
Minutes of the meeting of the Place Services and Economic Growth Policy and Scrutiny Committee, held in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH on Thursday, 18 October 2018

Present:

Councillor I Grundy (Chairman)	Councillor B Massey
Councillor T Ball	Councillor C Pond
Councillor T Cutmore	Councillor R Pratt
Councillor S Hillier	Councillor S Robinson
Councillor P Honeywood	Councillor W Schmitt
Councillor D Kendall	Councillor Y Young

- 1 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**
The report of the Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received and it was noted that

1. The membership of the committee was unchanged since the last meeting;
2. Councillor B Aspinell had sent his apologies and was substituted by Councillor S Robinson
3. There were no declaration of interests.

- 2 Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 17 May 2018 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

- 3 Questions from the Public**
There were no questions from the public.

- 4 Air Quality Review**
The Committee received a PowerPoint presentation in respect of the Air Quality Review from Jason Torrance, Clean Air Cities Director, UK. Members were advised that UK100 is a network of local government leaders, which seeks to devise and implement plans for the transition to clean energy that are ambitious, cost effective and take the public and business with them.

It supports decision-makers in UK towns, cities and rural areas in their transition to 100% clean energy by 2050. It is the only network for UK local authorities focused solely on climate and clean energy policy.

90 local leaders have already committed to 100% clean energy and more are signing up.

Prior to the presentation the Chairman explained that the Committee has formed the following 3 sub task and finish groups to conduct the review:

- Transport
- Planning
- Public Health and Technology

The presentation included:

- An overview of air pollution
- Air Quality Directions 2017 and 2018
- Details of mandated local authorities
- The clean air timetables for 2018 and 2019
- The local leaders asks of Central Government.

A discussion followed during which the following issues were raised:

- The lack of powers available to local authorities
- The lack of partnership between local authorities and Government
- The possibility of an increase in congestion and cleaning air charging throughout the country
- The need for encouragement for the use of low emission buses
- The conflict in conservation areas regarding the need for more homes whilst trying to reduce pollution

In response to some requests by members for more information, Mr Torrance agreed that following the meeting he would provide clarification regarding some of the technical details touched upon during his presentation and advice regarding some “quick wins” which could be of use.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Mr Torrance for a very informative presentation.

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Date of Next Meeting

The Committee noted that the next activity day will be on Thursday, 22 November 2018 commencing at 12.30 pm due to Cabinet meeting earlier that morning.

There being no urgent business the meeting closed at 11.40 am.

Chairman