

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
3 JULY 2017

Present: Councillors D Absolom (Chair), Ayub, Brock, Duveen, Gittings, Hopper, Khan, Maskell, McGonigle, Page and Vickers.

Apologies: Councillor Rodda.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 4 April and 24 May 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Further to Minute 25, regarding the petition from Taxi Drivers, Councillor Page reported that in view of the delayed completion of the Station Hill development, it was considered appropriate to re-open the Garrard Street and horseshoe taxi ranks on a temporary basis. They had been re-opened that morning. The RTA supported this move and accepted that it would be a temporary arrangement.

3. MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board of 21 April 2017 were submitted.

Resolved: That the Minutes be noted.

4. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A question on the following matter was asked in accordance with Standing Order 36.

Questioner	Subject
Councillor Duveen	Enforcement of parking restrictions outside the town centre

(The full text of the question and reply was made available on the Reading Borough Council website).

5. RESPONSE TO DRAFT AIR QUALITY PLAN 2017

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report advising that following a successful; legal challenge from Client Earth, the Government had been required to review its draft Air Quality Plan published in 2015, which set out actions to comply with levels of Nitrogen Dioxide in the environment.

The report explained that the Draft Air Quality Plan 2017 provided more detailed analysis of real world pollution levels, particularly from diesel vehicles following the widely publicised Volkswagen emission findings. The principal change to the proposed plan was that DEFRA modelling indicated that more local authority areas would be in breach of Nitrogen Dioxide levels by 2020 and therefore would be non-compliant. Forty areas were named in the draft Plan, including Reading. The report stated that in the Government's technical document which accompanied the

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consultation, it was indicated that 27 of the 40 areas might need to introduce either a Non-Charging, or Charging Clean Air Zone.

The report provided the Council's response to the Draft Plan, which had been submitted on 15 June 2017. The report explained that the final Plan was due to be published on 16 July 2017 and depending on the outcome of the consultation and funding availability, the next steps for Reading would be to carry out a feasibility study to review the best practicable options.

Resolved:

- (1) That the response provided to DEFRA on the Government's Draft Clean Air Plan, be noted;
- (2) That a further report be submitted to the Committee in November 2017.

6. MAJOR TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS PROJECTS - UPDATE

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report providing an update on the current major transport and highways projects in Reading, namely:

- Reading Station Area Redevelopment (Cow Lane Bridges)
- Thames Valley Berkshire Growth Deal Schemes - Green Park Station, Southern and Eastern Mass Rapid Transit, Thames Valley Park park and Ride, national Cycle Network Route 422
- Other Schemes - Reading West Station and Third Thames Bridge.

The report provided details of future key programme dates associated with each of the schemes.

Resolved: That the report be noted;

(Councillor Duveen declared an interest in the above item. Nature of Interest: Councillor Duveen's son was employed by Network Rail.)

7. MAJOR & MINOR ROADS CARRIAGEWAY RESURFACING CONTRACT 2017/2018: SPEND APPROVAL AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR CONTRACT WARD

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report regarding the procurement process for the Major & Minor Roads Carriageway Resurfacing Contract 2017/2018. The report sought spend approval and delegated authority to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer after the tendering process, in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations.

Resolved:

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- (1) That spend approval for the Major & Minor Roads Carriageway Resurfacing Contract 2017/2018, be authorised;
- (2) That delegated authority be given to the Head of Transportation & Streetcare in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport, the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer for the Major & Minor Roads Carriageway resurfacing Contract 2017/2018.

8. MINOR ROADS SURFACING CONTRACT 2017/2018: SPEND APPROVAL AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY FOR CONTRACT WARD

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services submitted a report regarding the procurement process for the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018. The report sought spend approval and delegated authority to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer after the tendering process, in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations.

Resolved:

- (1) That spend approval for the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018, be authorised;
- (2) That delegated authority be given to the Head of Transportation & Streetcare in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport, the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer for the Minor Roads Surfacing Contract 2017/2018.

(The meeting started at 6.30pm and closed at 7.27pm).