

GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
5 SEPTEMBER 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Simon Machen, Corporate Director for Growth and Regeneration	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development	
Contact Officer(s):	Charlotte Palmer, Group Manager - Transport and Environment	Tel. 453538

PROPOSAL FOR TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO REVIEW AIR QUALITY

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Simon Machen, Corporate Director of Growth and Regeneration	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree to the formation of a time-limited cross-party scrutiny task and finish group. 2. Agree the Terms of Reference for the proposed task and finish group. 3. Agree that the outcomes of the task and finish group should be presented back to the Committee at the relevant meeting. 4. If agreed, the Committee is asked to make any initial nominations from the scrutiny committee members to join the task and finish group. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The Leader of the Council, Councillor John Holdich, requested at Annual Council on 21 May 2018 that a cross party task and finish group be established to review air quality.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report sets out a proposal for a cross-party scrutiny task and finish group to be formed. The aim of this group is to inform the development of the Council's air quality ambitions and make recommendations for specific actions that should be taken by the Council and partners to achieve such ambitions.

2.2 This report is for the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 2.1, Functions determined by the Council :

4. Environmental Capital;

2.3 The outcome of this work has the potential to directly and indirectly support all of the council's corporate priorities.

3. **TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. **BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The Leader of the Council has requested that a cross-party scrutiny task and finish group be established to inform the development of the Council's air quality ambitions and make recommendations for specific actions that should be taken by the Council and partners to achieve such ambitions.

This follows an air quality monitoring report that was presented to this committee in March 2018.

5. **CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Only internal officer consultation has taken place in relation to the establishment of this scrutiny task and finish group.

6. **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

- 6.1 It is anticipated that the Committee will agree to the formation of a time-limited cross-party scrutiny task and finish group. This will inform the development of the Council's air quality ambitions and enable recommendations to be made for specific actions that should be taken by the Council and partners to achieve such ambitions.

7. **REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 This recommendation is made in order to ensure that the Council is able to establish its priorities in relation to air quality and identify what actions should be taken, if any, as a result.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 The alternative option is not to establish a task and finish group to review air quality. This has been dismissed because air quality is a topic that, to some extent, is relevant to all of the Council's corporate priorities.

9. **IMPLICATIONS**

Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. However the Council has limited dedicated staff resources currently allocated to air quality and this is directed solely at undertaking statutory duties in relation to monitoring and pollution control. Additional specialist advice may be necessary to support the work of the group.

Legal Implications

- 9.2 There are no legal implications associated with the establishment of this group.

Equalities Implications

- 9.3 There are no equalities implications associated with the establishment of this group.

Rural Implications

- 9.4 There are no rural implications associated with the establishment of this group.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A: Draft terms of reference - Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to inform the development of an air quality ambition statement and action plan.

Appendix A

Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to inform the development of an air quality ambition statement and action plan - Terms of Reference

Membership

tbc

Advisers

Charlotte Palmer, Group Manager - Transport and Environment

Stuart Keeble, Consultant in Public Health

Peter Gell, Head of Regulatory Services

Lynden Leadbeater, Principal Environmental Health Officer: Environment and Pollution Control

Purpose

To make recommendations to the Committee to inform the development of the Council's air quality ambitions alongside specific actions that should be taken by the Council and partners to achieve such ambitions.

Scope

1. Review expert data detailing the perceived and actual risks at a local and national scale to develop an understanding of the impact that can be realised through improvements.
2. To understand how air quality is currently monitored and considered in organisational policies, strategies and services and assess this against good practice.
3. Identify good practice from other local authority areas in order to inform local action.
4. To understand what evidence based actions could be taken locally by different stakeholders and agree a prioritisation mechanism to ensure any resultant recommendations are effectively targeted.
5. Develop an understanding of the skills and resources that will be required across the Council and relevant stakeholder organisations to deliver agreed actions.
6. To identify and meet with expert witnesses to help inform discussions and recommendations.

Reporting

The Scrutiny Task and Finish group will report to the Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee