

AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

Meeting: Devizes Area Board
Place: Devizes School, The Green, Devizes SN10 3AG
Date: Monday 23 September 2013
Time: 6.30 pm

The Agenda for the above meeting was published on ***Friday 13 September 2013*** and indicated that the report detailed below would be to follow. This is now available and is attached to this Agenda Supplement.

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Sharon Smith (Senior Democratic Services Officer) of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718378 or email sharonl.smith@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

8 Transport Strategy/Air Quality (Pages 1 - 2)

The Board will be asked to consider the attached proposal to approve new arrangements to take forward the air quality and Transport Strategy and any recommendations arising.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 18 September 2013
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“Air quality and Transport Strategy” – An outline proposal

Devizes Area Board, Sep 23rd 2013

Aim:

To seek the agreement of Devizes area board to introduce new arrangements to help take forward the community air quality action plan and the Devizes Transport Strategy

Background Information:

- At the end of 2012, a new Transport Strategy for Devizes was agreed. Its purpose was to demonstrate how the implications for transport as a consequence of proposals within the Core Strategy could be managed and any negative consequences mitigated. A key driver for the strategy is to reduce vehicle emissions in order to help generate a sustainable and healthy community. In early 2013, a task and finish group was set up to look at how some of the actions within the strategy could be achieved in the short and medium term.
- Alongside the Transport Strategy Task and Finish Group, the area board agreed to the setting up of the Devizes Air Quality Steering Group. Its objective was to work together with the common goal of seeking to improve the air quality in Devizes. This is through behavioural, strategic and infrastructural change to ensure that the levels of pollution are in line with national air quality objectives and that this work supports the principles of sustainable development. The key output for this group is a community air quality action plan
- The work of the task and finish group has completed the first phase and new arrangements are appropriate to continue delivering the strategy.
- The air quality steering group is currently chaired by Mandy Bradley who is the service director for public protection as well as the service director assigned to Devizes area board. However Mandy will shortly be leaving Wiltshire Council which necessitates at least some change in arrangement
- As well as the overlapping objectives of each group there is considerable overlap with the membership and some confusion over governance arrangements

Proposal:

- One new group to be set up to replace the Transport Strategy Task and Finish Group and the Air Quality Steering Group
- The objective will be to oversee and monitor the community air quality action plan as well as to deliver the Transport Strategy making recommendations to the area board when required
- It will be chaired by a Unitary Member of the Devizes area board who should be elected at this meeting (Sep 23rd 2013) and be responsible for setting up the new group.
- Initial membership of the new group will include representatives of all those groups that are currently represented on the Task & Finish Group and the AQMG, together with Wiltshire Council officers as appropriate . The new group will be able to review membership (either of a permanent or temporary nature) as appropriate
- It will report directly to the area board and require it's approval for any recommendations it makes.
- It will build upon the existing work of the task and finish group as well as the air quality steering group
- These arrangements will come into place immediately. However the terms of reference for this group including membership will be brought to the area board at its meeting on Nov 23rd for approval.

Implications:

- This proposal should have the following advantages:
 - I. Less resource intensive
 - II. Ensure that both agendas are fully joined up
 - III. Simplified governance arrangements

Recommendation

- That the proposal outlined in this report is adopted

Richard Rogers, Community Area Manager