

MINUTES of a meeting of the **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PLACES** held at County Hall, Matlock on 28 November 2018.

P R E S E N T

Councillor S Bull (in the Chair)

Councillors K S Athwal, E Atkins, H Elliott, L Grooby, J Innes, T Kemp and P Makin.

Also in attendance were J Careless, E Croll, R Lovell and D Ludlam.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor D Charles.

29/18 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 13 September 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

30/18 **AIR QUALITY** Jane Careless, Public Health Lead and Richard Lovell, Senior Project Officer presented an overview of the health impacts of air pollution for Derbyshire County, the National and Local strategic action and evidence for delivering change.

The impact of air quality had a significant impact on health and air pollution was the largest environmental risk to public health. Air pollution was a contributing factor on serious health issues, costing the UK an estimated £20 billion a year.

Man-made sources of outdoor air pollutants such as transport, household burning of solid fuels and industrial activities had the greatest impact.

The national profile of air quality had increased in recent years with a number of policies and strategies being put in place to support change and improve air quality; these included the National Air Quality Plan 2017, Clean Air Strategy 2018 and Road to Zero 2018.

Local authorities were required to assess air quality within their administrative areas and report annually. When potential breaches of the Air Quality Standards (AQS) occur, an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared and an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) developed. There were currently six AQMAs in Derbyshire which were located next to busy roads.

The Derbyshire Air Quality Working Group had been established across Derbyshire County and Derby City and an action plan had been developed to

ensure effective co-ordination of promotional campaigns, educational initiatives, dissemination of evidence and links to wider strategic plans.

RESOLVED to note the presentation and the action being taken to assess and manage air quality in Derbyshire.

31/18 DERBYSHIRE ENERGY STRATEGY Denise Ludlam, Principal Policy Officer attended the meeting and gave a presentation to members on “An Energy Strategy for Derbyshire”.

As background for the Committee, Denise spoke of the Energy Trilemma in terms of Security; Affordability; and Decarbonisation with this very much being seen as an opportunity for the Council to be proactive.

Discussion took place around Energy Security and affordability with particular mention of how DCC energy costs were increasing despite a 36% reduction in energy use.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change had recently produced a report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees centigrade above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty. This was a study based solely on scientific fact and concluded by saying that something needed to be done in the next 12 years or it was hard to predict what the implications could be.

In relation to energy supply demand and distribution discussion took place around what could be done to reduce demand, by looking at renewable energy, flattening peak, battery storage and decentralisation.

Denise provided the committee with some ideas of what it was envisaged could be done by DCC in terms of Energy for Power, Heat and Transport. Members made a number of comments and asked questions which were duly noted or answered.

In conclusion, it was clear that the energy sector was changing and it was felt that Derbyshire needed to respond to these changes with members being integral to this by providing feedback on the draft Energy Strategy, which contained 5 Key priorities, discussing these priorities and finding agreement on a way forward for Derbyshire.

RESOLVED to note the presentation.