



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT
CAPITAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL
ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2016**

Present: Councillors Peach (Chairman), C Harper (Vice Chairman),
R Brown, M Cereste, D King, M Sims, A Ellis, N Khan MBE,
R Ferris, N Sandford, JA Fox

Also Present: Councillor John Fox, Group Leader, Werrington First

Officers Present: Kevin Ekins, Asset and Contract Performance Manager
Lewis Banks, Principal Transport Planning Officer
Andy Tatt, Head of Peterborough Highway Services
Paulina Ford, Senior Democratic Services Officer

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Jamil and Councillor Ferris attended as substitute.

2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

There were no declarations of interest or whipping declarations.

3. Minutes of Meetings held on 14 July 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2016 were approved as an accurate record.

4. Call in of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions

There were no requests for call-in to consider.

5. Highway Asset Management Policy and Strategy

The Asset and Contract Performance Manager introduced the report which provided the Committee with an update on the Councils proposed Highway Asset Management Policy and Strategy.

Discussions took place around the following areas:

- Changes in priority in highway maintenance.
- Information on assets.
- The length of time taken for the adoption of new roads
- The quality of road repairs and the cost compared to the life expectancy of the repairs.
- The use of lamp posts for new technology
- The lack of evidence within the policy regarding regeneration of areas such as Lincoln Road.
- Members felt that the strategic aims of the programme were not clear.
- The lack of evidence of a link to the strategic principles of the Transport Policy such as sustainability, air quality and carbon emissions.

- Working with partners such as Amey.
- With the continuing advances in technology concern was expressed regarding the updating of facilities contained within the street lamps.

The Asset and Contract Performance Manager was in attendance with the Principal Transport Planning Officer who responded to comments and questions raised by Members. A summary of responses included:

- There had been no change to priorities with regard to maintaining the highways. However it had cost money to comply with government requirements e.g. further data collection had to be commissioned which included laser surveys. Future lifecycle planning may mean changes are made to the way roads and street lights are maintained. Further predictions would be made when the budget was set.
- This policy attracted £1.6m funding.
- Funding for roads is allocated from the Department of Transport.
- The asset data, together with historical data collected in previous years will be used to explain and produce the asset management programme for the year.
- The adoption of roads was governed by the Highways Act 1980, Section 38, Power of Highway Authorities to Adopt by Agreement. The adoption of private land is usually done in agreement with the developer but developers were not duty bound to have the private land adopted. There were issues with large ongoing developments such as Hampton where maintenance was the responsibility of the developer. Bonds were put in place to cover the eventuality of the developer going into liquidation.
- The police had less authority regarding enforcement on unadopted roads.
- There was the possibility of imposing conditions and restrictions on developers at the planning stage but this may have the effect of developers looking outside of Peterborough for their developments.
- The cost of doing surface treatments as opposed to a complete resurface was approximately a quarter of the cost of a full resurface. Under the councils policy of invest to save it could be more cost efficient to spend more and carry out a procedure which would last longer. The decision to either undertake surface treatments or a full resurface of a road would be dependent on the results of the survey.
- The survey results will be used to construct a database which will enable more informed decisions and explain why certain actions had been taken and would also meet the need to be transparent. The Asset Management Policy and Strategy was an ethos looking at historical data to assist the council in assessing the level of funding required for the life cycle plans which would develop as the data and knowledge was collected.
- In order to determine how the funds would be allocated from 2016/2017, each local highway authority in England is required to compile a report answering 22 questions with 3 assessment bands. The reports are then assessed by Government to determine the level of funding awarded to individual authorities. The majority of the 22 questions related to consultation and engagement and communication.
- The programme of works was currently published annually however moving forward longer term strategies it will be produced covering 2 – 3 years which will put more information in the public domain. Levels of service could not be agreed until the data had been collected and collated and this might result in there being a level of service per asset.
- Although page 17 of the report included only one reference to regeneration the policy referred to looking after the assets of the whole city rather than only new developments.

Councillor Sandford joined the meeting at 7.55pm

- There was no plan at present to consider social and environmental factors when prioritising work.

- Funding for street lighting came from a separate fund as it concerned energy reduction and there was a capital programme currently in place to replace street lights with LED lights and which included the latest technology.
- Collaboration already existed with Amey on traffic management which may be extended and improved in future.

ACTIONS AGREED

The Committee noted the report and requested the following information:

- A copy of the 22 survey questions

6. Establishment of a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to review the Amey Contract Street Cleansing Services

The Senior Democratic Services Officer introduced the report which asked the Committee to consider and agree the Terms of Reference and Membership of a Task and Finish Group to review the Amey Contract Street Cleansing Services.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer responded to comments and questions raised by Members. A summary of responses included:

- Any financial implications as a result of any recommendations made which might arise in a change to the existing Amey contract would need to be included in the final report back to the Committee.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee noted the report and agreed to:

- a) Approve the Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish Group
- b) Approve the Membership of the Task and Finish Group

7. Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

The Committee received the latest version of the Council's Forward Plan of Executive Decisions containing key decisions that the Leader of the Council anticipated the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the course of the forthcoming month. Members were invited to comment on the Plan and, where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme.

ACTIONS AGREED

The Committee noted the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and requested further information regarding the following Executive Decisions:

- Delivery of the Councils Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of Dickens Street Car Park – KEY/03JUL/11
- Delivery of the Councils Capital Receipt Programme through the sale of Welland House, Dogsthorpe – KEY/24JUL15/01
- Sale of Lindens, Lincoln Road – KEY24JUL15/04
- Sale of Bretton Court, Bretton North – KEY/24JUL15/05
- Real Time Passenger Information – KEY/10JUL15/02
- Intelligent Transport Systems Infrastructure – KEY/11DEC15/01
- Passenger Transport Services AMEY – KEY/27NOV15/01 – What will be done to advertise these routes.

- Award of contract for construction and operation of Fengate Household Recycling Centre – KEY/05SEPT16/02 – Further details about the facility and in particular accessibility and ease of use and access for disabled people.

8. Work Programme 2016/2017

Members considered the Committee's Work Programme for 2016/17 and discussed possible items for inclusion.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer advised the Committee that the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities would like to feed into the Draft Local Plan which was to be presented to this committee on 25 October 2016. The Rural Commission had made a request to attend the meeting and sit with the Committee for this item to enable them to provide comment on the Draft Local Plan from a rural perspective. The Committee agreed that it would be useful for the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities to attend the next meeting for input into the Draft Local Plan.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee noted the work programme for 2016/2017 and agreed that the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities attend the next meeting of the Committee on 25 October 2016.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting Tuesday 25 October 2016.

The meeting began at 7.00pm and ended at 8.12pm

CHAIRMAN