



Scrutiny Transport Panel

Minutes of a meeting of the **Scrutiny Transport Panel** held in the **Ditchling Room, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes, on Thursday, 26 October 2017** at 9:30am.

Present:

Councillors V lent (Elected Chair) N Enever and J Peterson.

Officers Present:

T Thom, Policy Planning Lead

A Thatcher, Head of Planning

J Victory, Scrutiny Officer

		Minutes	Action
1	Election of Chair	<p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>1.1 That Councillor lent be elected Chair of the Scrutiny Transport Panel for the duration of the meeting.</p>	
2	Apologies for Absence	<p>2.1 Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Gardiner.</p>	
3	Scoping Report for Scrutiny Panel Review of Transport	<p>The Scrutiny Transport Panel considered Report No 145/17, which set out a report on the A259 recommending this be the focused scope and terms of reference of the panel.</p> <p>A presentation was received from the Head of Planning, regarding the transport studies that underpin Local Plan production and the process by which planning applications were assessed. Members were informed of the Council's membership on the Strategic Planning Board, alongside the County Council, Brighton and Hove Council and other Local Authorities across Sussex.</p>	

Members' discussion included:

- Support for an Economic Impact Study by Lewes District Council in conjunction with the Newhaven Enterprise Project.
- A request for more information regarding the air quality in Newhaven and along the A259. The Chair reminded members that air quality statistics for Sussex were easily accessible on www.sussex-air.net.
- A request that the A259 be incorporated into the terms of reference for the Scrutiny Transport Panel.
- A discussion on the scope of the Transport Panel. As members were not in agreement, the Chair suggested that since there were only three members present the matter be referred to the Scrutiny Committee.
- A proposal by members that the Peacehaven Focus Group and representatives of Newhaven Town Council be invited to a future meeting of the Panel.

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Officers responded that:

- The Council had bid for external funding to spend on additional highways infrastructure through the Homes and Communities' Forward Funding scheme; the outcome of this bid would be available within 8 weeks. If successful, this additional funding would allow for the Council to do further studies on the current transport infrastructure in the Lewes District. An outcome of this funding would also be the initiation of an Economic Impact Study in conjunction with the Newhaven Enterprise Project.
- Data from the air quality monitoring stations and diffusion tubes were monitored monthly by the Council's Environmental Health Department. As a result of those readings, the Newhaven ring road had been categorised as an Air Quality Management Zone. The readings from the diffusion tubes along the A259 indicated a low level of pollution; therefore the A259 was not an area of concern. The Head of Planning would circulate recent air quality figures from the Environmental Health Department to members of the Scrutiny Transport Panel before its next Panel Meeting.

HoP

Resolved:

- 3.1** That the Scrutiny Transport Panel be referred back to the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 9 November 2017, in order to set a focused scope, terms of reference and realistic time-scale for a Scrutiny Review of Transport.
- 3.2** That the Scrutiny Transport Panel invite the Peacehaven Focus Group along with Newhaven Town Council to a further meeting of the panel.

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Reason:

- a) To refer the matter to the Scrutiny Committee in order to set the Panels' terms of reference and time-scale for completing the review, as required by Part 4 (c) of the Constitution of the Council.

4 Date of Next MeetingResolved:

- 4.1** That members of the Scrutiny Transport Panel were unable to determine a date for future meetings from the November and December dates presented. The Scrutiny Officer would liaise with members to set a date in January 2018.

SO

The meeting ended at 11:00am.

V lent
Elected Chair