
Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment
Date	14 December 2015
Present	Councillor Waller
In Attendance	Councillor D'Agorne

13. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests he may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

14. Public Participation

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

Councillor D'Agorne had registered to speak on Agenda Item 4, adoption of York's Third Air Quality Action Plan – Response to Economic Development and Transport Policy and Scrutiny Committee. He commended the further work that had been undertaken but still had some concern regarding harm to residents in the City as a result of poor air quality. He felt that further work could be done regarding the Park and Ride contract to help improve air quality and also felt that anti-idling signs would create awareness. He also felt that more consideration could be given to how visiting buses and delivery vehicles could be targeted.

15. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the decision sessions held on 18th and 23rd November 2015 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

16. Adoption of York's Third Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP3)

The Executive Member considered a report which advised of York's Third Air Quality Action Plan which had been considered by the Economic Development and Transport Policy and Scrutiny Committee (EDAT) following a pre-decision call in.

Following the EDAT meeting, having listened to comments and concerns the Executive Member had chosen to defer his Decision Session to allow further time for the suggestions made at EDAT to be considered and suggested improvements made. The report before the Executive Member at this meeting was the result of that process.

Paragraphs 3 to 26 of the Officers report summarised the issues raised at the EDAT meeting.

The Executive Member considered the suggested revisions as outlined as Option 2 at paragraph 28 of the report and accepted the revisions with a number of changes. The final revisions were as follows:

- I. To produce a further report outlining the resources and procedure required to adopt powers under The Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty)(England) Regulations 2002 to allow enforcement against idling buses (and other vehicles) in the event that other measures are unsuccessful. The Executive Member also requested that Officers look into the legal aspects and training issues surrounding the Council's Enforcement Officer's being able to manage idling, including current workload and a contact telephone for reporting idling vehicles.
- II. To recommend the adoption of Eco Stars (or a similar scheme) to the Executive by further report to be a requirement in all council contracts. The Executive Member also requested that as a minimum, Officers review vehicle leasing and procurement ahead of any report to Executive and further work to identify additional funding for such a scheme or development of a scheme within existing resources. Officers to work with the council's partners and contractors to adopt a joint approach to reduce emissions.
- III. To commission a business plan for a freight transshipment / consolidation centre. The Executive Member recommended to Executive the development and facilitation of a business plan, as included in Local Transport Plan 3 and to work with the BID on this.

- IV. To report progress on meeting the air quality objectives and implementing the measures within AQAP3 via an “Annual Status Report” to the executive member and scrutiny committee on an annual basis. The Executive Member also recommended a regular report on trends back to the Executive Member for Environment Decision Session and for Officers to look into publishing information on the website to enable the public to see statistics and in a format which is understandable to the intended audience. The information is to include progress against the air quality objectives, delivery of measures within AQAP3 and delivery and use of electric vehicle charging points.
- V. Following further consultation with bus operators and others, to produce a report detailing the proposals for implementing a Clean Air Zone, including an economic impact test, details of funding and impact on the environment and health. The Executive Member recommended a report to Executive in line with the Park & Ride contract process.
- VI. Green Infrastructure to be included in the Annual Status Report to the Executive Member.

Resolved: That the Executive Member agreed Option 2 and accepted the revisions to the Action Plan as recommended by Economic Development and Transport Policy and Scrutiny Committee (as amended by the Executive Member, as above) and as a result;

Formally adopted the amended AQAP3, as a result of the consultation process, as York’s Third Air Quality Action Plan.

Reason: This option will ensure that York continues to have a robust, current and relevant AQAP based on a strong local emission evidence base. This will facilitate continuing delivery of the aims and objectives of the LES. AQAP3 will deliver emission reduction and health improvement benefits throughout the city and by 2021 should deliver the national air quality objectives for NO₂ at most, if not all, locations in York. Adoption of AQAP3 will demonstrate to DEFRA that York is continuing to strive to improve air quality in the city and may reduce the possibility of substantial air quality fines in the future. AQAP3 will ensure that York continues to attract low emission vehicles, technologies and associated jobs ahead of other local authorities and having a newly adopted LES based AQAP3 in place will strengthen York’s bid to become one of OLEV’s designated Ultra-Low Emission Cities. If successful this bid will

attract millions of pounds of investment in low emission vehicles and infrastructure to York from 2016 onwards.

Action Required

1. Note EDAT recommendations as amended by the Executive Member and carry out necessary work to implement. MS

17. Food Service Plan 2015-17

The Executive Member considered a report which presented the Council's Food Service Plan 2015-17 which had been produced in order to satisfy the Food Standards Agency requirements.

Officers outlined the report and advised that the plan considered the resources available and what could realistically be achieved and what would be delivered going forward.

The Executive Member commented that the expectation of the public was the same with limited resources and queried what the Council is doing to encourage businesses to continue to reach high standards. Officers confirmed that there was an element of pride in York amongst businesses that had achieved 5 stars and those businesses that had achieved 3 or 4 stars generally strived to improve their ratings. Local newspaper reporting and the use of an internet site also kept pressure on businesses to keep standards high.

The Executive Member requested that update reports be brought to future decision sessions on visits to premises and enforcement work.

Resolved: That the Executive Member:

- (i) Approved the Food Law Service Plan for 2015/7.
- (ii) Requested regular updates to this Decision Session on visits carried out and enforcement work.

Reason: (i) To acknowledge last years performance to the delivery plan.

- (ii) To provide the Executive Member with updates on enforcement work being carried out within the Council's Food Service.

Action Required

1. Note request for update report to decision session and implement.

SS

Councillor Waller, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 4.00 pm and finished at 5.00 pm].