

HEALTH PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**14 MARCH 2005****Attendance:**

Councillors:

Quar (Chairman) (P)

Chapman (P)
Goodall (P)
Higgins (P)
Jackson
Nelmes (P)Love (P)
Nunn (P)
Rees (P)
Saunders (P)
Stallard (P)**Deputy Members:**

Councillor Derbyshire (Standing Deputy for Councillor Jackson)

Others in attendance who addressed the meeting:Councillor Wagner (Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health)
Councillor Collin (Portfolio Holder for Healthy and Inclusive Communities)
Councillor Davies
Councillor Pearson

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Jackson.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee, held on 19 January 2005, be approved and adopted.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions asked or statements made.

4. NOTICE OF MOTION – SMOKE FREE RESOLUTION

(Report HE42 refers)

The committee considered the following Notice of Motion moved by Councillor Collin at Council on 5 January 2005:

“This Council recognises the damage to health caused by smoking; both directly and by breathing second hand smoke. We acknowledge the lead being given by the Government’s recent white paper on health and we will work to promote smoke free environments in our operational premises, and by our example, in enclosed public spaces throughout our district. We therefore adopt the attached smoke free charter”

A copy of the draft charter was appended to the report.

Councillor Collin introduced the Notice of Motion and detailed some background to smoke related issues.

During discussion, the Director of Health and Housing clarified that although the Council could promote smoke free environments within the buildings that it controls (both directly occupied and sublet) this did not include council houses. The Director reminded Members that the Council was currently not able to force a general ban across the District and therefore recommended that the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) be the appropriate forum to debate the issue further as it included representatives of business and other key partners. Prior to this the issues would be debated at the Winchester Health Improvement Management Group to consider other ways in which smoke free environments could be achieved. It was confirmed that the Local Government Act 2000 legitimised the Council to take a lead on the promotion of ‘health and wellbeing’ of its population.

It was agreed that the Council should take a proactive lead in achieving smoke free environments, although it was recognised that there were few legislative powers currently to enforce this. It was requested that Cabinet continue to support relevant projects such as the Smoke Free eating and dining initiatives.

Further to discussion, the Director reminded Members that an outright ban on smoking in the Guildhall (for example) might impact upon some commercial bookings. He also detailed the Council’s Health at Work initiative that provided support sessions for those members of staff who wished to quit smoking.

There was further discussion on whether Winchester, as a large tourist centre, should take note of positive feedback from Dublin and New York City, and therefore consider promoting the District as a smoke free environment.

Councillor Wagner (Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health) suggested that Health and Safety at Work legislation might be an appropriate route for the eventual legal implementation of a smoke free environment although it was accepted that this was not an option at present.

The Committee agreed that the Council should set an example regarding smoke free environments to others by having appropriate policies in place. Therefore, it was agreed that the Committee be provided with the detail of the Council’s existing smoking policies at a future meeting so that these could be reviewed.

RESOLVED

1. That the Notice of Motion regarding Smoke Free Resolution, as moved by Councillor Collin at the meeting the Council held on the 5 January 2005 (and outlined above) be recommended for approval and that the

way forward as outlined in section 4 of the report and set out above be recommended to Cabinet for approval and recommendation to Council.

2. That the Council's existing smoking policies be reviewed at a future meeting of the Committee.

5. **PROJECT INTEGRA ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2005 – 2010**
(Report HE40 refers)

The Director of Health and Housing outlined the contents of the draft Project Integra Annual Business Plan and explained that the Plan now included a long term vision and targets well as specific activities and projects for the forthcoming year. Partners were being requested to submit a sub-strategy for inclusion in the Plan.

The Director of Health and Housing explained that a sub-strategy to detail how the Council intended to comply with Government proposals for a 40% recycling rate could not be included within the Business Plan until the current recycling pilot had been fully evaluated. This was likely to be in the autumn of this year. Further to this, the necessary resources would be allocated by Council to help achieve this target.

In answer to a question from a Member, it was clarified that penalties for not achieving the 40% recycling rate were unlikely as other local authorities were currently achieving much less than the Council's existing standard.

RESOLVED

1. That the content of the Project Integra Business Plan be endorsed.

2. That Cabinet have regard to the comments of the Committee as detailed above and that it be recommended to agree that:

(i) The Council should aim to achieve a recycling target of 40% (subject to availability of sufficient resources) by 2010.

(ii). A sub-strategy be prepared indicating how the Council intends to reach a 40% recycling rate or otherwise maximise recycling and composting for inclusion in the Project Integra Annual Business Plan once the outcome of the current recycling pilot is known.

6. **ENFORCEMENT POLICIES IN RELATION TO NOISE AND LOCAL AUTHORITY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL**
(Report HE41 refers)

It was agreed that paragraphs 2, bullet number 4 of the Draft Enforcement Policies (Appendix A and B of the report refer) should both be reworded to read "we will provide advice and information to businesses *and individuals* where appropriate, and endeavour to ensure that all our correspondence on enforcement is clear and unambiguous".

RESOLVED

That subject to inclusion of the above amendments, Cabinet be recommended to approve the Daft Environmental Protection Policies as detailed in Appendices A and B of the report.

7. **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**
(Report PS164 refers)

RESOLVED

That the scrutiny work programme be noted.

8. **VOTE OF THANKS**

On behalf of the Committee the Chairman thanked officers for their support and hard work during the past municipal year.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and concluded at 8.00pm

Chairman