

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

At a meeting of the **Cabinet** held at County Hall, Morpeth on Tuesday, 7 June 2022 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillor G. Sanderson
(Leader of the Council, in the Chair)

CABINET MEMBERS

Horncastle, C.	Riddle, J.R.
Pattison, W.	Watson, J.G.
Renner-Thompson, G.	Wearmouth, R.

OTHER MEMBERS

Stewart, G.	Seymour, C.
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OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Baker, M.	Service Director, Climate Change, Business Intelligence and Performance
Binjal, S.	Interim Monitoring Officer
Bradley, N.	Director of Adult Social Services
Hadfield, K.	Democratic and Electoral Services Manager
Hunter, P.	Interim Senior Service Director
Johnston, N.	Project Manager, Climate Change
Jones, P.	Service Director, Local Services
Kingham, A.	Interim Joint Director of Children's Services
Murfin, R.	Interim Executive Director of Planning and Local Services
O'Farrell, R.	Interim Executive Director of Place and Regeneration
Reiter, G.	Interim Joint Director of Children's

Ch.'s Initials.....

Roll, J.	Services Head of Democratic and Electoral Services
Taylor, M.	Interim Executive Director for Communities and Business Development
Willis, J.	Interim Executive Director of Finance and S151 Officer

5. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND LOCAL SERVICES

Northumberland Waste Management Strategy – Proposed Food Waste Recycling Pilot Schemes

The report advised Cabinet of future obligations to offer food waste collections to households arising from the Environment Act 2021 and sought approval for a weekly household food waste collection pilot scheme to assess the viability of collections across Northumberland, together with a home food waste composting pilot scheme to consider potential options in rural areas where weekly food waste collections may not be practicable or affordable.

The report highlighted the importance of the Council gaining an understanding of the financial, social, human resource and environmental implications of delivering a new food waste recycling service across the whole County when Government funding became available around 2024/25.

The report was introduced by Councillor Riddle and Paul Jones detailed the key points. A number of questions were asked including:-

- There were concerns about the space available for the different types of recycling bins, especially at terraced properties, and the potential for birds etc to disturb bagged waste at coastal locations. Mr Jones replied that more recycling inevitably meant more segregation and more containers. As part of the pilot, some households had been selected which were already on glass collection so officers could see how households performed when they had the fuller range of activity. Efforts were also being made to accommodate as much of the different recyclable material as possible into the mixed recycling bin. Food waste containers would be lidded.
- Would members receive regular feedback? Mr Jones advised that performance would be monitored closely and feedback provided to Scrutiny and Cabinet before the end of the pilot.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) Cabinet note the content of the report including key learning objectives of the pilot schemes and the features of the collection and treatment systems to be deployed;
- (b) Cabinet approve the commencement of a 10-month, kerbside food waste collection pilot scheme at approximately 4,800 properties as detailed in the report and commit £43,000 capital and £128,000 non-recurrent revenue funding already allocated in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan to fund the scheme;
- (c) Cabinet approve the commencement of a home food waste composting pilot scheme for approximately 90 households located at three rural settlements as detailed in the report, and commit £18,000 from the Climate Change Capital Fund to fund the purchase of the units; and
- (d) Cabinet note that the findings of both pilot schemes will be reported to Cabinet early in 2023/24.

6. JOINT REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR CLIMATE CHANGE, BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR LOCAL SERVICES

Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy 2022-25

The report proposed a strategy for funding, siting, installing and maintaining electric vehicle charge points for the next three years starting in the financial year 2022/23 (copy attached to the signed minutes as Appendix C).

The report was introduced by the Leader who highlighted that the Council was now the highest achieving authority in England in rolling out electric vehicle chargers, which was excellent.

Matt Baker took members through the report which detailed how the rollout would be accelerated.

A number of points were raised including:-

- The installation of a fast charger in Bellingham was welcomed as it was a tourist area.
- There were some issues around chargers being blocked. Mr Baker advised that this was a common issue and there was no easy answer, other than to perhaps charge for length of time instead of amount of power. It was suggested that a report be submitted on the options.
- The installation of EV charging points in new car parks, and that Council staff were now installing them, was welcomed.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) Cabinet approve the strategic intention to prioritise residents who park on-street as the primary target market for future electric vehicle charge points and the hierarchy for site selection;
- (b) Cabinet approve the intention to bid to ORCS for funding for 75 'on street' EVCP units (150 EVCP sockets), a bid value £367,200, which it is proposed to match fund by £244,800 from the 2022/23 NCC Capital Programme;
- (c) Cabinet approve the capital match funding allocation of £244,800. This funding is contained within the 2022/23 approved Capital Programme; Local Services EV Charging Fund (£200,000) and the Climate Change Capital Fund (£44,800);
- (d) Cabinet approve capital funding of £95,880 from the Climate Change Capital Fund to fully fund the installation of an additional 2 rapid EVCPs at Berwick and Haltwhistle and 1 fast charger at Seahouses car park to improve provision for visitors in areas of known high demand. This funding is contained within the 2022/23 approved Capital Programme; Climate Change Capital Fund. These EVCPs would not be eligible for grant funding support under current Government funding schemes;
- (e) the Service Director for Local Services be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Local Services, to make in-year adjustments to the tariff, should this be considered necessary in response to changes to electricity prices, cost of materials or labour so that the income generated from charges covers running costs and there is no additional revenue budget requirement; and
- (f) Cabinet approve the commitment to install EV chargers in any new or expanded car parks as part of the capital budget of that project covering a minimum 5% of parking bays.

CHAIR.....

DATE.....