



Place Panel

Date: Thursday, 21 July 2022

Time: 16:08

Venue: Flensburg Room

Present: Councillor Trevor Allison, Councillor James Bainbridge, Councillor Ms Jo Ellis-Williams (until 17:38), Councillor Mrs Anne Glendinning, Councillor Mrs Linda Mitchell, Councillor Michael Mitchelson, Councillor Peter Sunter, Councillor Dr Les Tickner

Also Present: Councillor Mallinson - Leader
Councillor Ellis - Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder
Councillor Christian - Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder
Councillor Mrs Bowman - Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder

Officers: Corporate Director of Economic Development
Policy and Communications Manager
Overview and Scrutiny Officer

PLP.10/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were submitted.

PLP.11/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

PLP.12/22 PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was agreed that the items in Part A be dealt with in public and the items in private be dealt with in Part B.

PLP.13/22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED - The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

PLP.14/22 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS

There were no items which had been subject of call-in.

PLP.15/22 LOCAL ENVIRONMENT (CLIMATE CHANGE) STRATEGY UPDATE

The Policy and Communications Manager presented an update on the delivery of the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy (PC.09/22).

The Policy and Communications Manager gave a brief overview of the background to the

Strategy and updated the Panel on National policies, strategies and reports. He detailed the Countywide partnership work that was being undertaken and provided an update on the Organisational Actions and selected 'Local Actions'.

In considering the update Members raised the following comments and questions:

- Who represented Carlisle City Council on the Local Authority Climate Change Policy Group and were minutes of the meetings available to Members?

The Policy and Communications Manager reported that he was the Council representative on the Group; he agreed to circulate the last set of minutes to the Panel.

- Did the projected 8% reduction on the Council's Scope 3 (Leisure) emissions account for the Turkish Baths being open or closed?

The Policy and Communications Manager explained that the base line information was 2018/19 data, the 8% estimate was based on the pools being a single site operation. The Borderlands Project or Council decisions had not yet been factored into the calculations, a renewed base line would be produced next year, as result the Council's Scope 3 emissions projections would be recalculated.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder clarified that a facility remaining on site would be an increase in the emissions which would be against Council policies.

The Corporate Director of Economic Development added that the facility would be subject to other legislation such as Building Control and it was likely a heating system review would be required. The impact on emissions would need to be included in the business case for any proposals for the Turkish Baths.

A Member commented that it was irrelevant whether the emissions were in the Council Scope or not, there would still be an increase in emissions. She asked if would be possible to calculate the emissions from the Turkish Baths.

The Policy and Communications Manager agreed to provide a written response.

- Who used the two e-bikes which had been purchased?

The Policy and Communications Manager explained that the e-bikes were located at Bousteads Grassing for the purpose of short site to site journeys. Individuals were required to pass a health and safety test before using them. It was hoped that the e-bikes would help change attitude to travel and that change would be embedded in Council operations. In response to a further question the Policy and Communications Manager reported that individuals using the e-bikes had appropriate outdoor wear for all weather use.

In discussing cycling in Carlisle, Members felt that there had to be an acknowledgement that cycling was not an option for everyone and alternative methods of transport, outside of car use, could be expensive especially for families travelling together. Work had to be undertaken with bus companies to reduce costs and increase travel options.

The Leader commented that there needed to be the same focus on cycle and pedestrian ways as there was for roads. Pathways and cycle paths needed to be better maintained to encourage more use.

- A Member asked for further information on the Heat Network Zone Pilot and highlighted the

high density terraced houses where the project could work.

The Policy and Communications Manager responded that the Pilot was at the work shop stage and further information was not available yet.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder give an overview of how the system worked in other countries and the possibilities for Carlisle.

- The report included government policies relevant to Local Authorities, there was some concern regarding the ambitions in the document and the impact that they would have on local authorities.

- Where would data regarding the emissions from the annual fire show be included in the summary of local authority territorial greenhouse gas emissions estimates and were those readings available?

The Policy and Communications Manager clarified that the the greenhouse data was a new data set and covered the entire public sector not just Carlisle City Council.

- A Member highlighted agricultural emissions and detailed a new feed process which could significantly reduced the emissions.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder acknowledged that work was needed to address the emissions and discussions were taking place with Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership (ZCCP) who were looking at this issue.

The Panel discussed the global impact of changes to agriculture and the future impact of decisions being taken now. Current global issues and decisions taken some time ago were reducing availability of some produce, the impact was either very expensive produce or no produce at all.

- The report was very complex, Members felt that more work should be done to simplify the information and engage with the public to help them reduce their own carbon footprint.

The Policy and Communications Manager responded that the community engagement information was crafted for public use and understanding. Individual's carbon footprint information was a different message, the Council needed to enable as well as inform.

- How was engagement with businesses taking place and what were the results?

The Corporate Director of Economic Development explained that legislation was used to engage with bigger businesses and the Council liaised with larger organisations to develop their own strategies. She agreed that more could be done to encourage individuals and work was being carried out on the Communications Strategy to better engage with the public.

- How were the young people chosen to be representatives on the ZCCP?

The Policy and Communications Manager agreed to gather further information from the ZCCP.

- Had a decision been taken on the replacement of the cremator?

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder responded that a decision had not yet been taken. The cremator replacement would be subject to the usual tender process, the impact on emissions would be part of that work.

- The two main sources of the Council's carbon footprint were leisure and diesel. A Member suggested that changes to the Council's fleet, routes, frequencies and times could result in some big reductions in the carbon footprint.

The Environment and Transport Holder agreed that fleet changes would make a big impact. Options had not been readily available for large vehicles, however, this was changing at a rapid pace. Fleet replacement work and discussions had already begun.

- The electric car charging points were mainly in Carlisle, Brampton and Dalston, there was a need for the charging points in rural locations.

The Corporate Director of Economic Development highlighted the issues with regard to electric supply in rural areas. It was a challenge to introduce car charging points as the electric infrastructure did not support the power required. She informed the Panel of the energy masterplan which was a strategic document looking at energy issues in the district.

RESOLVED - 1) That the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy Update (PC.09/22) be received;

2) That the Policy and Communications Manager provide the following written information to the Panel:

- the last set of Local Authority Climate Policy Group minutes
- the calculated emissions for the Victoria Health Suite
- how the ZCCP appointed a representative of Cumbria's young people to the Partnership

PLP.16/22 ST CUTHBERT'S GARDEN VILLAGE – DELIVERY VEHICLE BUSINESS CASE PROGRESS REPORT

The Corporate Director of Economic Development presented an update on the progress made in preparing the Delivery Vehicle Business Case scheduled to be submitted to government in Summer of 2023 to support the long term delivery of St Cuthbert's Garden Village. (ED.12/22).

In considering the update Members raised the following comments and questions:

- How would the most qualified, enthusiastic and bold board members be found?

The Corporate Director of Economic Development explained that there had been a lot of interest in the project and it was hoped that the same calibre of individuals that had been involved already in the project would be found for the board.

- The Panel congratulated officers on their hard work in securing the significant funding to date.

- What agreements were required from the Shadow Authority to progress with the project?

The Corporate Director of Economic Development confirmed that the work detailed in the report did not require Shadow Authority approval. She informed the Panel that she was due to give a presentation on the matter to the Shadow Authority Executive.

- A Member felt strongly that public leadership was required to ensure the project kept its momentum and delivered the overall vision to the required quality.

The Corporate Director of Economic Development stated that local authorities across the country had different approaches to garden villages. She felt it should be a genuine partnership

between the public and private sectors. It was vital that the foundation was right to maintain the quality of the place and design over a 30 - 40 year period.

- How could the public see the progress that was being made?

The Corporate Director of Economic Development highlighted the Masterplan, Supplementary Planning Documents and the evidence based Local Plan which were already in place. It was important that the first stages set the bar at the right level to attract the organisations and businesses needed to make the project successful.

- Was the Garden Village project on target and how would the Local Government Reorganisation impact the progress?

The Corporate Director of Economic Development confirmed that the project was on target. In terms of the change to the authority, it would be a very difficult to decision to stop the project now, funding has been secured and work was taking place to source master developers. In response to a further questions the Corporate Director assured the Panel that it was normal practice for multi national developers to be interested in projects such as the garden village.

RESOLVED - That the St Cuthbert's Garden Village - Delivery Vehicle Business Case Progress report (ED.12/22) be received.

PLP.17/22 REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE FORUM (UKREiIF)

UPDATE

The Corporate Director of Economic Development set out the outcomes following the Council's attendance at the Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum (UKREiIF) held between 16 and 18 May 2022 (ED.15/22).

The Corporate Director of Economic Development reported that the event had been the first of its kind that the City Council had attended. Although it had been very hard work it had been successful resulting in many meetings and discussions. The event had been an opportunity to showcase Carlisle and learn from other areas.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder agreed that the event had been hard work but had been an excellent opportunity for Carlisle. She stated that the commitment that the team had put into the event had been exceptional.

In considering the information Members raised the following comments and questions:

- The Panel congratulated the Corporate Director of Economic Development and her team for their exceptional work.

- Carlisle had an ageing population and it was vital that people were encouraged to stay in Carlisle or come to live and work in Carlisle. Carlisle needed a diverse population to keep growing and supporting the economy and lifestyle.

The Corporate Director of Economic Development agreed and stated that the ultimate objective was raising the profile of Carlisle so people would live and work here. One of the outcomes of the event had been the opportunity for the organisers of the event to host a smaller event in the new Chamber at the Civic Centre, which had been successful.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder highlighted the job opportunities that

would come from the Garden Village and why it was important to attract those with the necessary skill set into Carlisle.

The Corporate Director confirmed that a place had been booked at the 2023 event. She explained that any expressions of interest that were submitted at the event had been logged into the system and they were added to relevant consultation contact list.

RESOLVED - That the Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum (UKREiiF) Update be welcomed (ED.15/22)

PLP.18/22 OVERVIEW REPORT

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer presented report OS.19/22 providing an overview of matters related to the Place Panel's work.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer reported that resolutions 2 and 4 from previous meetings had been completed.

The Panel discussed their recent site visit to Talkin Tarn and the opportunities that they saw in the facilities. The Panel requested an officer report on the future management arrangements at Talkin Tarn be added to their work programme. The report should include suggestions for improvements and opportunities along with the feasibility of the suggestions.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder commented that there had been restrictions on the way income could be spent at the Tarn, those restrictions would be suspended and substantial improvements would take place at the Tarn before the end of the year.

The Chair reported that the Chair of the People Panel had formally requested that operational housing matters such as access to affordable housing; homelessness; housing benefit and relationships with registered providers / social landlords and Cumbria Choice be transferred into the remit of the People Panel.

The Panel discussed the options and agreed that the Chair of the Place Panel and the Chair of the People Panel, along with the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, meet to discuss the matter and report back to the Panels at their next meeting.

A Member asked that an update on Junction 44 be added to the work programme.

RESOLVED - 1) That the Overview Report incorporating Key Decision items relevant to the Place Panel be noted (OS.19/22).

2) That the following matters be added to the Panel's work programme:

- Talkin Tarn Future Management Arrangements
- Update on Junction 44

3) That the Chair of the Place Panel meet with the Chair of the People Panel and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer to discuss the most appropriate location of operational housing matters within the Scrutiny remits.

The Meeting ended at: 18:05