

“Devizes Air Quality and Transport Strategy Group” – Terms of Reference

Purpose of the “Devizes Air Quality and Transport Strategy Group” (The Group)

To oversee the delivery of the Devizes Transport Strategy (DTS) and the development and delivery of the Devizes Community Air Quality Action Plan.

Key responsibilities:

The [DTS](#) was agreed in late 2012 and can be found at

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/devizes-transport-strategy-preferred-strategy-2>

- The Group is responsible for ensuring that the delivery of the DTS is well managed. This includes prioritising projects and resources as well as monitoring progress, in order to meet the agreed objectives summarised within it:
 - Reduce transport related emissions and address climate change and local air quality problems;
 - Create better environments for people, rather than vehicles, in the town centre and residential areas;
 - Reduce the traffic congestion and delays that are experienced within the town and reduce the use of unsuitable routes (e.g. Church Walk, Avon Terrace) and rural ratruns (e.g. Consciences Lane, Whistley Road, through Bishops Canning/Coate);
 - Promote and improve sustainable transport;
 - Enable appropriate high quality new development;
 - Integrate development sites with established communities to increase travel choice, based on comprehensive networks and linked facilities;
 - Create the conditions to support local employment opportunities which can be accessed by sustainable modes to support local activity;
 - Improve accessibility throughout the town to encourage walking and cycling;
 - Promote healthier lifestyles for all residents, particularly those of school age;
 - Support road safety initiatives, particularly for vulnerable road users;
 - Protect and enhance the natural environment; and
 - Safeguard the historic environment

- The Group is responsible for developing a “Community Air Quality Action Plan” and then ensuring that the delivery of it is well managed including prioritising projects and resources as well as monitoring progress. The key objective is that through behavioural, strategic and infrastructure change, the level of pollutants (nitrogen dioxide and particulates (PM10) are in line with national air quality objectives and that this work supports the principles of sustainable development.

Operational arrangements

- The Group will use all available data to provide an objective framework for monitoring and for guiding its actions and recommendations.
- The Group will focus activity within the area covered by the Devizes Transport Strategy with particular attention given to addressing the existing Air Quality Management Area. However the Group accepts that this will not fetter activity elsewhere in the community area if this achieves the overall objective of the Group.
- The Group will produce a rolling action plan containing all priority projects, project leads, progress summaries, resources allocated, milestones and target end dates. All members of the Group will take responsibility for managing different elements of the plan. As projects are delivered, new ones can be added. This plan will form the basis for the agendas for Group meetings as well as reporting back to the Area Board.

Governance arrangements:

- The Group will work together to ensure the responsibilities are met. Membership will comprise of officers of Wiltshire Council, community representatives and elected Councillors (see Membership below). The Group is able to co-opt other members onto the group or invite anyone along to the meetings as and when considered necessary and appropriate.
- Governance arrangements for the Group will sit with Members of the Area Board – the Group itself will have no voting rights. The Group will make recommendations to the Area Board as and when decisions are required (including commissioning decisions). It will report the progress of its work to Members by means of updates at future Area Board meetings as appropriate.
- The Group will endeavour to work within and complement existing national and local policy frameworks
- The group will link with other groups both within the community area and across the county, where this will help deliver its' objectives.

Membership

Core membership:

- Chairman - Area Board Wiltshire Councillor
- Community representatives:
 - Devizes Community Area Partnership
 - Devizes Town Council
 - Roundway Parish Council
 - Trust for Devizes
- Representatives from the following Wiltshire Council Services:
 - Public Protection Services
 - Public Health
 - Transport Planning

The group will be supported by the community area manager.

Frequency of meetings

The group will meet bi-monthly but can meet more frequently if required.