

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 19 March 2019

Decision No: (CAB 18/19 23514)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	GREEN CITY
SUBJECT:	A GREEN CITY CHARTER FOR SOUTHAMPTON
AUTHOR:	Steve Guppy

THE DECISION

- (i) To adopt the Green City Charter as published in this paper.
- (ii) To delegate powers to the Director of Transactions and Universal Services to develop and introduce a Green City Plan by 2020 that will demonstrate how SCC will deliver on those commitments included in the Green City Charter.
- (iii) To support the promotion of the Green City Charter with stakeholders to encourage its wider adoption and the subsequent development of actions that will satisfy its aims, objectives and commitments.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The development of a Green City Charter will facilitate the delivery of the Councils existing priority outcomes, refresh existing activities, and deliver new ones. It will ensure that environmental impacts are given due consideration in the delivery of services and decision making and where possible ensure we maximise the opportunity to deliver benefits. It will provide an opportunity to satisfy the expectations and ambitions identified in the Clean Air Zone Consultation exercise. It will seek to encourage city stakeholders to adopt the same set of principles and deliver their own actions. It will encourage all stakeholders including both business, community groups and public sector organisation to work together to deliver a shared outcome, making Southampton a cleaner, healthier, more sustainable and attractive environment for all.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

No alternative options considered.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

Cabinet considered the following recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 15th March 2019:-

- (i) That the Mayor is asked to reconsider allowing the deputation on Climate Change, that was rejected on the grounds of having missed the set deadline, to be heard at Council on 20 March 2019.

Response:

Rejected, not within the Executive's remit.

- (ii) That the Cabinet Member outlines how the Council has achieved the 24% reduction in NOx in specific locations in Southampton from 2015-19.

Response:

Accepted, data is available.

- (iii) That, to support the development of the action plan and the identification of the required resources, the Administration reviews the Council's core strategies and policies to identify how they align with the ambitions within the Green City Charter.

Response:

Accepted, this is already being done.

- (iv) That the Executive encourages stakeholders to engage with the development of the next iteration of the Local Plan to ensure that it supports the ambitions contained within the Green City Charter.

Response:

Accepted.

- (v) That the Executive engages with all interested parties in the development of the Green City Charter.

Response:

Accepted, this has already been done and the engagement report is available.

- (vi) That, to encourage partners to sign up to the Charter, the Executive provides an indication to stakeholders of the financial resources the Council are prepared to commit to achieve the ambitions within the Green City Charter.

Response:

Accepted, the Executive's commitment is already in the public domain within the budget papers.

- (vii) That consideration be given to undertaking a scrutiny inquiry on the Green City Charter in 2019/20.

Response:

Rejected, not within the Executive's remit.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 19th March 2019

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Claire Heather

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on 27th March 2019

Date of Call-in (*if applicable*) (*this suspends implementation*)

21st March 2019

Call-in Procedure completed (*if applicable*)

Call-in heard by (*if applicable*)

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee – 4th April 2019

Results of Call-in (*if applicable*)

Cabinet reconsidered its decision made on 19th March 2019 taking into consideration the following recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee at its meeting on 4th April 2019.

- 1) That Cabinet agree to delay the approval and launch of the Green City Charter to enable the fostering of a cross party consensus on the strategic objectives within the Charter.

- 2) That, if Cabinet does not agree to recommendation 1, the following amendments to the draft Green City Charter are considered by Cabinet:
 - a) Commitment one is amended to read as follows – *We want to be carbon neutral by 2030 at the latest; and will therefore promote and encourage the use of energy from renewable sources that do not compromise local air quality.*
 - b) Commitment two is amended to read as follows – *We will take actions that will improve the quality of life in our city. We want the Healthy Life Expectancy Indicator to be the best amongst our peers and to significantly reduce our City's deaths that are attributable to air pollution.*
 - c) Commitment seven is amended to read as follows – *We will reduce harmful emissions and, at an absolute minimum, ensure we do all we can to satisfy all World Health Organisation air quality guideline values immediately.*
 - d) Commitment eight is deleted
- 3) That, if Cabinet agree to approve a Green City Charter at the 16 April 2019 meeting, the Executive immediately identifies the internal resources that will be committed to deliver the Charter.
- 4) That Cabinet writes to Government to request the full amount of funding asked for in January 2019 to support the nitrogen NO₂ business case.
- 5) That, if Government does not agree to the request for additional funding outlined in recommendation 4, Cabinet approaches partners to help fund the shore side power initiative or looks to fund the proposal from Council resources.
- 6) That the Executive clarifies the current position with regards to whether the use of Southampton's District Energy Scheme is a planning condition for new developments in the city centre.
- 7) The Committee are aware that all current heat generated from the Southampton's District Energy Scheme is supplied by gas. The Committee would like Cabinet to inform the Committee when the geothermal well will be brought back into operation.
- 8) That Cabinet investigate establishing a Citizens' Assembly and provide an update on progress related to these considerations to the 13 June 2019 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.
- 9) That Cabinet give consideration to the proposals contained within the alternative Green Charters developed by Green Resistance and Extinction Rebellion Southampton.

Cabinet confirmed their decision taken on 19th March 2019 and rejected recommendations 1-9 above.