



Notice of a public

Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change

To: Councillor Widdowson (Executive Member)

Date: Wednesday, 5 October 2022

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: The George Hudson Board Room - 1st Floor West Offices (F045)

AGENDA

Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democratic Services by **4:00 pm on Friday 7 October 2022.**

*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent, which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any called in items will be considered by the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by **5.00 pm on Monday 3 October 2022.**

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member is asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registerable interests she might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests.

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Decision Session held on 7 September 2022.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. Members of the public may speak on agenda items or on matters within the remit of the committee.

Please note that our registration deadlines have changed to 2 working days before the meeting. The deadline for registering at this meeting is at **5.00pm on Monday 3 October 2022.**

To register to speak please visit www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings to fill out an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting please contact the Democracy Officer for the meeting whose details can be found at the foot of the agenda.

Webcasting of Public Meetings

Please note that, subject to available resources, this public meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The public meeting can be viewed on demand at www.york.gov.uk/webcasts.

During coronavirus, we've made some changes to how we're running council meetings. See our coronavirus updates (www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy) for more information on meetings and decisions.

4. Waste Service (Pages 5 - 10)

This report contains an update on the Waste Services across the city and seeks decisions to change the service, such as an expanded range of materials which can be collected in the recycling streams.

5. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer: Margo Budreviciute

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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services 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 میا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 **(01904) 551550**

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change
Date	7 September 2022
Present	Councillor Widdowson
In Attendance	Paul McCabe – York Community Woodland Project Manager

6. Declarations of Interest (15:02)

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

7. Minutes (15:02)

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 8 June 2022 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

8. Public Participation (15:02)

It was reported that there had been two registrations to speak on agenda item 4 York Green Streets at the session under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Debby Corbett noted that she was glad to see action on urban trees and noted that there were several Wards for which there was no tree planting plan except for schools. She urged officers to speak to conservation volunteers regarding the 'I dig trees' scheme. She noted that she had not received the council's Our City publication and the Executive Member undertook to look into it. Debby Corbett also noted problems with traffic on Ostman Road outside the Carr Infant and Junior Schools.

Cllr K Taylor (Holgate Ward Member) noted that 500 trees in the scheme were covered by schools contribution. He stated that the Labour Group welcomed the initiative. He expressed concern regarding the absence of

medium and long term planning and lack of capacity at the council. He noted that there was no information on ongoing maintenance and management of the trees and added that there had been cases where there was a live risk due to trees not being cut back. He asked for more detail in the plans for tree planting including how this would be managed.

9. York Green Streets (15:09)

The Executive Member considered a report that summarised the outcomes of the York Green Streets (YGS) 'opportunity mapping' exercise undertaken earlier that year to assess the scope for new tree planting in York's urban and peri-urban area towards the council's agreed 2050 tree canopy target.

The York Community Woodland Project Manager outlined the report noting the delegated authority included in the recommendations to the Executive Member. He noted that the funding to support additional officer capacity would be subject to a successful application to the Forestry Commission Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund (WCAF). The council has submitted a funding bid and outcome will be known by mid-October. He detailed the timeline and key findings of the York Green Streets opportunity mapping. He explained that any delivery of the opportunities identified would be dependent on community consultation and he encouraged members of the public to contact him with any questions.

The Executive Member summarised the timeline and process for the WCAF. The York Community Woodland Project Manager was asked and confirmed that the next step was to await the announcement of the WCAF funding bid as this will determine whether the council has the resources needed to employ additional officer capacity to support new tree planting at scale. Should this bid be successful, the next challenge would be to identify and secure the required funding to support tree planting and ongoing maintenance, subject to there being demonstrable local community support.

Resolved:

- i. That the contents of the report and the progress made to date to noted, including the pending WCAF grant funding application to support additional officer capacity for new urban and peri urban tree planting.
- ii. That delegated authority be granted to the Assistant Director for Policy and Strategy to identify and apply for external capital

funding to support delivery of the opportunities identified, following further extensive local stakeholder engagement.

Reason: To support new tree planting in York's urban and peri-urban area towards the council's agreed 2050 tree canopy target.

Cllr Widdowson, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 3.16 pm].

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Decision session

5 October 2022

Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change

Report of the Director of Environment, Transport and Planning

Waste Update

Summary

1. Waste Services are responsible for the collection of household waste and commercial waste across the city this report provides an update on the service in general.
2. The report also seeks decisions to change the service such as an expanded range of materials which can be collected in the recycling streams.

Recommendations

3. The Executive Member for Environment is recommended to:
 - i. Approve the change to the list of materials that are collected to include foil and other plastics as soon as possible.

Reason: To ensure that materials that are currently recycled continue to be and increase recycling within the city

Background

4. In June 2021 the Executive agreed to:
 - **Extra Garden Waste Collections**
Extend the garden waste season by one month to run each year from beginning of March to end of November starting in March 2022.
 - **New Refuse Collection Vehicles**
Purchase a recycling fleet of twin bodied vehicles for recycling.

- **Easier Recycling**

The separating equipment available at Harewood Whin meant residents could now present glass, cans and plastics in the same box and only paper and card kept separated.

- **Routing and Rounding Efficiency**

To commence a routing and rounding exercise to ensure the collections are as efficient as possible and bring a report back to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change.

- **Bags to Bins**

To review the next phase of the bags to bins policy (wheeled bins rather than black bags) and bring this to future decision sessions of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change and review if these properties could receive a green waste collection.

5. This report provides an update on the above and seeks decisions about implementation of some of additional items that the service have been working on. The report also updates on progress of some of the items listed above.

Completed Items

6. The 2 extra garden waste collections for every property started in March 2022. The garden waste service commenced on Monday 7 March 2022 and this resulted in a more phased service introduction where garden waste tonnages gradually increased over the first two rounds of collection as opposed to a 'big bang' that used to happen at the start of April. In March 2022, all garden waste collections were completed on schedule. It should be noted that the presentation of bins was high but that tonnages were not excessive. This resulted in a smoother introduction into the service when compared with previous years when collection started in April.
7. Over the past couple of years the service has benefited from significant investment and undergone a vehicle replacement programme. This has seen the introduction of two electric waste vehicles into the service which primarily work on our commercial waste rounds which primarily work in the cities clean air zone. The service has also deployed, over the past 15 months, fourteen new 26 tonne narrow chassis vehicles and eight new 26 tonne split compartment vehicles for recycling which are used on our domestic waste rounds.

8. The service continues to assess the operational performance of the electric vehicles and at this stage we are not recommending any further purchases of electric waste vehicles. In addition, the remaining vehicles we need to consider replacements for are our hard to access fleet and there are currently no options for electric vehicles of this size on the market.
9. The separating equipment now available at Harewood Whin means that residents can now present glass, cans and plastics in the same box and only paper and card kept separated. This information has been communicated to residents and the Council's website and social media has been updated to reflect this development.

Additional Recycling

10. In addition to the principles agreed by Executive the opportunity has arisen to collect additional materials from the doorstep.
11. The city has benefited from a charity collecting foil collections by the charity Snappy, however this is coming to an end.
12. The service has been working with its recycling partners to try to increase the amount of the materials accepted at the kerbside (e.g. foil, additional types of plastics such as yoghurt pots). This will hopefully maximise the amount of material that is recycled and ensure that the high quality of recycling delivered by York's residents is maintained.
13. It is proposed that messages on this are communicated with residents through Our City and developments of the Council's website. This will ensure that residents are aware of the expanded range of items that can be presented and accepted in kerbside recycling boxes. In conjunction with this, communications and literature will also be delivered to the operational Waste Service so collections crews are briefed on the revised items that can be accepted.

Updates on Ongoing Projects

14. Work is continuing on a routing and rounding exercise to ensure the waste collection service is as efficient as possible. Work is also being undertaken on the next phase of the bags to bins policy (wheeled bins rather than black bags) and the review to judge if these properties could receive a green waste collection. A review of bring sites is also underway. It is proposed that a separate report will be brought back in the future to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change.

15. The service plan to undertake a review of its commercial waste operation. The review will need to focus on the current profitability of the service and assess the opportunities presented as part of the Government's Waste and Resources Strategy. Part of this work will need to focus on how access can be minimised or removed altogether and protecting the visual amenity of the city centre of waste presented for collection when 9 to 5 businesses close (e.g. bags left out overnight etc). It is proposed that a separate report will be brought back in the future to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change.

Council Plan

16. The decisions made here contribute towards the objectives of the Council Plan
 - Well-paid jobs and an inclusive economy
 - A greener and cleaner city
 - Creating homes and world class infrastructure

Implications

17. Financial

The changes to the list of materials collected will have minimal financial impact. There may be a positive effect on income received from sale of recyclate.

18. Legal

As a unitary authority the Council is obliged by law to provide domestic waste collections to households and is responsible for its disposal this is laid out in the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Current EU and UK laws are driving local authorities to meet higher recycling and composting targets.

Any potential changes to current contracts for service will need to be dealt with in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

19. Equalities

The Council recognises its Public Sector Equality Duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (to have due regard to the

need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it in the exercise of a public authority's functions

The impact of the proposals on protected characteristics has been considered as follows:

- Age – Neutral;
- Disability – Neutral;
- Gender – Neutral;
- Gender reassignment – Neutral;
- Marriage and civil partnership– Neutral;
- Pregnancy and maternity – Neutral;
- Race – Neutral;
- Religion and belief – Neutral;
- Sexual orientation – Neutral;
- Other socio-economic groups including :
 - Carer - Neutral (see Disability);
 - Low income groups – Neutral;
 - Veterans, Armed Forces Community– Neutral.

Risk Management

20. The key risk is ensuring any changes are clearly communicated to the public and therefore detailed communications will be prepared and agreed.

Contact Details

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Services
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**Chief Officer Responsible for the
report:**

James Gilchrist
Director of Transport, Planning and
Environment

**Report
Approved**



Date 27/9/2022

**Specialist Officers
Finance**

Patrick Looker

Legal

Frances Harrison

Wards

Affected: All wards

All

For further information please contact the author of the report