

Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

Minutes - 30 June 2016

Attendance

Members of the Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Ian Angus (Chair)
Cllr Mary Bateman
Cllr Val Evans
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr John Rowley
Cllr Zee Russell
Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz
Cllr Tersaim Singh
Cllr Andrew Wynne

Employees

Ross Cook	Service Director, City Environment
Earl Piggott-Smith	Scrutiny Officer
Bob Willis	Head of Highways Network
Lesley Roberts	Director of Strategic Housing

In attendance

Cllr Steve Evans	Cabinet Member for City Environment
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Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

- 1 Apologies**
Apologies were received from the following member(s) of the panel:

Cllr Chris Haynes
- 2 Declarations of interest**
Cllr T. Singh declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting (14 April 2016)**
That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4 Matters arising**
Minute 5 – Keeping the City clean

Cllr Angus briefed the panel on the tour of the customer service centre. The panel recommended all panel members to attend as the visit was very informative. The panel suggested that a visit to customer service centre should be part of the induction for new Councillors.

5 **New Cross Residents Parking Scheme**

Cllr Steve Evans, Cabinet Member for City Environment, introduced the report which detailed plans to consult the public about creating a resident parking scheme. Cabinet Member for City Environment explained the aim was to reduce traffic parking problems in the area near New Cross Hospital.

Bob Willis, Head of Highways Network, explained that the annual fee for permits has been reduced from £40 to £20 annually in response to comments from previous plan to introduce a residents parking scheme. Head of Highways Network explained the reason for introducing a charge for residents. The findings of the public consultation will commence in July subject to Cabinet approval on 20.7.16.

Head of Highways Network explained the three phases of the scheme.

Councillor commented that informal feedback from local businesses in the area suggests that they would welcome parking restrictions because of the traffic problems caused by the current arrangements.

Head of Highways Network explained that the level of public support needed to support the introduction of the scheme. The scheme is cost neutral and the annual fee will cover the cost of enforcement officers and administrative costs.

The panel queried the plans for consulting with the public and the importance of not relying on leaflets to get views on the plans. Head of Highways Network explained that 200 properties will be affected the changes and the aim is to make it as easy as possible for people to share their views on the plan. Councillors commented that alternative car parking is available in the area.

The panel queried if the scheme would need approval at each phase before it would proceed to the next phase. Head of Highways Network explained that responses to phase one would be considered before proceeding and also there is a need for discussions with Wolverhampton Homes as phases two and three may impact on them.

Resolved

The panel welcomed the report and supported the proposed implementation of a residents and business parking and pay and display scheme in the New Cross Hospital area.

6 **Local Housing Company - Final Business Case (report to follow)**

Lesley Roberts, Strategic Director of Housing, updated the panel on progress in establishing the Local Housing Company.

Resolved

The panel welcomed the report and noted the progress.

The meeting closed at 19:35