

Regeneration & Transport Select Committee

A meeting of Regeneration & Transport Select Committee was held on Monday, 11th August, 2008.

Present: Cllr Maurice Perry (Chairman), Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr Bill Noble, Cllr Michael Smith

Officers: Andy Bryson, Brian Buckley, Richard Bradley, Steve Keetley(DNS), Michelle Jones, Kirsty Wannop, Roy MacGregor(LD).

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Cllr Dick Cains (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Fred Salt, Cllr Steven Walmsley

RTS 16/08 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interests.

RTS 17/08 **Minutes of the Meeting held 30th June 2008.**

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2008.

CONCLUDED - that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th June 2008 be approved and forwarded to council for consideration.

RTS 18/08 **Scrutiny Review - Highway Network Management**

Members considered responses to Financial Questions circulated prior to the meeting, and additional information regarding an example of a contract price fluctuation notice in respect of an annual tender submitted in December 2007 for works carried out for the period to May 2008. It was noted that there was a 9.6% increase in cost due to inflation during the six month period from December 2007 to May 2008.

Officers informed that if the costs of the schemes increases so significantly that it affected the highways revenue budget, then minor schemes would be deferred to the next municipal year.

Members were presented with further information regarding the management of resources allocated to road maintainance. It was explained that the highways revenue budget was used for this purpose and the maintainance that is carried out is determined in part by BVPI (Best Value Performance Idicators), following a survey that is carried out on a yearly basis by organisations including DCL (Data Collection Limited). Officers noted the different methods of data collection for road maintainance for different catorgries of roads.

Members discussed the allowances for insurance and what this insurance covered. It was requested that further information be sought and brought to the next meeting.

The relationship between Stockton Borough Council and the utilities companies was discussed following an earlier meeting on 4th August 2008, attended by the

Chair and Vice-Chair, between council officers and representatives from the utilities companies. Officers explained the procedure, and penalties for not following procedure that were in place for these companies to carry out maintenance work on public highways.

RESOLVED - That the information and responses be noted

**RTS
19/08** **Scrutiny Review - Street Lighting**

Members considered a progress report on the previously agreed recommendations from the Street Lighting review.

CONCLUDED - that the assessments of progress contained in the reports be agreed and that further updates be received as appropriate.