

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment
Date	6 March 2017
Present	Councillor Waller (Executive Member)

19. 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, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which he had in the business on the agenda.

The Executive Member declared a personal interest relating to agenda item 4, Awarding the York Community Recycling Fund that he was on the evaluation panel that assessed the applications, where he received information and advice from officers.

20. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the of the Decision Session Executive Member for Environment held on 9 January 2017 be approved as a correct record then signed by the Executive Member.

21. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Councils Public Participation Scheme.

22. Awarding the York Community Recycling Fund

The Executive Member considered a report that highlighted the awarding of the York Community Recycling Fund to successful applicants.

Officers gave an update and confirmed the successful projects would improve waste prevention and recycling in York.

Following questions from the Executive Member officers confirmed:

- the criteria for awarding the grant had been agreed at the Executive Member for Environment Decision Session on 5 September 2016.
- the application form clearly outlined the qualifying factors for the applicants to consider when applying.
- the panel judged each application on the qualifying criteria.
- that following the significant savings made in the waste and recycling collection rounds consideration would be given to a future Community Recycling Fund.
- they had engaged with all applicants and would ensure successful projects provided feedback.

The Executive Member confirmed a variety of different schemes across the city had been submitted and he noted that all applicants had been given the opportunity to respond to the panels decisions. He thanked officers for the report and welcomed an update at a future Decision Session.

Resolved:

- (i) That the awarding of the York Community Recycling Fund to successful applicants be approved.
- (ii) That a report on the outcomes of the use of the funding for the schemes, to ensure good use of funds and to assist with the allocation of future Community Recycling Funds, be considered at an Executive Member for Environment Decision Session within the next 12 months.

Reason: To improve waste prevention and recycling in York.

23. Review of Recycling Bring Banks

The Executive Member considered a report that proposed a consultation was undertaken of the provision of recycling bring banks across the city.

Officers gave an update and confirmed the consultation would improve bring bank services and recycling in York.

The Executive Member noted that some of the current bring banks were in need of repair and in answer to his questions officers confirmed:

- they would engage with residents to consider their views on future recycle options.
- engagement with businesses would be included in the consultation process.
- no amendments to the bring bank network would be made until after the consultation process and that a list of bring banks to be deleted would clearly be advertised before they were removed.

The Executive Member agreed that this consultation would allow officers to engage with residents to maximise recycling and resources. He thanked officers for their update and proposed the following recommendations:

Resolved:

- (i) That subject to the completion of the consultation process, the removal of recycling bring banks which were evidenced to be used purely by businesses if they were not adopted for collection of commercial recycling, be agreed.
- (ii) That the land owners, as stated in paragraph 11 of the report, be contacted regarding a change in approach to permitting bring banks on these sites and if there was still a refusal that a public request be made for landowners on suitable locations for bring banks to come forward to ensure provision in this section of the city.
- (iii) That a process of consultation to be undertaken, looking at the provision of the recycling bring banks across the city, be agreed.
- (iv) That the consultation approach be approved and to include paper copies at community gathering points, such as community centres and Explore libraries, to ensure individuals who do not have access to social media can still easily make comment.
- (v) That a competition for naming the chameleon logo be included in the consultation process.

Reason: To improve recycling in York, through an improved recycling bring bank service.

24. Flood Resilience Grant Scheme Review

The Executive Member considered a report that proposed a review of the flood resilience grant scheme process and recommended that all new applications for the flood resilience grant scheme process be closed on 31 May 2017.

The Flood Risk and Asset Manager gave an update and confirmed the range of government administered grants that had been available since the Boxing Day 2015 floods. He stated that almost 200 applications had been received for the resilience grant and that the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) would be carrying out a final reconciliation of funding to administering authorities this summer.

In answer to the Executive Members questions it was confirmed work with any applicants of approved schemes would continue after the closing date and that the proportion of applications made were competitive to other authorities who administered grants.

The Executive Member thanked officers for promoting the grant and for the advice and support given to flooded residents and businesses. He agreed it was essential flood resilience measures continued to help home and business owners to understand and consider their own flood risk management.

Resolved:

- (i) That the review of the flood resilience grant process to date be considered.
- (ii) That the recommended closure of the flood resilience grant application process on 31 May 2017 be widely communicated and that work continued with any applicants of approved schemes after this time be agreed.
- (iii) That the recommendations of the York Flood Inquiry and the 9 February 2017 Executive meeting to target additional funding subject to the Council budget process to reinforce flood resilience in the city be agreed and that update reports to review the progress with the delivery of

the recommendations be considered at future Executive Member for Environment Decision Sessions.

Reason: Delivery of the flood resilience grant has helped a wide range of homes and businesses prepare for future flood events, further development of flood risk resilience will move to the delivery of the recommendations of the Flood Inquiry.

25. Executive Member Comment

The Executive Member took this opportunity to thank everyone involved with The Big Tidy Up weekend that took place as part of Keep Britain Tidy.

Cllr Waller, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.00 pm].

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