



Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Report of: Laraine Manley

Subject: Green City Strategy

Author of Report: Mark Whitworth, Interim Head of Sustainability
0114 273 6494

Summary:

1. The Council has been developing a **Green City Strategy**. We will be seeking views and support from across our city. A set of key priorities and associated actions are proposed which will enable the Council and its partners to adopt approaches which promote and support a lower carbon economy, greater resilience to climate change and cleaner growth.
2. During 2015 Sheffield City Council facilitated the city's first Green Commission. This independent commission was made up of key stakeholders from across the city, including business, industry, our universities, the public sector and the voluntary and community sector.
3. As well as hearing evidence from a large number of expert witnesses from across the Country, and discussing what this meant for Sheffield, we also learnt that the City has already embarked on this journey and that we have a strong base to build from.
4. The final report of the Sheffield Green Commission, - Sheffield's Green Commitment was published in 2016, and set out a vision for how, working together as a city, Sheffield could become a smarter, more sustainable, more competitive 'future city'. The report was shaped around four core visions that it considered would act as a lever to move Sheffield onto a more sustainable footing.
5. Following this, the Council, along with other organisations who were engaged in the Commission, reviewed their own organisational approach and responded to the Commission's findings. In the case of Sheffield City Council, we developed a report entitled *Growing Sustainably: a bold plan for a sustainable Sheffield*. This report was approved by the Council in March 2017 and established our five objectives which are set out in section 2.5
6. Our proposed **draft Green City Strategy**, sets out the key actions that the city needs to take to help deliver this vision. We will be seeking the views and support

of people across our city and beyond. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to succeeding in delivering this vision and it will require our entire city to evolve over time –the way we live, work and play – this transition to a low carbon economy will require the support of all our residents and communities, businesses and city institutions. We will also need the support of national government, to create the policy needed to go beyond our initial plan, and support the delivery of a plan to achieve national 2050 targets.

7. Two other pieces of work are also presented for comment as part of this Scrutiny report because of their strong links: **Transport Vision** and **Clean Air Strategy**.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	X
Informing the development of new policy	X
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

1. The Committee is asked to consider the proposed **Green City Strategy**, outlined in section 2. It is asked to provide views, comments and recommendations on the draft Priorities and Actions set out in Appendix A.
2. The Committee is asked to consider and provide comment on the **Transport Vision** as agreed by Cabinet for consultation.
(See Appendix B for summary, <https://sheffield.citizenspace.com/place-business-strategy/transport-vision-questionnaire/> for document and consultation, and <http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=6624&Ver=4> Item **10** of Cabinet meeting 13 December 2017 for Cabinet report.)
3. The Committee is asked to consider and provide comment on the **Clean Air Strategy** as agreed by Cabinet.
(See Appendix C for summary; full details at: <http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=6624&Ver=4> Item **9** of Cabinet meeting 13 December 2017.)

Background Papers:

Sheffield’s Green Commitment; Sheffield Green Commission Final Report 2016

https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/dam/sheffield/docs/planning-and-development/city-wide-plans-and-reports/Sheffield%20Green%20Commitment%20Report_FINAL.pdf

Growing Sustainably; A bold plan for a Sustainable Sheffield. March 2017

<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s25838/Growing%20Sustainably%20Green%20Commission%20Report%201.pdf>

Transport Vision document and consultation:

<https://sheffield.citizenspace.com/place-business-strategy/transport-vision-questionnaire/>

Cabinet report – Item 10 of Cabinet meeting 13 December 2017:

<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=6624&Ver=4>

Full Clean Air Strategy – Item 9 of Cabinet meeting 13 December 2017:

<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=6624&Ver=4>

Category of Report: OPEN

Report of the Director of City Growth

Green City Strategy

1. Introduction/Context

- 1.1 During 2015 Sheffield City Council facilitated the city's first Green Commission. This independent commission was made up of key stakeholders from across the city, including business, industry, our universities, the public sector and the voluntary and community sector.
- 1.2 As well as hearing evidence from a large number of expert witnesses from across the Country, and discussing what this meant for Sheffield, we also learnt that the City has already embarked on this journey and that we have a strong base to build from.
- 1.3 The final report of the Sheffield Green Commission, - Sheffield's Green Commitment was published in 2016, and set out a vision for how, working together as a city, Sheffield could become a smarter, more sustainable, more competitive 'future city'. The report was shaped around four core visions that it considered would act as a lever to move Sheffield onto a more sustainable footing.
- 1.4 Following this, the Council, along with other organisations who were engaged in the Commission, reviewed their own organisational approach and responded to the Commission's findings. In the case of Sheffield City Council, we developed a report entitled *Growing Sustainably: a bold plan for a sustainable Sheffield*. This report was approved by the Council in March 2017 and established our five objectives which are set out in section 2.5

- 1.5 The Council has drafted a new draft **Green City Strategy** for approval at Cabinet in February 2018. This Strategy is intended to build on the Growing Sustainably report and sets out the key actions that the city needs to take in order to deliver these five Objectives approved by Cabinet in March 2016.
- 1.6 The draft Green City Strategy will be a consultation document, which means that we seeking the views and support of people across our city and beyond.
- 1.7 We will establish a **Green City Partnership Board**. This board will have representation from across the city, its stakeholders and partners, its communities and businesses.

2. Background

- 2.1 In May 2014, Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene agreed the establishment a Sheffield Green Commission.¹
- 2.2 A multi-agency Green Commission was to be tasked with undertaking a review of the environmental strengths, opportunities and challenges set against the context of climate change and sustainable development in the City and craft a refined vision for the city.
- 2.3 The final report of the Sheffield Green Commission —**Sheffield's Green Commitment**— was published in February 2016 and set out a vision for how, working together as a city, Sheffield could become a smarter, more sustainable, more competitive, future city. The report set out a series of recommendations shaped around four core visions for a more sustainable city.
- 2.4 In March 2016, Sheffield City Council approved **Growing Sustainably: A bold plan for a sustainable Sheffield**. This report set out a commitment to build on the comprehensive evidence base and recommendations delivered by the Commission to set out an ambitious vision to make Sheffield a growing, productive and sustainable city.
- 2.5 The report established **five key Objectives**:
 - **Climate Change; Mitigation, adaptation and resilience**
 - **Sustainable and affordable energy, for homes and businesses**
 - **Transport and mobility**
 - **Air quality**
 - **A Green and innovative economy**

Green City Strategy

- 2.6 The Council has drafted a **Green City Strategy** which will enable the Council and its partners to progress the Objectives established last year.

¹ Sheffield City Council (2014) *The Sheffield Green Commission*, Individual Cabinet Member Decision, <http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s13620/Green%20Commission.pdf>

- 2.7 The Objectives relating to Air Quality and Transport and Mobility are the subject of separate Cabinet reports, approved at Cabinet in December 2017. It is proposed that the section in the Green City Strategy which relate to these Two Objectives reflect the approved reports.
- 2.8 A summary on the **Transport Vision** is included in appendix B
- 2.9 A summary on the **Clean Air Strategy** is included in appendix C.
- 2.10 Cities like Sheffield are drivers of economic growth. This growth can help bring major social, financial and cultural opportunities for our residents, communities and businesses. However, as we know from evidence such as the annual State of Sheffield Report this growth has not resulted in a less polluted or more equal city. We need to find ways which enable our city to evolve whilst at same time improving our environment and quality of life for our citizens.
- 2.11 Across the world, cities from Curitiba to Pittsburgh are recognising the benefits that such an approach can deliver. Not only are cities embracing this, but are leading the change towards lower carbon, greater resilience and fairer and cleaner growth.
- 2.12 The solutions these cities are adopting are helping to create less pollution and greater equality for their residents, communities and businesses – cleaner air, warmer, more energy efficient homes and buildings, lower cost and low carbon energy and places which have greater resilience to changing weather patterns and the subsequent impact on their communities and businesses.
- 2.13 As the Green Commission demonstrated, Sheffield is already on this path, however there is more to do across this critical agenda and that this can bring significant opportunities and benefits to our city.
- 2.14 As a City we are fortunate to have a significant number of organisations, institutions and private businesses that are also engaged in delivering services and products that embody sustainable thinking or are seeking solutions to some of these challenges we face. Many of our communities are already delivering projects and the action of every resident in our city should not be underestimated.
- 2.15 We will need to galvanise these strengths, and it is proposed that the Council establishes a **Green City Partnership Board**. This board will have representation from across the city, its stakeholders and partners, its communities and businesses.
- 2.16 The Partnership Board will provide an independent voice for the City on sustainability, and will help to develop the City's approach across the five Objectives and monitor and report back on progress.
- 2.17 The first task of this Partnership board will be to review this strategy and make recommendations on whether how it can be improved upon, whether we are

doing the right things and how we can work together as a city to address these five objectives.

- 2.18 It is proposed that the draft Green City Strategy is recommended for approval at Cabinet in February 2018. The draft Green City Strategy will be a consultation document, which means that we seeking the views and support of people across our city and beyond, including regional and national partners and Central Government.
- 2.19 The draft **Green City Strategy Proposals and Actions** are included in Appendix A.
- 2.20 The Committee are asked to consider the approach outlined above and provide views and comments on this and the draft Proposals and Actions.

3 What does this mean for the people of Sheffield?

3.1 *A strong economy*

- a. In creating the conditions for local businesses to grow, by ensuring that issues which may in future act as hurdle for business growth, including developing plans for energy resilience, air quality and climate change are progressed.
- b. In the city being well connected, by developing a comprehensive transport strategy.
- c. By promoting green innovation, by working with our partners in the city to explore innovate solutions to environmental sustainability challenges.
- d. Support the investment in Sheffield's flood and drainage infrastructure to make the city more resilient to climate change.
- e. Access to local, low carbon energy by reducing the dependency of Sheffield's businesses on imported fuel with decarbonised, locally generated energy sources will give Sheffield a competitive advantage over other locations and support future economic growth.

3.2 *Thriving neighbourhoods and communities*

- a. by helping to support the creation of places and spaces where people enjoy being, including access to green and open spaces, as well as city's unique status as the 'Outdoor City'
- b. Better connected transport and increased travel choices, by supporting the development of a transport strategy which aims to provide a transport network which is integrated, connecting different modes of travel to encourage people to use public transport, cycle and walking.

3.3 *Better health and wellbeing*

- a. Better housing conditions to improve health, through supporting the development of residential energy investment programmes and a local energy supply company, aiming to provide lower cost energy to households across the city. This will help to address the impact of fuel poverty in the city and support those individuals and families who this affects.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the proposed **Green City Strategy**, outlined in section 2. It is asked to provide views, comments and recommendations on the draft Priorities and Actions set out in Appendix A.
- 4.2 The Committee is asked to consider and provide comment on the **Transport Vision** as agreed by Cabinet for consultation.
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- 4.3 The Committee is asked to consider and provide comment on the **Clean Air Strategy** as agreed by Cabinet.
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Appendix A

Green City Draft Priorities and Actions – For Consultation.

Objective One:

Climate Change –Reducing Sheffield’s impact

Priority 1

We will lead by example and put in place a plan which enables the Council to reduce its own carbon emissions

- In 2018, we will produce a ‘Sustainable Energy Action Plan’ and sign-up to a recognised carbon reporting framework
- By 2020, the Council will have achieved a 30% reduction on our corporate carbon emissions from a 2005 baseline
- By 2025 the Council and its partners will have begun to significantly increase the level of clean energy generation in the city
- By 2030, a significant level of the city’s energy will be supplied from low carbon / renewable technologies

Priority 2

We will establish a city-wide carbon reduction programme

- We will commence a city-wide debate around how as a city we can adopt and stay within an agreed carbon budget, that enables Sheffield to deliver its share of the Paris Agreement; this will limit average temperature increases to well-below 2 degrees Celsius, and will aim to ensure that Sheffield becomes a zero carbon city by 2050
- We will seek the commitment and support of other organisations, businesses and communities in our city to take a pledge and commit to contributing towards achieving the carbon budget.
- We will report our progress annually through the Green City Partnership Board (To be established Spring 2018)

Objective two:

Helping our city, its communities and its businesses to become more resilient to the effects of climate change

Priority 3

We will work together to help our communities, residents, public sector and businesses to become more resilient to climate change;

- We will work with our partners to develop and put in place flood plans to so that our city can cope with more extreme weather events.
- By 2020, our Green City Partnership Board will produce a Plan to help ensure that our communities, residents, public and private sector are more resilient to climate change impacts, and that they are prepared and able to respond to and recover from extreme weather events should they occur.

Priority 4

We will design, plan and develop our city in way which enables it to adapt and provides greater resilience to climate change:

- Together with our partners, we will work to protect communities from flooding through co-ordinated investment in flood and drainage infrastructure so that our rivers and waterways can cope with more extreme events.
- We will ensure that our flood and water assets are maintained to a high standard and put in place plans to activate defences in emergencies.
- Investment in our waterways and rivers will aim to restore the natural water cycle as far as practicable, promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and reducing the load on our sewerage system, promoting low carbon opportunities for travel and development along river corridors and delivering robust yet sensitive approaches at the scale of the entire river catchment.
- The City's new Local Plan policies will promote the use of natural cooling, to reduce urban heat island effect by using tree planting and living roofs and screens, as well as promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems.
- Our new City Centre plan will promote and support schemes and projects which deliver greater resilience and are adaptive to climate changes.

Objective three:

Sustainable and Affordable Energy for residents and businesses

Priority 6

Ensuring that **our city's homes are energy efficient**

Actions

- We will develop an approach to promote domestic affordable warmth and energy efficiency, which will help households in fuel poverty to invest in measures in their homes, saving households money, improving health and reducing carbon emissions.
- New homes built in the city, including those built by the Council, will be very low or zero carbon - Our new Local Plan will include policies which promote the development of low carbon homes; constructed to high standards of energy efficiency, and which will generate their own heat or power. These homes will use significantly less energy and as a result have lower running costs for residents, as well as reducing the city's overall carbon emissions.

Our approach to **reducing energy and carbon emissions from transport** is detailed on the next section, and our approach to **business is set out in Green and Innovative Economy** section

Priority 7

We will continue to work with partners to **expand our energy networks**, and **increase the level of renewable and low-carbon energy generation**

- We will continue to explore the opportunities to expand our own heat networks and work with commercial partners, residents and customers.
- We will develop an approach to decarbonise our existing heat networks
- We will explore the opportunities to develop renewable and low carbon energy generation schemes, including schemes with partners or 'Invest to save' opportunities for our own assets.
- We will explore the opportunities to develop an energy company.
- We will develop an Energy Prospectus for Sheffield, that clearly sets the commercial opportunities and community benefits for future investment (including private sector, community share and infrastructure-type funds)
- Our new Local Plan will include policies which promote the generation and utilisation of low carbon energy.

**Objective Four:
Transport and Mobility**

Priority 8

A Sheffield where everyone can access opportunities without transport or movement constraints. Residents, businesses and visitors in our thriving city can safely move themselves and their goods or products with confidence and without delay. The negative impacts of transport including air quality and noise are minimised, and safety and quality of life is improved in the city as a result.

Reliable and clean journeys for everyone in a flourishing Sheffield

- Develop a new Sheffield Transport Strategy
- Secure community and business support – changing hearts and minds to recognise the need for change, also integrating this within new development.
- Develop an ambitious yet deliverable transport infrastructure programme
- Explore all existing and future external funding sources

**Objective Five:
Improve our Air Quality**

Priority 9

We want the air in Sheffield to be safe to breathe, regardless of where people live, work or visit. We will work together to tackle the sources of air pollution and we will create a healthy, thriving city where many more journeys are made using active travel and low emission public transport

- **Feasibility study** – consider in detail the types of measures that we may have to introduce in Sheffield in order to improve air quality and consult with the city to better understand what people think about the specific interventions we could implement.
- **Buses** – work in partnership with the bus companies to improve the bus fleet and reduce emissions through replacement low-emission buses or retrofitting vehicles with cleaner engine technology.
- **Taxis** – ensure that taxis cannot be licensed in the city if they do not meet particular standards by 2022; seek investment from Government for a fund to help taxi operators/owners to improve their vehicles.
- **Cars** – consider specific schemes to support people on lower incomes to change to lower emission vehicles, particularly where their job or responsibilities require unavoidable and frequent use.
- **Idling** – roll out Anti-Idling Zones around schools and other sensitive locations.
- **Freight/HGVs** – support the Eco Stars scheme, which helps commercial vehicle operators to reduce their emissions; promote the use of lower emission vehicles across our fleet.
- **Promoting clean travel** – encourage more walking, cycling and active commuting in the city.
- **Working with communities** – commission a Neighbourhood Clean Air Champion Scheme.
- **Industry** – make the most of technological improvements to reduce emissions and ensure that industry and businesses meet their legal obligations.
- **Designing a clean air city** – build the ambition of clean air into our approaches to transport, economy, housing, planning and health and wellbeing.

**Objective Six:
A Green and Innovative Economy**

Priority 10

Helping to improve our local **businesses environmental performance and ensure they are 'climate-resilient' and transitioning to a low carbon economy**

- Working through the Business Sheffield events programme, we will help our city's businesses to be more aware of the challenges and opportunities relating to transitioning to a low-carbon economy.
- In the short term, we will help to signpost businesses to the most appropriate support currently provided locally and nationally. Over the medium term, we will work with our businesses and partners to review and identify the gaps that exist;
- We will work with our businesses, city partners and wider stakeholders to consider how local products can be developed to support local business and enterprise. This will include working with our educational and knowledge institutions, community and third sector organisations, as well as the investment community.
- We will continue to facilitate and support private sector investment into our city that will support and contribute towards the overall delivery of this strategy

Priority 11

Supporting **Sheffield's businesses to become more energy efficient, to harness low carbon, locally generated energy sources** potentially unlocking competitive advantage and reliable, sustainable energy to support their growth.

- We will work to expand the city's heat networks and encourage new residential, commercial and industrial businesses to connect
- We will explore the potential to develop a Sheffield Energy revolving loan fund for business to invest in energy efficiency and low carbon measures.

Priority 12

Developing and growing our low carbon and environmental goods and service sectors

- Working with businesses, educational and knowledge institutions, community and third sector organisations, as well as the investment community and government, we explore the potential to develop a local accelerator programme.
- We will facilitate and support private sector investment into the City into this sector, and into wider environmental and energy investment – this will be essential to achieve the level of investment that is envisaged, noting that the Sheffield City Region Mini-Stern Review outlined a programme of £8b in order to reduce SCR emissions by 40% with an 8 year payback period based on energy savings.
- We will look to develop other innovation programmes which aim to create the technological solutions and behaviour change we need.

Priority 13

Deliver new low carbon jobs for local people

- Working with businesses, educational and knowledge institutions including our Universities and Sheffield College and our community and third sector organisations, we explore and develop a programme for new low carbon jobs for local people.
- We will explore the potential for programmes such as new vocational training and skills for school leavers, apprenticeship schemes or support for innovative low carbon entrepreneurs
- We will explore the potential for programmes to ensure that Sheffield residents have the skills and experience to secure local jobs.

Appendix B - Transport Vision information

Foreword from Cllr Jack Scott

I am pleased to present our Sheffield Transport Vision. This is the first of two stages to present and consult on the way forward to connect people to places and the things they do in and around Sheffield. We aim to complete these two stages early in 2018 with the publication of the full Sheffield Transport Strategy.

We have a number of challenges to solve if we are to improve the quality of life, environment and range of opportunities for the people and businesses of Sheffield, and those who visit our city. We need to improve our economy and the range of opportunities for our residents whilst providing enough housing for the future. Even with better use of technology for communication, people and goods will still need to move around. It is important this movement is accommodated in the most sustainable and inclusive way, minimising any negative impacts and improving the user experience.

New investment is starting to reshape our city. Without a change in our approach these opportunities will be constrained by a lack of transport capacity and poor connectivity. Doing nothing is not an option. Without action, journeys will get harder, making the city unattractive, unhealthy and potentially unsafe. People will be disadvantaged and their opportunities reduced.

We need to provide the ability for people to change their travel habits, engaging with them in a personal and meaningful way. This must be supported by easier and more flexible payment methods and a range of options depending on journey purposes, time of day and personal choice. This will also have to be accompanied by a different approach to managing demand in some areas, including the allocation and charging of road space and parking. Capacity will be increased, but to move more people and goods efficiently, not simply more vehicles.

We need to maximise the positive and reduce the negative impacts on people to facilitate inclusive growth in a fair city. We have to understand the impact that transport has on lifestyles, sometimes negative, from noise, air pollution and climate change, but often very positive in the way it opens up access to jobs, employment and health opportunities. We need to plan for, and be agile to, the changes that future technology may bring, even if we are not currently certain of what these might be.

Our vision for transport in Sheffield is shown below. The way we propose to deliver this vision is shown on the following pages and will be articulated in greater detail in the full Sheffield Transport Strategy. I look forward to working with you to deliver this Vision and the critical role transport plays in creating a safer, cleaner, and better quality of life in Sheffield over the coming years.

OUR TRANSPORT VISION FOR THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD

Imagine a Sheffield where everyone can access opportunities without transport or movement constraints. Residents, businesses and visitors in our thriving city can safely move themselves and their goods or products with confidence and without delay. The negative impacts of transport including air quality and noise are minimised, and safety and quality of life is improved in the city as a result.

Reliable and clean journeys for everyone in a flourishing Sheffield.

Summary of key actions arising from Transport Vision report

- **Consultation on the Vision:**
 - Online questionnaire available between 10 Jan and 6 Feb 2018.
 - A key aim is to fill gaps in our knowledge about travel patterns, reasons for journeys, barriers to travel, and future travel needs of the city.
 - Secure community and business support – changing hearts and minds to recognise the need for change.
- **Complete the Evidence Base**
 - Includes utilising the Strategic Transport Modelling being undertaken to support both the Transport Strategy and Local Plan, to identify the issues resulting from growth options and test potential transport mitigations.
 - Includes a report of the consultation results.
- **Develop full Transport Strategy**
 - To include a programme of schemes and interventions – including short, medium and long term delivery programme.
 - Explore all existing and future funding sources, and the acceptability of a range of future funding options.
 - Consultation on the full Transport Strategy will take place in 2018.

Our Options for changing travel

Road Classifications

- Identification of street hierarchies and types
- Streamlined, clearly defined routes that connect to key destinations, trunk roads and motorways
- Area or corridor based network changes to improve traffic management and increase uptake in sustainable modes
- Specific solutions for the City Centre - supporting the delivery of the City Centre Plan and allowing effective deliveries

Demand Management

- Alternatives such as Park & Ride to reduce car trip distances
- Road space re-allocation to increase capacity and move more people and goods
- Effective management of parking including the possible use of Red Routes and a Workplace Parking Levy
- A high degree of public transport priority to move smoothly through junctions and other pinch points
- Consideration of Road or Area User Charging to influence demand and release funding
- Align demand management methods to deliver benefits for other priorities (e.g. Clean Air Zone & Climate Change)

Future Technology

- More flexible payment methods based on Smart technology (cashless)
- Combined travel payment methods to reduce the penalty of changing mode or service
- Integrated travel and communications applications to increase choice
- Monitor the progression of new vehicle and fuel types to identify their possible contribution
- Consider the infrastructure required for disruptive technologies including autonomous vehicles should these become adopted

Integration

- Better alignment of modes with clearly defined interchange hubs
- Timeables and frequencies that make moving through the network by more than one mode easier - linked to flexible payments
- Core routes that have the most frequent bus and tram services. For those travelling beyond, integration with a network of accessible, high quality feeder bus, taxi and demand response services
- Management of deliveries - including the consideration of consolidation centres or combined procurement
- If necessary consider other bus operating models available including Enhanced Partnerships and Franchising

Rail

- Improvement of rail journey times, particularly on Midland Mainline and Liverpool - Norwich services
- Progression of identified infrastructure schemes including electrification, and Northern Hub Hope Valley
- Planning the future of Sheffield Station to become ready for HS2 and NPR services
- Additional stops on services passing through Dronfield and Dore & Totley Stations
- Frequency uplifts on local rail services and increased capacity at station car parks to promote Park & Ride
- Establish the business case for new local rail stations , including Waverley

Active Travel - Hearts & Minds

- Segregated cycle routes, separated from traffic depending on the speed, volume and type of that traffic
- A dense local network of instinctive routes designed for short trips, including to public transport hubs, schools, other community facilities and workplaces
- Pedestrians will continue to have access across the whole network. We will design our streets to enable people whose mobility may be impaired to travel easily
- Ensure positive messages for young people and at key life decision points helps to promote sustainable travel
- Provide a range of supporting training, education and promotion activity to encourage the use of active modes
- Support the introduction of a dockless cycle hire scheme in the city

Funding

- Explore funding opportunities that can be generated from within the city, such as WPL, providing these fit with our wider policy objectives
- Continue to actively participate in funding opportunities from central government to enable our priorities to be delivered
- Maintain a strong pipeline of schemes through devolved investment funds to ensure our identified schemes are in a state of readiness to allow applications to be made efficiently

- Identify and pursue additional funding opportunities linked to Infrastructure, Housing , Environmental or Social Funds

Weblinks:

- Transport Vision document and consultation:
<https://sheffield.citizenspace.com/place-business-strategy/transport-vision-questionnaire/>
- December Cabinet report (Item 9):
<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=123&MId=6624&Ver=4>

Appendix C – Clean Air Strategy information

Foreword from Cllr Jack Scott

I am pleased to present Sheffield's Clean Air Strategy. It sets out a compelling vision for the future, the scale of the challenge we face and the specific actions – both short and long term – that we will take to improve air quality.

The changes we are proposing will help to build a city for the many not the few, by making Sheffield healthier, easier to move around and play a role in growing our economy.

Clean Air is a fundamental right – all our lives depend on it. But air pollution threatens that right.

Clean air is also an issue of fundamental fairness and basic social justice. It is the poorest and most vulnerable in our city (including the very young and very old) who are most affected by polluted air, even though these people are almost never the polluters. We are clear that greater equality and cleaner air go hand in hand.

We face a significant threat from air pollution. Unlike in the past, however, it is often an invisible killer, and the threat comes predominantly from the vehicles we use to get around (particularly diesel ones) and the energy we use to power our industry.

Across the UK, air pollution is a public health emergency. It has been linked to strokes, heart attacks, cancer, asthma and dementia. Research shows that children exposed to air pollution have smaller lungs and negative health effects for their whole life¹. It is estimated that there are 500 early deaths a year in Sheffield where air pollution is a contributory factor.

This strategy treats the issue with the seriousness it requires. Although Sheffield's air quality situation is not dissimilar to that of most large UK cities, our vision, determination and plan is yet to be surpassed. As such, I believe this is the most far-reaching and ambitious Air Quality plan anywhere in the UK.

Whilst we will do everything we can, the UK government continues to delay taking any meaningful intervention on air quality, despite the UK breaking EU law on Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) gas since 2010. Their approach lacks clarity, pace and leadership. We continue to find it woefully inadequate for the scale of the challenge that we face. Britain deserves better than this.

In addition, around 85% of the regulations, laws and guidelines currently concerning Air Quality are agreed at the international level. Britain's departure from the European Union potentially threatens many environmental safeguards. We will ensure that in Sheffield at least, Brexit does not lead to a "race to the bottom" and a loss of the environmental protections our city needs.

Polluted air is a major drain on Sheffield's economy, currently costing around £200m every year, impacting on our economic growth and people's health. There is no tension between cleaner air and economic success. Indeed, clean, safe air is a requirement for inclusive economic growth that works for everyone. A city with clean air, an efficient public transport system, high levels of active travel and healthier citizens will have a stronger, fairer economy. Sheffield has a proud history of forging innovation and social justice together, as in the 1970s when we were the first city to implement Clean Air powers— this strategy deliberately draws on that heritage and capacity.

There may be a temptation to treat air quality as a solely technical or scientific issue. But this would be a mistake; in order to be successful we need to genuinely and persuasively win hearts and minds and change behaviours. That means working together in a different way. As such, this strategy is not just a Council document – it is explicitly a whole city plan, which will be formally reviewed every year.

The government is imposing statutory duties upon Councils to tackle poor air quality, which are addressed in this plan. Throughout, we have used green boxes to indicate the specific actions we will take, ensuring there is a bias for action and delivering the results we need to see. A summary of all the actions is included at the end of the strategy.

This strategy articulates a clear and compelling vision for Sheffield's air, with meaningful and tangible actions, based on data and evidence. We recognise that some of the solutions to our air quality challenge may not be easy, cheap or popular – but they are required and they are right if we are to achieve our vision for the fairer city we want to build together.

Summary of Clean Air Strategy

Our Clean Air Vision

We want the air in Sheffield to be safe to breathe, regardless of where people live, work or visit.

We will work together to tackle the sources of air pollution and we will create a healthy, thriving city where many more journeys are made using active travel and low emission public transport.

We will follow these key principles to improve air quality in Sheffield

We want clean air for everyone in Sheffield and we will close the gap between the communities with the least and most polluted air.

We will focus on the biggest causes of air pollution and improve them as quickly as possible.

We will support people to make healthy and active travel choices.

We will particularly support and protect vulnerable people to ensure clean air for all.

We will invest meaningful resources in becoming a clean, sustainable city.

Our Clean Air Plan – our key actions:

1. **Feasibility Study** – determine *if* a Clean Air Zone is required in Sheffield²; what area of the city it would cover; and the extent it would need to involve charging certain vehicle types³. **We have no intention whatsoever to charge private car-users.** We believe the plans set out in this document are sufficient to tackle poor air quality arising from Sheffield’s taxi fleet without the need to consider charging. The Study will actively consider and test the effect of charging the largest and most polluting vehicles such as buses, coaches, HGVs and OGVs, for driving through a Clean Air Zone.
2. **Buses** – improve the bus fleet and reduce emissions through replacement low-emission buses or retrofitting vehicles with cleaner engine technology.
3. **Taxis** – consult and work with the taxi operators to ensure we have the right standards in place; seek Government investment for a fund to help taxi operators/owners to improve their vehicles; and take action to reduce taxi idling in the city.
4. **Cars** – consider specific schemes to support people on lower incomes to change to lower emission vehicles, particularly where their job or responsibilities require unavoidable and frequent use.
5. **Idling** – roll out Anti-Idling Zones around schools and other sensitive locations.
6. **Freight/HGVs** – support the Eco Stars scheme, which helps commercial vehicle operators to reduce their emissions; promote the use of lower emission vehicles across our fleet.
7. **Promoting clean travel** – encourage more walking, cycling and active commuting across the city.

² The Feasibility study will be a joint study with Rotherham because it is part of Sheffield Urban Area.

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/air-quality-clean-air-zone-framework-for-england>

Actions

Tackling the sources of air pollution

Feasibility Study and Consultation

We will carry out a local Feasibility Study to consider in detail the types of measures that we may have to introduce in Sheffield in order to improve air quality. We expect to set out our initial local action plan by the end of March 2018 with final action plans, and associated funding, agreed with Government by December 2018. We will consider the effects and impacts on local residents, disadvantaged groups and businesses to ensure that we support everyone with the shifts we need to make better air for everyone. We will consult with the city to better understand what people think about the specific interventions we could implement to improve air quality. This will take place in early 2018. We will update our statutory Air Quality Action Plan once the local Feasibility Study has been completed to reflect the findings.

Buses

We will work in partnership with the bus companies to improve the bus fleet and reduce emissions through replacement low-emission buses or retrofitting vehicles with cleaner engine technology. We will support this by seeking investment to enable the retrofitting or replacement of the bus fleet in the city. To work towards this, we have recently submitted a bid for funding to retrofit 117 buses in the city. We will work in partnership with SYPTe and operators to make the bus a more attractive choice – delivering improved journey time reliability and bus speed on our network – encouraging people to switch from car to bus. We will ensure that buses are driven in an environmentally friendly way, including actions to reduce idling. As necessary, we will work with the South Yorkshire Mayor (to be elected in 2018) to review the way bus services are delivered. This would consider whether other operating models available to the Mayor, including Enhanced Partnerships and Franchising, would lead to better outcomes, including those for air quality.”

Taxis

Taxis cannot currently be licensed in Sheffield if they do not meet particular standards. We will consult and work with the taxi operators and other interested parties, to ensure we have the right standards in place, taking into account the wider implications of any changes that may be needed. We will seek investment from Government for a fund to help taxi operators/owners to improve their vehicles. This will be particularly focused on the most polluting taxis. The actions below will be subject to the decision-making processes of the appropriate Licensing Committee. We will lobby Government to remove the ability for private hire taxis licensed elsewhere, that do not meet our vehicle emissions and safety standards, to operate regularly within the city boundaries. We will take action to reduce idling of taxis, particularly at the Sheffield Midland Station, which is the city’s worst air pollution hotspot.

Freight/delivery

We will continue to support the Eco Stars scheme, which targets commercial vehicle operators (HGV, vans, buses and coaches) to assist and encourage

them to reduce their emissions and improve their impact on the wider environment. We will adopt a procurement approach that promotes the use of lower emission vehicles across our Sheffield City Council fleet. We will work with other public sector organisations in the city, including the universities and NHS, to improve fleets to reduce emissions. We will lobby Government to provide UK-wide incentives for big fleet operators to reduce emissions and to incentivise, at a local and national level, the movement of a greater proportion of heavy goods via rail or water. 28 During 2018 Amey intend to replace approximately 20 Euro 5 diesel vans with electric vans and also introduce two electric/hydrogen vehicles. We will support the University of Sheffield in their funding bid for a Hydrogen-fuelled last-mile delivery system.

Improving cars

We will reinforce and strengthen our Sheffield Air Aware Campaign²⁹ to help people to choose lower emission vehicles. We will lobby Government to provide effective support for people to move to lower emission vehicles. We will consider, as part of our Feasibility Study and Clean Air consultation, specific schemes to support people on lower incomes to change to lower emission vehicles, particularly where their job or responsibilities require unavoidable and frequent use e.g. carers.

Anti-idling

We will roll out Anti-Idling Zones around schools and other sensitive locations. We will take a strong, campaign-led approach to educating people about the benefit of switching off their engines, and other aspects of air quality, using the Air Aware Campaign. We will reinforce Anti-Idling Zones through appropriate enforcement action and use the proceeds from enforcement to support our broader transport vision.

Railways

We will continue to actively, assertively and consistently lobby government to reverse its decision to abandon plans to electrify the Midland Mainline. We will continue to apply pressure to the government to ensure the Sheffield Midland Station is appropriately upgraded in a way that improves air quality.

Industrial sources

We will continue to work with industry and businesses in Sheffield to help them make the most of technological improvements to reduce emissions and to ensure that they meet their legal obligations.

Domestic and commercial sources

We will work with city partners to better understand the scale of domestic air pollution, in particular that created by wood-burning stoves. We will raise awareness of the importance of using authorised 'smokeless' fuel in stoves. Where we have evidence that non-approved appliances are being used and/or unauthorised fuels are being burnt we will use the full range of enforcement powers available to achieve regulatory compliance.

Motorways

We will continue to work with Highways England to deliver solutions to M1 emissions, which might include installing protective screens to help keep

motorway emissions away from residential areas, extending the times that a reduced speed limit operates and other options.

Designing a clean air city

We will build the ambition of clean air into our approaches to transport, economy, housing, planning and health and wellbeing. When we use our planning powers to assess proposed developments we will ensure that air quality impacts are fully considered and that opportunities to improve air quality are secured according to current best practice guidance. Planning applications will also need to consider the cumulative effects of other existing and planned development where appropriate. We will continue to assess and mitigate emissions from construction sites by using current best practice guidance.

Trees and green screens

We will consider using green screens to help protect sensitive locations such as schools from the impacts of air pollution.

Better understanding the data and fostering innovation

We will work with city partners such as the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University to make the most of the expertise in the city to tackle air pollution.

Helping people choose public transport and active travel

Education/awareness-raising

We will use a strong campaign-led approach in the city through the Air Aware campaign to raise awareness of the importance of air quality and help people make decisions to choose less polluting vehicles and to make more journeys via public transport and active travel. In line with our Transport Strategy, we will establish a series of “Congestion Conversations” to fully understand any areas where congestion hotspots could be tackled with some small changes. We will commission a Clean Air Community Champion Scheme where volunteers can pledge to make simple changes that will make Sheffield’s air cleaner and help the people in their community to do the same.

20 mph speed limits

We will establish a 20mph speed limit across the city centre. We will continue to implement our 20mph Speed Limit Programme across the city.

Promote cycling

As part of the Transport Strategy, we will set out a clear delivery plan to encourage further uptake of cycling and walking across the city. The focus will be on route development, improving the environment and making electric bikes more accessible to reduce the barriers to cycling. We will continue to make improvements to the cycle networks that will focus on providing safe cycle routes based on international best practice. These will be focused on areas where evidence indicates that people are more likely to switch to cycling for shorter journeys, and will be supported by more cycle parking. We will support the introduction of the first dockless bike scheme to Sheffield to make it easier for people to choose cycling to get around. We will run adult cycle

training and free bike loans (including electric bikes) to improve access to cycles. We will continue to work with the British Cycling Partnership to run guided rides, city rides and local pop-up rides and we will develop a number of cycling hubs to support these activities.

Parking

We will develop a new parking strategy, which will reflect our aims to manage parking demand and incentivise lower emission forms of travel. As part of this we will:

- Review the parking permits available, including Green Parking Permit scheme, to ensure that they reflect the latest technological improvements and are incentivising low emission vehicles.
- Review our Sheffield City Council employee parking schemes to encourage public transport, active travel and other low emission forms of transport.
- Review parking across the city, including areas that are currently unregulated
- Identify, review and implement a range of parking encouragements and disincentives to improve air quality.

Supertram network

We will secure the maintenance and refurbishment of the existing Supertram system over the next year. We will explore the longer-term feasibility of extending the network. 39 Over the next year we will work with the Sheffield City Region to invest in track replacement and to submit a business case to Government for major refurbishment of the network. We will work with South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive to support the new Tram Train pilot between Sheffield and Rotherham due to start running in 2018 as a low emission alternative to car travel.

City leadership

We will work with key public and private organisations in the city, including businesses, the universities and NHS, to establish citywide clean air solutions and partnerships. This will align with other partnerships in the city.

Full Clean Air Strategy – Item 10 of Cabinet meeting 13 December 2017:

<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=123&Mid=6624&Ver=4>

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