

**Minutes
Environment Scrutiny Panel**

**17 October 2007
5.30 p.m.
Abbey Leisure Centre, Pity Me**

Present: Councillors Wolstenhome (in the Chair), Carr, Colledge, Crooks, Kelly, Moderate, Simpson, Turnbull and Wilkinson

Also in Attendance: Councillor Kellett.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martin, Mavin & Mitchell.

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of 19 September, 2007, were agreed as a correct record.

Recycling – Waste Management in City of Durham

Members discussed how they should approach acquiring information from City Council departments on recycling and what they were recycling.

***Note:** 5.31 p.m. Councillor Moderate joined the meeting.*

Members suggested that a questionnaire should be sent to all departments asking for information on what they recycle. If no response is received then the line manager or Head of Department should come along to the panel to give information.

Councillor Turnbull informed the Panel that different department would have different types of waste to recycle, e.g., Tradesmen would have timber, metal etc. whereas office based would have mostly paper.

Members were also concerned about green bins (boxes) not being emptied in their respective areas.

Climate Change

Members discussed who they should invite to come along to the next Panel meeting to discuss Climate Change. Members agreed that they should look at City of Durham policy on Climate Change and benchmark with other authorities in the district to see what they do in this area.

The Chair suggested that the Planning Department and Building Control should be involved and proposed that encouragement should be given to applicants to include eco friendly designs.

The Chair also suggested that a representative from the County Council who had input into the 'Bio- Building' at Aykley Heads should be invited and that Councillor Mitchell had advised him of a contact at Durham University.

The Chair also suggested that the appropriate Government department be contacted for information. Also the Chair suggested that new build properties should confirm to the standards as set out in the HIPs.

Councillor Wilkinson suggested that they required five or six ideas rather than any in-depth lectures.

Members suggested that City of Durham vehicles should be economical and it should be checked whether they use bio-diesel.

***Note:** 5.50 p.m. Councillor Kellett left the meeting.*

Any Other Business

The Chair reminded the Panel Members of the forth coming visit to the Thornley Digester on 24 October 2007 and asked if all those who had said they were going had received their papers.

Actions for Next Meeting

- Investigations be carried out to find out what policies other Authorities have for Climate Change.
- Invite the Sustainable Development Manager to attend next meeting.
- Make enquiries at County Council re Bio building and invite those involved.
- Develop skeleton questionnaire for Heads of Service.

Meeting terminated at 5.55 p.m.