

**Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development
Committee**

Meeting held 12 February 2014

PRESENT: Councillors Cate McDonald (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Trevor Bagshaw, Alison Brelsford, Jayne Dunn, Terry Fox, Ibrar Hussain, Steve Jones, George Lindars-Hammond, Tim Rippon and Steve Wilson

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 No apologies for absence were received.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th December, 2013, were approved as a correct record and, arising therefrom, the Policy and Improvement Officer, Matthew Borland, confirmed that he had circulated a report on the outcome of the Committee's discussion on Cobnar Road Cottage, at its meeting held on 4th October, 2013, which had been submitted to the Cabinet at its meeting on 16th October, 2013, together with the Cabinet's recommendations.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

5.1 Peter Hartley submitted a number of questions relating to both issues and questions he had raised at previous meetings, and to which he had not yet received responses, together with a number of new questions, as follows:-

(a) What is the business rate for the massage parlour at 271 Chesterfield Road, Sheffield S8 0RT?; and

(b) The staff who work at the massage parlour at 271 Chesterfield Road also live there – do they have to pay ordinary Council tax, as well as business tax?

5.2 The Policy and Improvement Officer stated that he would forward these questions to relevant officers and request that they provide written responses to Mr. Hartley.

5.3 With regard to the issues and questions raised at previous meetings, it was reported that:-

- (a) Whilst there had been a delay in drafting a response in this case, for which an apology was given, a response to the question raised in connection with the motion at the Council meeting on 2nd October, 2013, relating to Health and Social Care Funding, would be provided by Councillor Mary Lea, Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living, within seven to 10 working days; and
- (b) The Policy and Improvement Officer would investigate the position regarding (i) the five questions raised relating to the Libraries Review, at the Cabinet meeting on 15th January, 2014, (ii) the seven questions raised relating to the World Student Games 1992, at the Cabinet meeting held on 15th January, 2014 and (iii) the letter sent to an Enforcement Officer on 6th January, 2014, relating to the massage parlour at 271 Chesterfield Road, in an attempt to ensure that written responses to all the questions were provided to Mr. Hartley.

6. SHEFFIELD FOOD STRATEGY

6.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Place, containing the draft Sheffield Food Strategy. A previous draft version of the Strategy had been presented to the Committee at its meeting held on 9th October, 2013, and Members had requested that an updated version, containing the comments made at that meeting, be submitted to a future meeting. The latest draft also contained comments and views following public consultation on the Strategy following the Committee's meeting on 9th October, 2013.

6.2 In attendance for this item were Jessica Wilson, Health Improvement Principal, and Jill Lancaster, Health Improvement Practitioner Advanced, Business Strategy and Regulation, Place.

6.3 Jessica Wilson referred to the aims of the Sheffield Food Strategy, and to the main priorities required to achieve such aims.

6.4 Members of the Committee raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- The issues and concerns raised relating to the increasing number and standard of, and quality of food in, hot food takeaways, would be picked up by the Implementation Plan, following discussion with the Planning Service. A number of local authorities had issued planning guidance on this issue, which had included the introduction of exclusion zones, work with schools in connection with healthy eating and requiring owners of takeaways to sign up to Charters regarding healthy eating.
- The Public Health Team were aware of the Community Shop in Goldthorpe, near Barnsley, which offered shoppers on the verge of poverty

the chance to buy food and drink for up to 70% less than normal high street prices, but had not yet discussed the possibility of replicating the pilot in Sheffield.

- In terms of the governance arrangements regarding the Strategy, the majority of the day-to-day activity was undertaken by the Place Public Health Team, in conjunction with the Sheffield Food Executive Group.
- It was important that the Action Plans linked to the Sheffield Food Strategy and the Move More Strategy, as well as any other similar strategies, complemented each other. As well as work commencing in terms of the drafting of an implementation plan, attempts were being made to link in with local businesses to work on Sustainability Plans.
- It was accepted that some of the statistics in the Strategy, specifically those relating to the numbers of people currently living in food poverty, were based on extrapolation. It was accepted that there was a need for wider discussion on this, and it was hoped that this issue could be addressed as part of the Implementation Plan.
- The Place Public Health Team had received a small amount of Public Health funding to link the work being undertaken as part of the Strategy with community groups and other organisations, such as schools and businesses. Consideration would be given to the possibility of contracting this element of work under the Strategy to a voluntary sector group.
- Whilst it was accepted that there was a need for national lobbying to try and get better outcomes in terms of healthy eating, such as the ASH campaign against smoking, there was a need for further discussion as to how this should be referenced in the Strategy.
- Information was available nationally in terms of publicising, in a simple and easy to understand format, details of healthy meals people could eat, including the calorific values of such meals. Officers were working with colleagues in Communications to look at producing such information, and publicising it in an appropriate format.
- Whilst it was accepted that there was only minimal detail in the Strategy regarding efforts by schools to encourage healthy eating as part of cookery lessons, considerable work was being undertaken within the Children, Young People and Families Portfolio, relating to a range of activities and initiatives to encourage healthy eating in schools.
- Whilst there was no detail in the Strategy relating to targets based on hard data at present, this information would be obtained and used to develop an evaluation framework for the Strategy.
- Whilst there was no reference in the Strategy to the eating habits of students, who were considered to comprise the largest transitory population in the City, there were plans to link in with the City's two

Universities to look at what could be done in terms of monitoring students' eating habits and encouraging more healthy options.

6.5 In terms of additional comments, Members considered that there was a need for the Public Health Team to use more practical and straightforward methods in order to inform people and publicise the benefits of healthy eating. It was considered that there was a need for more work in connection with helping to prevent the onset of diabetes at an early age, by warning young people of the dangers of an unhealthy diet, which would be beneficial to people's health, as well as making potential savings on future NHS funding. Members also considered that there was a need for clarity in terms of exactly who the Strategy should be targeted at, on the basis that, if it was targeted at the right people, there was a potential for it to have a major beneficial impact.

6.6 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the contents of the draft Sheffield Food Strategy now submitted, together with the responses to the questions raised and comments made; and
- (b) (i) thanks Jessica Wilson and Jill Lancaster for attending the meeting and responding to the questions raised and (ii) requests that they consider the issues now raised and comments made, for incorporation into the draft Strategy.

7. INQUIRY ON CYCLING IN SHEFFIELD - UPDATE

7.1 The Committee considered a report on the Cycling Inquiry Task and Finish Group providing an update on the work of the Group, and setting out draft recommendations in terms of the outcome of the Inquiry.

7.2 The Policy and Improvement Officer referred to the vision in terms of the Cycling Inquiry, and the recommendations under the three headings set out in the report – Getting the Right Infrastructure in Place, Getting People Cycling and Strong Leadership. He circulated a paper containing suggested amendments to the wording of the vision and the recommendations, and Members considered the paper, making comments and raising a number of suggested amendments to the wording, as follows:-

- Consider rewording the reference in the Vision to the “whole of Sheffield” as some people were unable to cycle.
- Amend the Vision to include reference to cycling playing its part in a fully integrated transport network that would encourage reduced car usage, alleviate congestion and ease pollution across the whole of the City.
- The Integrated Transport Authority changes to become part of the Combined Authority from 1st April, 2014.
- Amend the “Integrating Cycling with Public Transport” section to include

“priority should be given to trials on the Supertram network”. The Committee strongly recommended that this was undertaken within the next 12 months.

- In the “Integrating Cycling with Public Transport” section, amend the reference to “long-term” to “medium-term”.
- The sections on “Tour de France” and “Tourism” require more detail and could be combined into one section.
- The section on “Tourism” could make reference to specific areas, eg. Parkwood Springs, but should be done as an example of a wider point.
- The section on “Political Leadership” should be at the start of the recommendations.

7.3 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted, together with the comments now made;
- (b) agrees the recommendations set out in the report, subject to the amendments made at this meeting;
- (c) delegates authority to the Task and Finish Group, through the Chair, the task of compiling the final report;
- (d) requests that the final report on the Inquiry on Cycling in Sheffield be circulated to all Members of the Committee for information, as well as other relevant individuals, groups and organisations, particularly those who had taken part in the Inquiry; and
- (e) thanks Mick Nott, Chair of Cycle Sheffield, for the valuable work he had undertaken as part of the Cycling Inquiry Task and Finish Group.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

8.1 The Policy and Improvement Officer submitted a paper containing the Committee’s Work Programme 2013/14.

8.2 In connection with the update on the Streets Ahead Project planned for the meeting on 9th April, 2014, the Chair referred to continuing performance issues from Northern Power Grid in connection with the street lights, and indicating that, further to the decision of the Committee on 10th July, 2013, she would be writing to the Company, requesting the attendance of a senior representative at the meeting on 9th April, 2014, to report on the Company’s performance.

8.3 RESOLVED: That the Committee notes and approves its Work Programme 2013/14, together with the information now reported.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 9.1 It was noted that (a) there would be a special meeting of the Committee on Tuesday, 18th February, 2014, at 5.30 p.m., in the Town Hall and (b) the next scheduled meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 9th April, 2014, at 4.30 p.m. in the Town Hall.