

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
Scrutiny Panel 4 (Emissions Strategy – Action Plan)

Your attendance is requested at a meeting to be held in Council Chamber ,
The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE on
Monday, 5 December 2016 commencing at 6:00pm

D Kennedy
Chief Executive

If you need any advice or information regarding this agenda please phone Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer, direct dial 01604 837408 email ttiff@northampton.gov.uk who will be able to assist with your enquiry. For further information regarding **Scrutiny Panel 4 - Emissions Strategy (Action Plan)** please visit the website www.northampton.gov.uk/scrutiny

Members of the Panel

Chair	Councillor Samuel Shaw
Deputy Chair	Councillor Gareth Eales
Panel Members	Councillor Rufia Ashraf Councillor Mohammed Azizur Rahman (Aziz) Councillor Julie Davenport Councillor Gareth Eales Councillor Terrie Eales Councillor Brian W Sargeant
Co-opted Member	To be confirmed

Calendar of meetings

Date	Room
9 February 2017 6:00 pm 9 March 27 April	All meetings to be held in the Jeffery Room at the Guildhall unless otherwise stated

Northampton Borough Scrutiny Panel 4 - Emissions Strategy (Action Plan)

Agenda

Item No and Time	Title	Pages	Action required
1. 6:00pm	Apologies		The Chair to note apologies for absence.
2.	Deputations and Public Addresses		<p>The Chair to note public address requests.</p> <p>The public can speak on any agenda item for a maximum of three minutes per speaker per item. You are not required to register your intention to speak in advance but should arrive at the meeting a few minutes early, complete a Public Address Protocol and notify the Scrutiny Officer of your intention to speak.</p>
3.	Declarations of Interest (Including Whipping)		Members to state any interests.
4.	Minutes	1 - 6	Members to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2016.
5. 6:05pm	Presentation to set the scene		<p>The Scrutiny Panel to receive a presentation that sets the scene:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Overview of air quality in Northampton” • Relevant national, other background research papers and relevant Legislation • Relevant data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hotspots and trends ➤ Draft Low Emissions Strategy 2016/17 ➤ Statistical data, including national comparison
6. 7:05pm	Core Questions		The Scrutiny Panel to devise a list of core questions to be put to the expert advisors.
7. 7:20pm	Community Impact Assessment	7 - 15	The Scrutiny Panel to approve the Community Impact Assessment (CIA) for the Review.

SCRUTINY PANEL 4 - EMISSIONS STRATEGY (ACTION PLAN)

Monday, 10 October 2016

PRESENT: Councillor Sam Shaw (Chair); Councillor Gareth Eales (Deputy Chair);
Councillors Aziz, Julie Davenport, Terrie Eales and Brian Sargeant

OFFICERS Ruth Austen, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager
Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer

MEMBERS

OF THE PUBLIC Graham Croucher, Saint James' Residents' Association
Steve Miller, Northants Green Party
Tony Clarke, Northants Green Party

1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

The Chair welcomed all to the inaugural meeting of Scrutiny Panel 4 – Emissions Strategy (Action Plan.)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

3. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESS

Mr Graham Croucher, Saint James' Residents' Association, addressed the Scrutiny Panel commenting on the effect on health that poor air quality has. He gave the Scrutiny Panel details of mortality rates and the link to air deprivation. He referred to the proposed gasification plant for the St James' area. Mr Croucher added that other partners also have a key role in air quality and Local Authority vehicles and taxis should be low emissions. There should be alternatives available that take traffic off the roads.

Mr Steve Miller, Secretary, Northants Green Party, and a resident of Kingsthorpe, addressed the Scrutiny Panel commenting that the Northants Green Party had measured air quality over the last six months. He went on to refer to the Borough Council's Low Emissions Strategy, particularly the two actions to reduce the number of pollutant vehicles on the road and for there to be "cleaner" vehicles by 2020. Mr Miller referred to Leicester that had allocated bus lanes; Rushcliffe's cycling policy and Mansfield's work with the Health Authority. This was something that should be investigated in Northampton. The Strategy does not refer to traffic reduction.

Mr Tony Clarke Northants Green Party, addressed the Scrutiny Panel commenting that 1:20 deaths in Northampton are attributed poor air quality. This is around 300 deaths a year. Poor air quality is an invisible killer. Mr Clarke felt that there needed to be wider consultation on the Strategy and should include schools and businesses. He expressed concern that the Cabinet Member had incorrectly referred to pollutant gases and the legal emissions limit. Mr Clarke concluded his address by referring to the six published air quality management plans advising that there are more than six such plans.

The Chair thanked Mr Croucher, Mr Miller and Mr Clarke for their addresses. He invited them to attend future meetings to provide information.

4. SCOPE OF THE REVIEW

The Scrutiny Panel scoped its Review – Emissions Strategy (Action Plan), as attached at Appendix A.

The scope was approved and would be presented to the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28 November 2016 for approval.

The meeting concluded at 6:25 pm



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

SCRUTINY PANEL 4 – EMISSIONS STRATEGY (ACTION PLAN)

1. Purpose/Objectives of the Review

- To provide Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

Key lines of Inquiry:

To increase Councillor and public understanding of air quality issues in Northampton

To understand the causes and impact of air pollution

To understand the actions being taken to reduce air pollution in Northampton

To understand the actions being taken by partners to reduce air pollution in Northampton

To provide recommendations for the production of the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy, which will identify ways of improving air quality in Northampton

Examine all current air quality management areas to ensure they are performing. To see if they can be improved and consider all other factors and future factors in moving forward

2. Outcomes Required

- To make informed recommendations regarding the production of the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

3. Information Required

Background data, including:

- Presentation to set the scene: "Overview of air quality in Northampton"

- Relevant national, other background research papers and relevant Legislation
- Relevant data:
 - Hotspots and trends
 - Draft Low Emissions Strategy 2016/17
 - Statistical data, including national comparison
- Best practice and successful initiatives in both Northampton and elsewhere
- Case studies
- Witness evidence:

Internal

- Cabinet Member for Environment, Northampton Borough Council (NBC)
- Head of Planning (Planning Policy), NBC
- Senior Environmental Health Officer, NBC

External

- Consultant, Low Emissions Strategies Ltd
- Director of Public Health, Northamptonshire County Council (NCC)
- Residents' Groups
- Northamptonshire Green Party
- Highways/Transport choices, NCC
- Carbon Management Team, NCC
- Electric Corby
- Stage Coach/Uno
- Freight Transport Association

4. Format of Information

- Background data
- Background reports and presentation
- Best practice data
- Desktop research
- Evidence from expert external witnesses
- Evidence from expert internal witnesses

5. Methods Used to Gather Information

- Minutes of meetings
- Desktop research
- Officer reports
- Statistical data
- Presentations
- Examples of best practice
- Witness Evidence:-
 - Key witnesses as detailed in section 3 of this scope

6. Co-Options to the Review

Representatives from two Residents' Associations in Air Quality Management areas to be approached to be co-opted to this Review

7 Considerations for Community Impact, such as health, equalities and human rights

This Scrutiny Review will gather evidence with the aim of providing Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Emissions Strategy. It will seek to put forward informed recommendations to all relevant parties on methods to deal with anti-social behaviour on the town.

The Scrutiny Panel, in having regard to the general equality duty, will be mindful of the protected characteristics when undertaking this scrutiny activity; so that any recommendations that it made could identify disproportionate and unintended potential positive and negative impacts on any particular sector of the community, including any potential mitigation required. This will be borne in mind as the Scrutiny Panel progresses with the review and evidence is gathered.

In order that the Scrutiny Panel obtains a wide range of views, a number of key witnesses will provide evidence as detailed in section 3 of this report.

Any recommendations regarding the Action Plan for the Emissions Strategy will consider impact and potential mitigation as appropriate and relevant across all protected characteristics. Impact assessments will be integral to any reports including actions plans.

8 Evidence gathering Timetable

Meetings to commence at 6.00 pm

October 2016 – April 2017

10 October 2016	Scoping meeting
5 December	Evidence gathering
9 February 2017	Evidence gathering
9 March	Evidence gathering
27 April	Approve final report

Various site visits will be programmed during this period, if required.

9. Responsible Officers

Lead Officer	Ruth Austen, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager
Co-ordinator	Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer

10. Resources and Budgets

Ruth Austen, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, to provide internal advice.

11. Final report presented by:

Completed by April 2017. Presented by the Chair of the Panel to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and then to Cabinet.

12. Monitoring procedure:

Review the impact of the report after approximately six months (February 2018)

Community Impact Assessment

(Incorporating equality analysis and health considerations)

V2.0

Name of Matter Assessed:

Overview and Scrutiny Review – Emissions Strategy (Action Plan)

Who will make the decision:
(e.g. Cabinet/Board etc.)

Overview and Scrutiny will produce a report with its evidence, findings and recommendations and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will present this report to Cabinet for its consideration.

Who has been involved in developing the matter:

Head of Service: Ruth Austen, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager
Lead Officer: Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer
Chair of the Scrutiny Panel: Councillor Samuel Shaw

What is it:

A Community Impact Assessment (CIA) is a document that summarises how the council has had due regard to the public sector equality duty (Equality Act 2010) in decision-making. This document can also be used to consider health and narrowing health inequalities (Health and Care Act 2012)

When to assess:

A CIA should be carried out when you are changing, removing or introducing a new service, policy or function. The assessment should be proportionate; a major financial decision will need to be assessed more closely than a minor policy change.

Due Regard:

To ‘have due regard’ means that in making decisions and in its other day-to-day activities the council must consciously consider the need to do the things set out in the general equality duty: eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

In relation to health, we need to consider the potential short term and long term implication of for decisions that we take to support the Health and Wellbeing agendas.

How much regard is ‘due’ will depend on the circumstances and in particular on the relevance of the aims in the general equality duty to the decision or function in question. The greater the relevance and potential impact, the higher the regard required by the duty. We need to make sure that we understand the potential impact of decisions on people with different protected characteristics and also need to consider this information before and as decisions are being made. This will help us to reduce or remove unhelpful impacts and inequalities

Proposal Name:

Overview and Scrutiny Review – Emissions Strategy (Action Plan)

Aims/Objectives and purpose of the policy/service/function

Aims and objectives:

Purpose/Objectives of the Review

- To provide Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

Key lines of Inquiry:

To increase Councillor and public understanding of air quality issues in Northampton

To understand the causes and impact of air pollution

To understand the actions being taken to reduce air pollution in Northampton

To understand the actions being taken by partners to reduce air pollution in Northampton

To provide recommendations for the production of the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy, which will identify ways of improving air quality in Northampton

Examine all current air quality management areas to ensure they are performing.

To see if they can be improved and consider all other factors and future factors in moving forward

Key actions:

Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) is a means of providing non-Executive Councillors the opportunity to inform policy development and critical friend challenge to the Council's Executive policy makers and decision makers (Cabinet). It also has a strong role in promoting the engagement of non-Executive Councillors in a diverse range of policy development activities, including performance improvement at the Council. Scrutiny aims to engage the community in its work either by attendance at meetings, public addresses to meetings, witness evidence, or co-optees to Scrutiny Reviews.

This Review will hear from a number of key stakeholders to ensure that a wide range of evidence is obtained to inform the Panel's information base.

The projected outcome of this Scrutiny Review is:

- To make informed recommendations regarding the production of the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

All Scrutiny Reviews link to the Council's Corporate Plan. Details of which are evidenced within the final report. In particular, this Scrutiny Review links to corporate priority 4 – Protecting Our Environment – A clean and attractive town for residents and visitors

Expected outcomes:

- To make informed recommendations regarding the production of the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

Who will be affected and how:

Overview and Scrutiny ensures that it adheres to the Council's statutory duty to provide the public with access to Scrutiny reports/agendas/minutes and other such documents. Meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee/Scrutiny Panels are widely publicised, i.e.: on the Council's website, copies issues to the local media and paper copies available in the Council's One Stop Shop and local libraries.

This Scrutiny Review will look at issues such providing Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy

The Scrutiny Panel, in having regard to the general equality duty, will be mindful of the protected characteristics when undertaking this scrutiny activity; so that any recommendations that it made could identify disproportionate and unintended potential positive and negative impacts on any particular sector of the community, including any potential mitigation required. This will be borne in mind as the Scrutiny Panel progresses with the review and evidence is gathered.

In order that the Scrutiny Panel obtains a wide range of views, a number of key witnesses will provide evidence :

Internal

- Cabinet Member for Environment, Northampton Borough Council (NBC)
- Head of Planning (Planning Policy), NBC
- Senior Environmental Health Officer, NBC

External

- Consultant, Low Emissions Strategies Ltd
- Director of Public Health, Northamptonshire County Council (NCC)
- Residents' Groups
- Northamptonshire Green Party
- Highways/Transport choices, NCC
- Carbon Management Team, NCC
- Electric Corby
- Stage Coach/Uno
- Freight Transport Association

Any recommendations that explore ways of working, training and employment opportunities enabling income inequality to be addressed will consider impact and potential mitigation as appropriate and relevant across all protected characteristics. Impact assessments will be integral to any reports including actions plans.

Approximately how many people will be affected:

The impact of the Scrutiny report cannot be assessed until, at the earliest, an outline of a report has been developed. Therefore, within the Scrutiny Panel's report it could suggest that any impact on the nine protected characteristics be taken into account.

However, any potential recommendations could have an effect on the community of the borough of Northampton, including:

- All residents
- Community Groups
- Key Partners

[Redacted]

Expected date of decision:

It is anticipated that the report of the Scrutiny Panel will be concluded in April 2017, presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June 2017 and to Cabinet in approximately July/September 2017. Cabinet will then become responsible for delivering the recommendations that it accepts.

Scope/focus of the assessment:**Please outline the scope and focus of the assessment:**

The Scrutiny Panel is mindful of the nine protected characteristics when undertaking scrutiny activity so that any recommendations that it makes can identify potential positive and negative impacts on any particular sector of the community. This will be borne in mind as the Scrutiny Review progresses and evidence is gathered. The final report of the Scrutiny Panel has a standard section entitled Community Impact Assessment and details the findings

Any potential recommendations proposed by the Scrutiny Panel may have perceived adverse and beneficial effects for all diversity groups.

Evidence gathered from the key witnesses will be analysed and contained within the Scrutiny Panel's final report. The comments of the key witnesses will be minuted and published publicly within the [Council's meeting management system](#).

Should the Scrutiny Panel conclude the need for recommendations for change; the expected impact of these changes will be detailed within the Scrutiny Panel's final report.

The Scrutiny Panel's report, after it has been endorsed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, will be forwarded to the Council's Cabinet for consideration; Cabinet will then become responsible for delivering the recommendations that it accepts.

This Scrutiny Review will provide Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy.

The Scrutiny Panel, in having regard to the general equality duty, will be mindful of the protected characteristics when undertaking this scrutiny activity; so that any recommendations that it made could identify disproportionate and unintended potential positive and negative impacts on any particular sector of the community, including any potential mitigation required. This will be borne in mind as the Scrutiny Panel progresses with the review and evidence is gathered.

Any recommendations that explore ways of providing Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy and will consider impact and potential mitigation as appropriate and relevant across all protected characteristics. Impact assessments will be integral to any reports including actions plans.

Community Screening Outcome

Will the proposal:	Yes/No
Eliminate discrimination, harassment or victimisation	Yes
Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it	Yes
Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it	Yes
Contribute towards health improvements or inequalities	Yes

Relevant data and/or research

Outline the information and research that has informed the decision:

<p>The number of public attending the Scrutiny Panel meetings is recorded.</p> <p>Any feedback received from the above is taken into consideration and used to formulate recommendations to improve the Service.</p> <p>Background data will provided to the Panel including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant national, other background research papers and relevant Legislation • Relevant data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hotspots and trends ➤ Draft Low Emissions Strategy 2016/17 ➤ Statistical data, including national comparison <p>Details of Best practice and successful initiatives external to Northampton and comparable Local Authorities will help to inform the evidence base.</p>

Rationale for change

What will you do if/when changes are agreed/introduced:

<p>The purpose of this Scrutiny Review is :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide Scrutiny input into the Action Plan for the Council's Emissions Strategy <p>Key lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>To increase Councillor and public understanding of air quality issues in Northampton</p> <p>To understand the causes and impact of air pollution</p> <p>To understand the actions being taken to reduce air pollution in Northampton</p> <p>To understand the actions being taken by partners to reduce air pollution in Northampton</p> <p>To provide recommendations for the production of the Action Plan for the</p>

Council's Emissions Strategy, which will identify ways of improving air quality in Northampton
Examine all current air quality management areas to ensure they are performing. To see if they can be improved and consider all other factors and future factors in moving forward

Identification of affected groups/individuals

List the groups/individuals that may be affected by the proposal:

Any potential recommendations could have an effect on the community of the borough of Northampton, including:

- All residents
- Community Groups
- Key Partners

Assess and/or undertake Consultation

Has there been specific consultation on this decision (if not, state why not and/or when this may happen):

As part of the evidence gathering for this Scrutiny Review, a number of expert advisers will be consulted

What were the results of the consultation:

Consultation with various expert advisers will take place over a series of scheduled meetings, the outcomes of which will inform the evidence base of the Scrutiny Review, which will inform the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel.

Across the protected characteristics, what difference in views did analysis of the consultation reveal:

Evidence gathered from all sources will be analysed and contained within the Scrutiny Panel's final report.

What conclusions have been drawn from the analysis on how the decision will affect people with different protected characteristics:

The Scrutiny Panel will, after completion of its evidence gathering, formulate conclusions and recommendations as appropriate, which will have the intended purpose of recommending a system of community participation and involvement with other Agencies and interested parties. Recommendations will link to SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time) objectives. Should the recommendations be accepted by the Council's Cabinet, they will then be implemented and necessary actions drawn up.

Assessment of impact on staff

Please give details of impact on staff, including staffing profile if/as appropriate:

The Scrutiny Panel will, after completion of its evidence gathering, formulate conclusions and recommendations as appropriate, which will have the intended purpose of recommending a system of community participation and involvement with other Agencies and interested parties. Recommendations will link to SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time) objectives. Should the recommendations be accepted by the Council's Cabinet, they will then be implemented and necessary actions drawn up.

Assessment of impact on wider community

Please give details of any impacts to the community as a whole:

The Scrutiny Panel will, after completion of its evidence gathering, formulate conclusions and recommendations as appropriate, which will have the intended purpose of recommending a system of community participation and involvement with other Agencies and interested parties. Recommendations will link to SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time) objectives. Should the recommendations be accepted by the Council's Cabinet, they will then be implemented and necessary actions drawn up.

Analysis of impact by protected characteristics

Assess the relevance and impact of the decision to people with different characteristics

Any issues around the findings which may impact on the 9 protected characteristics:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Other socially excluded groups

Will be addressed as part of the report and recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel.

Mitigation of adverse impact on staff/service/people

Where any negative impact has been identified, please outline the measures taken to mitigate against it:

N/A

Publication of results

This Impact Assessment will be published on the Council's website

Monitoring and review

Please give details of how the changes will be monitored, and when the next review is due:

Recommendations contained within the report of the Scrutiny Panel will link to SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time) objectives. Should the recommendations be accepted by the Council's Cabinet, they will then be implemented and necessary actions drawn up.

The Scrutiny Panel's report, after it has been endorsed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, will be forwarded to the Council's Cabinet for consideration; Cabinet will then become responsible for delivering the recommendations that it accepts.

The impact of the accepted recommendations contained with the final report of the Scrutiny Panel will be monitored six months after they have been accepted by Cabinet.

Conclusion

There should be no unlawful discrimination arising from the decision.

Please state how "Due regard" has been taken to the equality duty, and public health considerations:

The impact of the Scrutiny report cannot be assessed until, at the earliest, an outline of a report has been developed. Therefore, with the report of the Scrutiny Panel it could suggest that any impact on the nine protected characteristics be taken into account.

Please advise on the overall equality implications that should be taken into account in the final decision, considering relevance and impact:

The impact of the Scrutiny report cannot be assessed until, at the earliest, an outline of a report has been developed. Therefore, with the report of the Scrutiny Panel it could suggest that any impact on the nine protected characteristics be taken into account.

Signed:

Date:

