

POLICY, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

20 APRIL 2011

REPORT OF HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS

GREEN TRAVEL PLAN

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To submit the Green Travel Plan for the Council for approval.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that :-

2.1 **The Council's Green Travel Plan be approved.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

3.1 Condition 6 of the planning permission for Parkside requires submission of a Green Travel Plan in order for the condition to be discharged by the Local Planning Authority. This condition was requested by Highways and required the Plan to show choice of transport to and from the site and a commitment to reducing carbon emissions.

3.2 A Green Travel Plan as defined by the Department of Transport is "a long term management strategy for an occupier or site that seeks to deliver sustainable transport objectives through positive action that is articulated in a document that is regularly reviewed."

3.3 An operational group was set up at the beginning of 2010 to work on completing the Green Travel Plan. All service areas and Union representatives are part of the group. The Green Travel Plan has been devised by the group following ongoing consultation and involvement with staff.

3.4 Work towards the targets and the action plan has been progressing and the next travel survey is due to go out to staff in June 2011. Leicestershire County Council have been involved with the group and discussions are currently ongoing regarding the use of a car share scheme and "Choose How You Move" logo.

3.5 There are six main areas of focus: Information and Awareness, Parking Management, Promoting Healthy Options, Promoting Public Transport, Reducing Car Use and Reducing Travel. Many of these areas will require associated policies to support the Green Travel Plan for example:

Reducing Travel links to Homeworking Policy, Channel Shift project, video conferencing

Parking Management links to Car Parking Policy for Parkside.

Development and review of these policies will be ongoing in order to meet the targets set within the Plan and, due to the nature of such associated policies, require sign off from Human Resources/Head of Communications.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Green Travel Plan is a requirement of the planning permission for Parkside and therefore required to discharge one of the conditions. Submission of the plan is required eight weeks before occupation of Parkside.

- 4.2 The Green Travel Plan sets out targets and performance indicators which will be measured and reviewed in line with the Plan.
- 4.3 The Action Plan sets out the associated policies required to fulfil the requirement of the plan. At this first stage of implementation the initial associated policies include Car Parking for Parkside Policy, Car Share Scheme, Home working Policy, Essential Car User Policy (definition of Essential Car User) and links to Channel Shift project including the website and Culture and Protocols project.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There is no direct cost in implementing the Green Travel Plan. The resources for monitoring the performance indicators and targets associated with the Plan will sit with the existing operational Green Travel Team whilst review and development of the policies will primarily be undertaken by the Human Resources Officer.
- 5.2 Indirect costs of incentivising sustainable travel or car share scheme may be incurred however at this stage are not known. These costs will be taken from revenue received from the staff charges for car parking at Parkside.
- 5.3 Members have agreed in principal that staff should be charged for car parking in the Town Centre however no charges have been set. Indication has been that the charges should be in line with the charges for a weekly ticket in the long stay public car parks. This is currently set at £6.00 per week (6 days)
- 5.4 One of the targets in the Plan is to reduce business mileage which as well as reducing carbon emissions will result in a reduction in business costs if achieved.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

- 6.1 It is not a legal requirement for a local authority to have a Green Travel Plan in place however it is considered good practice.
- 6.2 Green Travel Plan is required to discharge a condition of the planning permission for Parkside

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

- 7.1 Improved environmental credentials, improved accessibility and reduction of traffic in the Town Centre link to a safer and stronger community.

8.0 EQUALITIES

- 8.1 An equalities impact assessment will be completed for all associated polices

9.0 RISKS

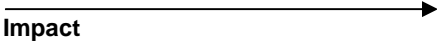
9.1 Probability



Very High A				
High B				

Risk No.	Description
1	Failure to comply with planning condition resulting in delay in move to Parkside

Significant C			1,	
Low D				
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic



Impact

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no particular implications arising from the report.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 Detailed consultation has taken place across the District Councils to respond to the offers by the County Council as well as work up the agreed proposal between the Districts for the delivery of this Countywide District to District joint service.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All

Contact Officer Lynn Aisbett, Chief Executive
Date: 20 September 2010
Appendices : None
Background Papers: None
Reference : X:\PFA\2010-11\290910\LA - Update on the Councils Approach to Equalities.doc