

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

ECONOMY, SKILLS AND TRANSPORT O&S COMMITTEE

1400 hours on 17th November 2016, Committee Rooms 3&4– Actions

Present:

Councillor Zafar Iqbal (Chair)

Councillors Zaker Choudhry, Diane Donaldson, Ziaul Islam, Josh Jones, Eva Phillips, and Timothy Huxtable.

Also Present:

Phil Hewitt, Metro Programme Director, Transport for West Midlands

James Aspinall, Corporate Services Director, West Midlands Combined Authority

Chris Haworth, Transport for West Midlands

Jonathan Cheetham, Grand Central Birmingham, Chair of Retail Birmingham

Kevin Hicks, Assistant Director, Highways & Infrastructure

Paul O'Day, Street Services Manager

Baseema Begum, Research & Policy Officer, Scrutiny Office

Rose Kiely, Overview & Scrutiny Manager, Scrutiny Office

1. NOTICE OF RECORDING

The Chairman advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (which could be accessed at "www.birminghamnewsroom.com") and members of the press/public may record and take photographs.

The whole of the meeting would be filmed except where there were confidential or exempt items.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors David Barrie, John O'Shea and Ken Wood

3. ECONOMY, SKILLS AND TRANSPORT: ACTION NOTES 20TH OCTOBER 2016/ISSUES ARISING

Cllr Huxtable asked if the Chair had received any feedback from the Cabinet Member or District Chairs about actions to be taken following the Committee's Report on Preventing Damage to Grass Verges or from the Cabinet Member about progress with the Bus Rapid Transit Scheme. The Chair told Members that he would be raising the Bus Rapid Transit Scheme and also what actions the District Chairs and Cabinet Member will be taking on the Committee's Report on Preventing Damage to Grass Verges at his next 1 to 1 meeting with the Cabinet Member Cllr Stacey.

Cllr Huxtable also raised two outstanding items previously requested at the September meeting. It was agreed that officers should liaise directly with Cllr Huxtable about what can be done on road and community safety for Bournville School as it is becoming an 'All Through School'.

The request to collate the academic research on 20mph Limits compared with 20mph Zones remains outstanding. Cllr Huxtable suggested that as part of this exercise, written evidence should be sought from the Police and Crime Commissioner on his views in relation to setting policy on this matter.

The action notes of the meeting held on 20th October were noted.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded that they must declare all relevant interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at the meeting. Councillor Timothy Huxtable declared an ongoing interest as a member of the West Midlands Combined Authority Transport Delivery Committee.

5. MIDLAND METRO – REVIEW OF FIRST PHASE, LESSONS LEARNED AND PLANS FOR EXTENSION

Phil Hewitt, the Metro Programme Director, Transport for West Midlands provided an overview of the background to the programme, highlighted the key challenges that had arisen and how they impacted on the construction, the lessons learned from the first phase and the way in which the lessons will be taken forward in the delivery of the next stages of the expansion of the Metro network. This was followed by contributions from James Aspinall, Chris Haworth and Jonathan Cheetham. The session and concluded with a summary discussion.

RESOLVED:-

That the report be noted

6. HIGHWAYS AND INFRASTRUCTURE – DROPPED KERB SERVICE

Kevin Hicks, Assistant Director Highways and Infrastructure and Paul O’ Day, Street Services Manager presented a briefing note prepared following concerns expressed by members and residents regarding poor service delivery. The note identified the extent and causes of service failures and outlined the actions taken to address the situation.

Cllr Choudhry requester that a breakdown be provided of the backlog of dropped kerb applications made by district and ward.

RESOLVED:-

That the report be noted.

7. WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMY, SKILLS AND TRANSPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2016-17

The work programme was submitted:-

The Chair drew attention to the draft Terms of Reference for the scrutiny inquiry into the impact of poor air quality on health in Birmingham to be carried out jointly with the Health, Wellbeing & the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee for which there will be an evidence gathering session on 17th January 2017 with a view to taking a report to Council in April 2017. It was suggested that Cllr Barbara Dring and an additional key witness from Highways should be invited to give evidence to the inquiry. This was agreed.

RESOLVED:-

That the work programme be noted.

8. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS

None

9. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None

10. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

RESOLVED:-

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

Agreed.

The meeting ended at 15.50 hours.