

# Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:  
**A.6**

Meeting Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014  
Portfolio: Cross Cutting  
Key Decision: No  
Within Policy and  
Budget Framework  
Public / Private Public

Title: OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME  
Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Officer  
Report Number: OS 17/14

## Summary:

This report provides an overview of matters related to the Economy & Environment O&S Panel's work. It also includes the latest version of the work programme.

## Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Decide whether the items on the Notice of Key Executive Decisions should be included in the Panel's Work Programme for consideration.
- Note and/or amend the Panel's work programme

## Tracking

Executive:	<b>Not applicable</b>
Overview and Scrutiny:	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014</b>
Council:	

## 1. Notice of Key Executive Decisions

The most recent Notice of Key Executive Decisions was published on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The following items fall into the remit of this Panel and area attached at Appendix 1:

**KD.13/14 Development at Rosehill.** - The Executive will be asked at their meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014 to approve the release and leasehold disposal of the property on final terms to be agreed by the Director of Economic Development and the Property Services Manager. This is to be a private report.

**KD.16/14 Adoption of North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan** - The Executive will be asked to consider the North Pennines AONB Management Plan and refer to Council for adoption. They will consider the report on 21<sup>st</sup> July and 18<sup>th</sup> August 2014 and can be made available for the meeting of the Panel on 14<sup>th</sup> August if Members wish.

## 2. References from the Executive

The final report of the Task Group was presented to the Executive on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014. The Portfolio Holder responded to each of the recommendations and this is attached at **Appendix 2**. The Panel should consider what action they wish to take as to follow up work and/or monitoring of the recommendations and should include in their work programme for 2014/15.

## 3. Dates of Meetings

Members should also note that the Panel has a diary clash with Cumbria County Council meetings on the following dates:

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015          Carlisle Local Committee

## 4. Work Programme

The Panel's current work programme is attached at **Appendix 3** for comment/amendment. The Panel need to discuss and develop the work programme for 2014/15. Members of the Panel, Portfolio Holders and Senior Officers are asked to give some thought to issues which scrutiny could add value to during the current Civic Year and should consider adding to their Work Programme. Several potential topics for the work programme and/or Task Group work have been suggested by Members and Officers and a briefing note summarising these are attached to assist Members at **Appendix 4**.

<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Nicola Edwards</b>	<b>Ext: 7122</b>
<b>Appendices attached to report:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Notice of Key Decisions</b></li><li><b>2. Minute from Executive Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> May – Recycling Task Group</b></li><li><b>3. Economy &amp; Environment O&amp;S Work Programme 2014/15</b></li><li><b>4. Briefing note on potential topics</b></li></ol>	

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None**

Items relevant to the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

**Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive**

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.13/14
Decision Title:	Development at Rosehill
Decision to be taken:	The Executive will be asked to approve the release and leasehold disposal of the property on final terms to be agreed by the Director of Economic Development and the Property Services Manager.
Date Decision to be considered:	
Date Decision to be taken:	23 June 2014
Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in Private
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Director of Economic Development will be available five working days before the meeting
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Director of Economic Development, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Economy and Enterprise (Councillor Mrs Bradley)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

All public reports can be viewed in the Customer Contact centre of the Civic Centre, Carlisle, the Public Library and on the Council's website [www.carlisle.gov.uk](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk).

Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker. These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

### EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 12 MAY 2014

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**EX.45/14     RECYCLING**  
(Non Key Decision)

**Portfolio**     Environment and Transport

**Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel**     Environment and Economy

#### **Subject Matter**

Pursuant to Minute EEOSP.26/14, consideration was given to a reference from the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel regarding the final report of the Recycling Task and Finish Group. The Panel had resolved that the Recycling Task and Finish Group Report and recommendations be agreed and referred to the Executive for a formal response.

Copies of Report OS.13/14 and the Minute Excerpt had been circulated.

The Lead Member of the Recycling Task and Finish Group (Councillor Nedved) was in attendance at the meeting. He began by thanking the Executive for the opportunity to speak and to put forward the Task Group's recommendations.

The Lead Member summarised in some detail the criteria, methodology and wide ranging information and data considered by Task Group Members in developing the evidence base for the review. He added that some examples of very good practice were in place at the City Council.

The Lead Member then outlined the following recommendations made by the Task Group:

- "1. That the Council keep to a fortnightly collection of residual waste.
2. That the Re-thinking Waste Project gives consideration to collecting a wider range of recyclables at kerbside including foil, tetra packs and textiles.
3. That consideration is given to the make up of the containers which are provided to residents for their recycling so that they are more durable and have a larger capacity. Members would also like to consider the pros and cons for a co-mingled service with a wheelie bin for all recyclates.
4. That the Waste Services Operatives are requested wherever possible to return the waste containers where they were collected. This should reduce the amount of lost or damaged containers and reduce the amount of unnecessary contact with the Council.

## APPENDIX 2

5. That the Council strictly enforce the no side waste policy and publicity is provided to that effect.
6. That consideration is given to how information is provided on the internet to residents so that it is easily accessible and to the point.
7. That priority is given to updating the CRM system for all requests complaints and queries so that an up to date record of actions and responses are available. In order to monitor this recommendation a performance report should be developed and presented to the Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on a quarterly basis.”

In conclusion, the Lead Member stated that the Recycling Task and Finish Group had found the review both very challenging and enjoyable. Members had received a great deal of support in undertaking their work for which he was very grateful. He expressed the hope that the final report would assist the Council in moving above 50% recycling performance.

The Leader thanked the Lead Member for his presentation, commenting that Overview and Scrutiny was at its best when undertaking task and finish reviews. The final report was a very good piece of work which would inform work going forward.

The Deputy Leader, and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder expressed thanks to the Lead Member, his colleagues and to the Overview and Scrutiny Officer for what was a very objective and detailed report. She also welcomed the opportunity to meet with the Lead Member and the Director of Local Environment to go through the final report in detail.

The Deputy Leader, and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder advised that, although the entire Waste Strategy was under review, the outcome would not be known for some time. The Executive supported the Task and Finish Group and the Deputy Leader considered that their work would give the Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder and herself some useful pointers in terms of how the service should be developed in the future.

She responded to the Task and Finish Group’s recommendations as follows:

### Recommendation 1

There was no reason to depart from the fortnightly collection of residual waste.

### Recommendation 2

Consideration would be given to collecting a wider range of recyclables at kerbside as part of the Re-thinking Waste Project.

### Recommendation 3

## APPENDIX 2

In order to increase recycling performance the collection thereof must be made as easy as possible. Consideration would therefore again be given to the make up of the containers provided to residents for their recycling.

### Recommendation 4

The Deputy Leader had also received complaints and thought it important that residents ensure that their waste containers were put out where they should be and that Waste Services Operatives duly return them to those locations.

### Recommendation 5

The Executive was 100% behind strict enforcement of the no side waste policy and the provision of publicity to that effect.

### Recommendations 6 and 7

The Executive agreed that the provision of easily accessible information was essential to any process. The recent restructure and appointment of a full-time Systems Administrator should be of assistance and it was hoped that a distinct improvement would be seen moving forward.

The Lead Member of the Recycling Task and Finish Group expressed the view that the Council's website required improvement and greater use should be made of green hats.

The Deputy Leader, and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder replied that improvement of the website was in hand. The use of green hats had been raised at Council and the availability thereof duly advertised.

In conclusion the Deputy Leader, and Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder moved the Executive's responses as detailed above for submission to the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 3 July 2014.

The Leader seconded the responses.

**Summary of options rejected**    None

## **DECISION**

1. That the Executive had considered the final report of the Recycling Task and Finish Group.
2. That the Executive's response to each of the Task Group's recommendations, as detailed above, be submitted to the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 3 July 2014.

## **Reasons for Decision**

To consider and respond to the recommendations of the Recycling Task and Finish Group

**Date last revised: 19 June 2014**

[illegible]

# ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

Date last revised: 19 June 2014

Issue  Portfolio Holder & Lead officer	Type of Scrutiny					Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Key decision Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/External Agency	Monitoring		3 Jul 14	14 Aug 14	25 Sep 14	21 Oct 14	27 Nov 14	22 Jan 15	12 Mar 15	23 Apr 15
<b>Section 106 Agreements</b> Jane Meek/Cllr Bradley						Panel requested report detailing outstanding Section 106 agreements – to receive annual report on monies spent							✓	
<b>Re-thinking Waste Project</b> Cllr Martlew/Angela Culleton		✓	✓	✓	✓									
<b>Environmental Performance of the Council</b> Arup Majhi/Cllr Tickner			✓		✓	Annual Monitoring of performance.						✓		
<b>Budget</b> Peter Mason/Darren Crossley/All Portfolio Holders		✓	✓			To consider budget proposals for 2015/16					✓			
<b>Parking</b>														
<b>Local Plan</b>									?	?				
<b>Scrutiny Annual Report</b>			✓		✓	Draft report for comment before Chairs Group								✓



**Potential Topics for Work Programme 2014/15****Litter Bin Review**

A review is to be undertaken on the public litter bins in the district to look at the number, type and usage of public litter bins in the district. Members of the Panel have been invited to take part in the review as a Task Group. The street cleaning team over the next 8 weeks are undertaking a audit of the bins and their usage and it would be expected that the Task Group work would last from August to approximately October.

**Car Parking – Marketing**

Historically the income from car parking has not met the targets contained in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The revised charging strategy introduced in February 2012 and although this has halted the decline somewhat it may be an area that Members could look at further in particular as the County plans to introduce on-street charging which may have an impact on usage of car parks.

**Sustainable planting and biodiversity in parks**

It has been suggested that Members could look at this topic to see what type of planting is used in the city's parks and public areas particularly looking at the use of annual plants. Members could look at good examples of sustainable planting elsewhere in the country and make recommendations on the future of planting in the city.

**Housing – meeting targets for new homes**

Officers are currently looking at the barriers to meeting new homes targets. It is suggested that the Panel put this topic on their work programme and scrutinise the findings from this review later in the Civic year.

**Skills Gap**

The panel have dipped into this topic several times over the last few years, but have never looked at it in depth. A Task Group could undertake a thorough review of how employers, educators and training providers work together to identify skills gaps in the district.