

CARBON AND WASTE REDUCTION PANEL

Thursday, 8 September 2016

Commenced: 10.00 am

Terminated: 10.55 am

Present: Councillors B Holland (Chair), Cooper, Kinsey Peet, Pearce, Taylor and Welsh

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel held on 30 June 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

12. UPDATE ON ENERGY COMPANY OBLIGATION (ECO) PROJECT

The Head of Environmental Development provided an update on the 'Energy Company Obligation' project.

It was reported that Greater Manchester Local Authorities in conjunction with the energy company E.ON, were offering fully funded boilers, loft insulation and cavity wall insulation to people who met the qualifying criteria. The offer had been promoted via distribution of posters and leaflets, newspaper advertisements, local radio advertisements and through work with local partners. The offer had been extended to December 2016 and four installs were currently being processed in Tameside. The weekly referral table for the Greater Manchester Local Authorities and the installation status graph were shown and explained to the Panel.

It was confirmed that the offer was available to those who owned or rented their home from a private landlord and someone in the household claimed certain income related benefits. Panel Members suggested that leaflets be sent out with the Citizen and were provided with a supply of leaflets and posters.

The Panel was notified that the Department of Energy and Climate Change had released their analysis of fuel poverty in England in 2014, with a breakdown per Local Authority. Overall it was estimated that 10.6% of all households in England were in fuel poverty, an increase of 1.4% compared to 2013 data. The reasons for this increase were outlined and included lower than average increase in disposable income levels and higher energy costs. With regards to Tameside, it was confirmed that 10.2% of households were classed as 'fuel poor'.

RESOLVED:

That the information provided be noted

13. GREATER MANCHESTER CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2015-2020

The Head of Environmental Services presented an update on the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy 2015-2020.

It was reported that Greater Manchester's Climate Change Strategy was produced in 2011 to set out high level Greater Manchester priorities to reduce carbon emissions, spur low carbon economic transition, adapt to climate change and encourage greater carbon literacy by 2020. An implementation plan was produced in 2012 to cover the first 3 years. A draft plan had been agreed by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority in April 2016 and would be published following final comment and approval by the Chair.

The Panel was notified that UK Local Authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions statistics from 2013-2014 had decreased in 98% of Local Authorities. The main drivers of this decrease were a reduction in the use of coal for electricity generation and a reduction in the use of natural gas for space heating. The reduction in CO₂ emissions for Greater Manchester and Tameside from 2005 to 2014 were detailed in table and graph form. Greater Manchester emissions were 1355.76 KtCO₂ (13.55Mt), which was a 35.4% reduction since 1990 and Tameside had seen a 0.4 MtCO₂ reduction since 2005.

With regards to the establishment of a Greater Manchester Energy Company, meetings with potential partner businesses, existing energy suppliers and other public sector bodies active in this area had been held to test key assumptions and gauge the level of appetite in the market. Work had also been carried out to investigate the performance of recent new entrants to the market and to understand the current levels of market competition.

The Panel heard that Transport for Greater Manchester was working with other organisations nationally to align carbon reduction and air quality ambitions and activities. One activity with the potential to provide a reduction in all emissions was the Clean Air Zone feasibility. Other priority areas of focus were a move to a low emission taxi fleet, working with infrastructure providers and HGV operators to facilitate and encourage a shift to alternatively fuelled heavy vehicles, developing the Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle business case and the Greater Manchester Freight and Logistics Strategy.

An update was also provided with regards to the Business Growth Hub and the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, a preferred options report was due for consultation in October and draft policies were being developed.

RESOLVED:
That the presentation be noted.

14. WASTE SERVICES UPDATE

The Waste Services Manager provided an update on waste services. It was reported that Tameside had a recycling rate of 57%, which was 2% higher than the initial target, and placed Tameside MBC as the third highest Local Authority in the North West with the single largest increase in recycling in the UK during 2015/16.

The impacts of bin swap were outlined and included a reduction in residual waste of 21%, an increase of 46% in the recycling of glass, plastic and cans, a 7% increase in the recycling of garden and food waste and a 29% increase in paper and cardboard recycling. It was confirmed that increasing the frequency of the blue bin collection from three weekly to two weekly could increase the recycling rates further.

A table detailing waste levy data on an annual basis was shown, which also provided comparisons dating back to 2010, with the latest data showing a rebate for 2015. Detailed performance graphs for each recycling category were provided alongside round specific data heat maps.

RESOLVED:
That the information provided be noted.

15. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that the Carbon and Waste Reduction Panel would meet as follows, commencing at 10:00am:

17 November 2016

12 January 2017

16 March 2017

16. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

CHAIR