

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL – CLEAN AIR STRATEGY

SCRUTINY PANEL 2017 – CORE QUESTIONS

Core questions asked to all scrutiny panel attendees, my replies are in italics.

- a) Views and suggestions on how Council and public understanding of air quality issues in Northampton can be increased

Ensure impact of un-necessary car journeys is made clear and conversion to public transport and benefits of public transport, park & ride are sold. Impact of air pollution in peoples' health must feature as the key need to improve air quality for present and future generations. Information sources eg local newspapers to community and businesses. "Doing nothing is not an option".

- b) Are you aware of the causes and impact of air pollution

Yes. Cost to the health service of resource taken up caring for persons with ill health caused by poor air. Lost time and productivity at work because of this. Impacts of diesel particulates, NOX, CO2 on respiratory diseases, asthma, cancers. Also contributes to climatic change, damage to trees and building erosion and premature human deaths.

- c) Do you understand the actions being taken to reduce air pollution and how can these actions be wider publicised?

Yes, aware of the planned low emissions strategy in Northampton Borough. NBC Should target the public and businesses by roadshows, newspaper, news letters, targeted social media

- d) Provide details of how the organisation would be prepared to fund/contribute to funding of the measures that benefit you or your organisation

Co-ordinated public transport to suit the needs of the University and the people of Northampton (our market place). Continued investment in the Northampton fleet to reach Euro 5 & Euro 6 standards. Unable to set time frame. Uno is interested in joint measures or joint funding to alternative fuel types and possible repowering of older vehicles. Uno would support such initiatives and measures with the Borough and County to achieve these objectives. We would need to understand the measures, timescales involved and work with the borough for evaluation and implementation.

- e) Do you have any other information in relation to the Emissions Strategy

Yes. We have been working closely recently with Neil Polden (NBC) on providing bids for alternative fuel vehicles as a joint initiative to which unfortunately we were un-successful in obtaining this. We remain keen on alternative fuel types for evaluation in the town and new University campus.