

**Minutes
Environment Scrutiny Panel**

**02 April 2008
5.30 p.m.
Mayor's Chamber, Town Hall**

Present: Councillors Wolstenhome (in the Chair), Colledge, Mavin, Moderate, Turnbull and Wilkinson.

Also in Attendance: Councillors Bell, Kellett, Marsden, Stoddart and Thompson.

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carr, Crooks, Kelly, Martin, Mitchell and Simpson.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 05 March 2008

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held 06 February 2008 were confirmed as a true record.

3. Review of Scrutiny Topic – Draft Review Report, Wildlife Meadows

3.1 The Panel agreed that the report be sent to the next Scrutiny Panel for consideration.

4. Scrutiny Planning Sheets – Sustainable Procurement Policy and Carbon Emissions from the Council's Fleet.

4.1 Members had received skeleton Planning Sheets with the agenda papers.

4.2 One of the topics was Sustainable Procurement, specifically issues relating to the identifying local procurement opportunities, criteria for selection of products, i.e. do some products rate higher on the selection criteria if they are sourced / manufactured from recycled or renewable resources? Also it was wondered whether minimal carbon emissions during the manufacturing / transporting process were factored in the decision making process.

4.3 Members wondered whether Sustainable Procurement was something that could be undertaken in conjunction with the County Council, as there will be the move to Unitary Local Government in April 2009. Members therefore asked that the relevant Portfolio Holder and Officer be asked to comment on this issue at a future meeting of the Panel.

- 4.4 Also Members wondered whether it would be helpful to have an opinion regarding sustainable procurement from an outside or private company to give a counterpoint to the Council's position. However, there may be differences between public and private sector requirements and therefore any Officer that attends a future meeting could explain regarding any similarities / differences and whether private sector companies were consulted in the process of formulation the Sustainable Procurement Policy.

Note: *Councillor Moderate entered the meeting at 5.35 p.m.*

- 4.5 Members noted that procurement spanned across the whole Council, not just the items that are at held at the Council's Stores, i.e. I.T. equipment, telephone system etc.
- 4.6 Members also wondered if the issues relating to the carbon emissions from the Council's fleet could be linked to the Sustainable Procurement Policy, and whether the Council's Fleet Manager could attend a future meeting in addition to Officers involved with the Sustainable Procurement Policy to further explain the methods used to minimise the Council's fleet emissions.

5. Any Other Business

- 5.1 Councillors in attendance thanked the Councillor Wolstenholme for his contributions and work during his time as Chairman of the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

6. Actions for the Next Meeting

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder for Finance will be invited to attend the next meeting together with relevant Officers to explain the processes within the Sustainable Procurement Policy and issues relating to the measures in place to minimise the carbon emissions Council's fleet of vehicles.

The Meeting terminated at 5.45 p.m.

