

Environment Select Committee

A meeting of Environment Select Committee was held on Monday, 29th March, 2010.

Present: Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg (Chair); Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell (Vice Councillor Michael Smith), Cllr Roy Rix, Cllr Mick Womphrey and Cllr Bill Woodhead.

Officers: R McGuckin, M Chicken (DNS); G Birtle, P K Bell (LD).

Also in attendance: One member of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Michael Smith and Cllr Mick Stoker.

1 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

2 Minutes of the meetings held on 24th August, 5th October, 9th November 2009 and 4th January 2010 to be signed by the chair

The minutes of the meetings held on 24th August 2009, 5th October 2009, 9th November 2009 and 4th January 2010 were signed by the Chair.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2010

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2010.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2010 be agreed as a correct record and forwarded to Council.

4 EIT Review of Built and Natural Environment

Members were presented with a Suggested Review Pro Forma for the EIT Review of Built and Natural Environment.

The Chair explained that there had been no discussion on this item yet and Members needed to agree which areas of Built and Natural Environment they wanted to include in the review. The Acting Head of Technical Services was in attendance at the meeting and drew Members attention to the environmental policies contained on the Suggested Review Pro Forma and invited Members comments.

Members discussed the following possible areas for the review:-

- * Green Travel - public transport, walking, cycling
- * Green Travel - home to school transport (walking bus etc)
- * Green Travel - the use of electric cars by SBC
- * Street Art and Furniture - The budget for the removal of unwanted street art and furniture
- * Green Space - Recent policy papers on making the most of green space
- * New hospital and adjoining plans and the environmental policies
- * Section 106 Agreements

- * Financial cost of green travel and the possible financial benefits for the Health Service
- * Environmental Policy NI descriptors
- * Domestic energy

The Scrutiny Officer and the Acting Head of Technical Services noted Members comments and outlined that they would draw up a scope for the review. A dedicated Link Officer and Finance Officer would be assigned to the review.

A Tripartite meeting would take place before the Scope and Project Plan would be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.

CONCLUDED that Members comments be noted.

5 Action Plan for Carbon Management

Environmental Policy Manager presented Members with the Action Plan for Review of Carbon Management. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments on the Action Plan.

Members were overall satisfied with the Action Plan and requested that a Monitoring Report be presented to Members in 6 months time and then on a quarterly basis.

CONCLUDED that the Action Plan for Carbon Management be endorsed.

6 Work Programme

Members discussed the Work Programme 2010/11 for the Select Committee.

It was reported that with regard the Animal Welfare and Dog Fouling the news article had been given approval and also an educational package on dog ownership would be going to schools. The Committee may have to have an extra meeting to consider further issues.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

7 Chair's Update

The Chair reported that she would circulate an article from APSE Direct News on the future of Biomass.

CONCLUDED that the Chair's Update be noted.