

ENVIRONMENTAL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 JULY 2016

Present: County Councillor Mitchell(Chairperson)
County Councillors Lomax and White

10 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clarke, Hill-John and Williams.

11 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

12 : MINUTES

The minutes of the 17 May 2016 and the minutes of the joint scrutiny committed of 6 June 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

13 : CARDIFF'S ENERGY PROSPECTUS

The Committee received a report providing a progress update on the development of Cardiff's Energy Prospectus and an update on the energy related achievements of the Council during 2015/16. It was suggested that the Committee consider the energy priorities for Cardiff and the Council during 2016/17; consider the implications of recent government policy changes and the strategic impact that these could have on energy projects in Cardiff; and consider the future approach taken by the Council to record its energy achievements and identify a future strategy.

The Chairperson welcomed Gareth Harcombe (Operational Manager, Energy and Sustainability) to the meeting. He was invited to deliver a presentation based on Cardiff's Energy Prospects.

The Committee was invited to comment, raise questions or seek clarification on the information received. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

- The Committee were advised that whilst the schools currently benefiting from the Salix Funding are relatively new and therefore may need less work however there is another tranche of buildings to be included in the project and officers are aware of the buildings that use high levels of energy. County Hall is currently being considered, although no final decision has yet been made.
- Officers advised that the Re:Fit project/framework is due to start in a number of schools, City Hall, Cardiff Castle and Lamby Way Depot in August/September. That project specifically looks at energy savings in the whole building.
- Although there has been a reduction in the funding income tariff for solar power progress is still being made in that area.
- Members asked what the predicted uptake may be for hydro cars and were advised that whilst they would have the benefit of being able to travel a greater distance the infrastructure for hydro refuelling is very sparse and therefore currently it is not viable.

- Officers also advised that they were not aware of any work being undertaken on the use of street lighting for electric cars but believe that it would require a large amount of capital investment.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson writes, on behalf of the Committee, to the Cabinet Member to convey the Committee's comments and observations.

14 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members were advised that the next Environment Scrutiny Committee is scheduled for 6 September 2016 at 4.30 pm.

The meeting terminated at 5.40 pm