 October 2019. She added that there had to be a city wide approach to working collaboratively to address climate change.

The Chair thanked speakers for their contributions.

3. Terms of Reference

Members considered a report that set out the remit for committee. The Scrutiny Officer outlined the report noting that at Annual Council in May 2019, delegated authority was given to the Monitoring Officer to agree Terms of Reference in conjunction with the Leader and the Chair of the Committee. The Terms of Reference were outlined in the report and would be added to the Council's Constitution.

During discussion it was suggested that the membership of the committee be expanded to include representation from all political parties. The Chair noted the ambition of the committee to expand its membership.

Resolved: That the Committee Terms of Reference be noted.

Reason: To be updated on the Committee Terms of Reference.

4. Approach - Ways of Working

Members considered a report that outlined a number of methods by which the committee would approach its work. The report also highlighted ways of working that had been suggested by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Following an overview of the report, the Chair invited Members to offer suggestions. These included:

- Large projects on the council Forward Plan being used to inform the committee Work Plan. The York Central development was cited as an example of this. The Chair and Scrutiny Officer agreed to discuss this suggestion.
- Whether there could be working parties to look at climate change aspects of planning applications. The Scrutiny Officer explained the process of task groups for this.
- The use of data to inform the committee.
- As part of the co-option of different experts and representatives to the committee, there could be an email inbox for members of the public to submit their ideas to the committee. The Chair explained that this option was being investigated. He further explained how the system of co-

opting could be best utilised to ensure there was representation on the committee to inform discussion.

Resolved: That the different approaches to ways of working be noted.

Reason: To ensure that the committee is approaching this topic with the most appropriate methods and tools at its disposal.

5. Climate Change Update

Members considered a report that introduced the Climate Change Update that was presented to Executive in August 2019 (Annex A of the report). The work of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy was highlighted. It was explained that the covenant formally brought together the European Union's Covenant of Mayors and the Compact of Mayors to advance city-level transition to a low emission and climate resilient economy, and to demonstrate the global impact of local action. Members welcomed the addition of the council's engagement with the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy onto the work plan.

In addition to the areas listed in the report, Members were asked to suggest any areas that they would like to assign to the work plan for future meetings. Additional work plan suggestions were made as follows:

- A report on One Planet York for the next meeting. The Scrutiny Officer agreed to check if this was feasible.
- A report on mitigation measures for the climate emergency
- Training on the climate emergency

Resolved: That the Climate Change Update presented to Executive in August 2019 and suggestions for the work plan listed above be noted.

Reason: To aid the committee's work planning and ensure that the committee are up to date with Council activity in this area.

6. Identifying Priorities

Members considered a report that introduced a number of ideas for initial discussion, put forward by the Chair and Vice-Chair that will help form the basis of the work plan. It was reported that a Sustainability Officer had been appointed in the last week, with the possibility of a second Sustainability Officer to be recruited. The Chair circulated the Council's Social Value Policy at 2009 explaining that the policy had involved a

detailed piece of work to enable all staff to understand the procurement process and the sustainability of what was purchased.

It was suggested that once the Committee had established a baseline that the Committee might want to consider:

- Fossil fuels to include radical and responsible investment programmes of investment in low carbon.
- Low carbon agriculture and how we can could support progression of low carbon agriculture.
- Social value in terms of investment and also in terms of de-investment.
- Mitigation as a key priority as this related to points 8,12 and 16 of the Executive report at Annex A of the Climate Change report at Agenda item 5.
- Consideration of agriculture, to include food production, consumption and waste.
- The council's continued energy efficiency in terms of insulating and refitting homes and public buildings to be a key area particularly as this was something the Council had achieved recognition for.

Resolved: That the above suggestions for priorities be noted.

Reason: To ensure that Members agree on proposed topics for this committee.

7. Work Plan

Members considered the work plan for the 2019-20 municipal year. Members were invited to decide which items they wished to add to the draft work plan. Suggestions for items included:

- identifying the areas that would address the largest carbon users as well as pieces of work that would enable quick results.
- a project on Transport would need to be a priority and suggested that the Committee receive a report on having subsidised bus services.
- once particular challenges within the Wards was resolved, a priority was to understand baseline data. When the baseline data had been understood and relevant information gathered, relevant experts would be invited to future committee meetings.
- A report from the Leadership Team of One Planet York which could be a two way discussion on their programme and objectives and the councils objectives.

The Committee reiterated the need for there to be a place for people to deposit research documents and data.

Resolved: That the work plan be updated to include:

- (i) That the next Committee meeting would be focused on identifying baseline data.
- (ii) Thereafter, future meetings would focus on information gathering from key experts who would be invited to address the Committee.

Reason: In order to keep the work plan updated.

Cllr C Vassie, Chair

[The meeting started at Time Not Specified and finished at Time Not Specified].

DRAFT

20th August 2019



Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee: 15 October 2019

Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change

As a new member for City of York Council with responsibility for Environment & Climate Change, I am delighted to be taking on this challenge. In order to play our part in mitigating climate change, we will need to work with each other across the Council and work closely with partners across the city, the North and worldwide.

Climate Change affects all areas of our lives; waste to transport, food to air quality, housing to water use, energy to open spaces. If we are to succeed, we need to work collaboratively, publicly and privately, so we can make the best decisions available to ensure we leave a planet fit for our grandchildren.

As I am new to the portfolio, I will provide a brief summary and update on a wide range of functions relating to the portfolio.

National position and Last year's outturn:

Several significant actions have taken place on the national stage, which will have an impact on the work carried out within the portfolio:

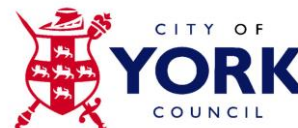
In Theresa May's final few weeks, considerable changes were made to the Climate Change Act, enshrining in law a commitment for the UK to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. We remain committed to reaching carbon neutrality in York by 2030.

The previous Secretary of State for Environment, Michael Gove, commissioned a pilot scheme to reduce food waste, which will run until the end of 2020 and will feed into the Government's Green paper on the subject.

With regard to funding, we are all aware that national funding has been dramatically reduced, and this has resulted in the Council having to find savings since 2008 of £110M. This is an £11M year on year reduction, which has an impact on the Council's services and decisions which can be taken.

Waste:

On a local level, one of the most important services contained within the portfolio is the waste service. This service effects every household in the city every week, with approximately 4 million collections a year, made at a cost of £4.7 million. The current waste fleet is over 7 years old and is in need of renewal. This process is underway and the procurement tender will include standardisation of the fleet, alongside the introduction of new technology i.e. ultra low emission vehicles.



Disposal

The Council approved the investment of £153M over 25 years at Allerton Waste Park, which is delivering good environmental outcomes, significantly reducing the levels of waste taken to landfill and increasing the percentage of waste being recycled, along with the assurance that all the material is recycled within the UK and Europe.

Over the coming years, we must ensure that these commercial and environmental benefits of Allerton Waste Park are fully exploited. This can be achieved by working with NYCC and Districts to identify and deliver improvements in sorting facilities, anaerobic digestion and combined heat & power, enabling us to divert the maximum amount possible from landfill.

Collection

As discussed earlier, the waste fleet is at the end of its useful life and needs replacing. This gives us an opportunity to consider and review the collection regime and fuel types, especially with the Clean Air Zone coming into place on the 1st January 2020.

Following on from resident feedback, we are aware that the customer experience has room for improvement. Therefore, we are investing in IT systems to improve customer journey, from first contact to in-cab technology.

Public Realm

Our vision is for an inclusive, prosperous and thriving City, which delivers the needs of residents, businesses and visitors. To ensure we listen and plan effectively, we have commissioned the new 'My City Centre' consultation which will report its findings in May 2020. This will give a strong basis to further develop any future plans.

New Budget Initiatives

The new Administration has made it a priority to empower communities and invest in services which matter to our residents. In our recent budget amendments, we have invested additional resources in:

- £47K to tackle graffiti on private premises;
- £66K to create a Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Officer and capacity budget;
- £43K for new recycling, litter and dog waste bins;
- £33K to allow for further tree planting and better tree maintenance across the city - as part of the Council's new commitment to the Northern Forest;
- £65K to invest in a review of new sustainable vehicles, increase collection rates, and improve customer service;

20th August 2019



- £57K to invest in the local street environment, including a new Blacksmith apprentice and cleaning or community projects.

Flood Protection

York is renowned for its floods. The City always appears on the National news with a shot of the 'King's Arms' in the background. However occasionally, there are very serious consequences for our residents, businesses and visitors. In 2015, 453 properties and 174 businesses were flooded in York. This was a catastrophe for all involved and with the effects of Climate Change, we must ensure all that all actions are taken to mitigate the impacts of flooding in our city.

It is essential that moving forward, York capitalises on the Environment Agency's £45 million investment programme and as part of this, the Environment Agency must speed up the delivery of investment and ensure that all relevant projects are approved before 2021. As the new Executive Member, I will continue to liaise with the Environment Agency and ensure that funding is invested in the right areas and delivered in time to make a real difference to residents across the City.

Air Quality and Environmental Health

As outlined earlier, the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) comes into effect on 1st January 2020. Initially, the area will cover the City centre and only apply to local buses. As part of this Administrations efforts to improve the proposals for York Central, we have also endorsed efforts to widen the Clean Air Zone to include the York Central footprint, once works have been completed. Over time the effectiveness of the CAZ will be reviewed, with the aim to extend the zone to more vehicles and a wider geography.

Bio Diversity and open spaces

Supplementary Planning Guidance on Green & Blue infrastructure is being reviewed and revised in line with our recent Climate Change commitments. This work has been resourced and prioritised, so that we can re-examine our position in December 2019. Alongside the strategy & policies, we have also made firm commitments to the join the White Rose Forest, targeting the planting of half a million trees.

I am sure you will appreciate, it is early days but I am keen to ensure that we make the right strategic decisions to deliver on our Climate Change ambitions, as well as serve our residents in delivering on their priorities.

Cllr Paula Widdowson

20th August 2019



Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change



**Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny
Committee****15 October 2019**

Report of the Assistant Director – Legal & Governance

Baseline Data and Funding Opportunities**Summary**

1. This agenda item is to inform the Committee of the Baseline Date and Funding Opportunities available to help the Council achieve its goal of delivering a carbon neutral city by 2030.

Background

2. At Full Council in March 2019, a climate emergency was declared and within the creation of the new administration, it was agreed that a Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee would be established.
3. The Committee's remit is to recommend to the Executive actions that will deliver the ambitions approved in the Climate Emergency Motion at Full Council in March 2019.
4. The terms of reference were created in consultation with the Chair, Leader and Monitoring Officer and Committee's objectives are:
 - Produce a ten-year Climate Emergency Action Plan and a Sustainable Energy Action Plan that engage and involve all departments within the Council and the wider city;
 - Review the Council's practices, policies, and procedures to develop an understanding of emission impacts on the city;
 - Seek advice from experts to recommend 5-year carbon budgets, across all the Council's activities;
 - Establish a carbon emissions baseline for the city that can be maintained to quantify the challenges that York faces and to provide annual reports on citywide progress towards the 2030 target;

- Develop mitigation strategies to enable communities to become more resilient in the face of climate change;
 - Learn from best practice in other cities;
 - Review best practice across major UK institutions and local authorities on moving away from holding investments in fossil fuel companies that have not aligned their businesses with the Paris Climate Accord by 2023;
 - Identify external funding streams, locally, nationally and EU-wide, that may help us deliver a carbon neutral York;
 - Consider how our recommendations would reduce carbon emissions, to be developed in the context of environmental responsibility, economic prosperity, social equity and cultural vitality;
 - Endeavour to ensure that our ten-year Climate Emergency Action Plan obtains cross-party support and commitment to guarantee its delivery.
5. The Committee met for the first time on 10 September 2019 when Members considered the best way the Committee can approach its work and sought to identify its priorities.
 6. The Committee agreed there was a lack of both baseline data and an overarching strategy and there was a need to fully understand the challenges and adopt a coherent approach from the very beginning. With this in mind it was agreed that the Committee should invite experts to share their views on what data was available in order for the Committee to make informed proposals.
 7. Member also agreed that funding was key to addressing many of the issues facing the Committee and they needed a genuine understanding of what public or private funding could be available.
 8. It was resolved that a decision on who should be invited to the next meeting be left to the Chair, in conjunction with the Scrutiny Officer, and it was subsequently decided that these should be experts from the University of York and the Head of Energy and Sustainability from West Yorkshire Combined Authority. The University later confirmed that colleagues from the Stockholm Environment Institute at York would be best placed to act as the University's representatives.

Consultation

9. There was no consultation necessary in the production of this report.

Options

10. Members can highlight any areas they would like to take forward into the work plan for this committee or ask for reports on specific areas of interest.

Analysis

11. There is no analysis at this stage.

Council Plan

12. The new Council Plan is to be considered by the Executive on 24 October 2019 but it is likely the climate change agenda will impact on most aspects of Council activity, most specifically in support of the Cleaner and Greener City.

Implications

13. There are no implications associated with the recommendation in this report

Risk Management

14. There are no risks associated with the recommendation in this report.

Conclusions

15. There are no conclusions at this stage.

Recommendation

16. Members are asked to consider the information provided during the meeting and agree specific issues they wish to take forward.

Reason: To further inform the Committee's work plan

Contact Details

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Report Approved **Date** 3/10/2019

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Draft Work Plan 2019-20

<p>Tuesday 10 September @5.30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Terms of Reference 2. Approach – Ways of Working 3. Climate Change Update 4. Identifying Priorities 5. Work Plan
<p>Tuesday 15 October 2019 @5.30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change 2. Round-table discussions on baseline statistics and funding opportunities 3. Work Plan.
<p>Tuesday 12 November 2019 @5.30pm</p>	
<p>Monday 16 December 2019 5.30pm</p>	
<p>Tuesday 14 January 2020 @5.30pm</p>	

Tuesday 4 February 2020 @5.30pm	
Tuesday 10 March 2020 @5.30pm	
Tuesday 21 April 2020 @5.30pm	
Tuesday 12 May 2020 @5.30pm	