

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report to:** Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee – 11 October 2016

**Subject:** Draft Terms of Reference and Work Programme for the Air Quality Task and Finish Group

**Report of:** Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

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**Summary**

This report sets out the proposed terms of reference and work programme for the Air Quality Task and Finish group.

**Recommendations**

The Committee is invited to:

1. Agree the terms of reference for the Task and Finish Group or make any necessary revisions.
  2. Agree the work programme of the Task and Finish Group or make any necessary revisions. The Work Programme will be reviewed by the group at each of its meetings.
  3. Agree the membership of the Task and Finish Group and appoint a Chair.
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**Wards Affected:** All

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**Contact Officers:**

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**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

Minutes of the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting held 19 July 2016.

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 At its meeting of 19 July 2016, following consideration of the Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan and Emissions report the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to undertake a detailed investigation into the issue of air quality (see minutes NESC/16/13).
- 1.2 The proposed name for the group is the 'Air Quality Task and Finish Group'. The term 'Task and Finish Group' is used to refer to subgroups which carry out an investigation and report their findings.
- 1.3 This report sets out a programme of work to investigate the areas identified by Committee members. The Committee is asked to discuss and make any necessary revisions to the Terms of Reference and Work Programme for the investigation. The Work Programme will be reviewed by the group at each of its meetings.
- 1.4 The draft terms of reference and work programme for this Subgroup are attached as appendices 1 and 2.

## **2.0 Membership**

- 2.1 The Committee is invited to approve the membership of the Task and Finish Group and appoint a Chair.

## **3.0 Recommendations**

- 3.1 Recommendations to the Committee are listed on the first page of this report.

Title	Air Quality Task and Finish Group
Membership	TBC
Lead Executive Members	Councillor Rosa Battle – Executive Member for Environment
Strategic Directors	Sara Todd - Deputy Chief Executive, Growth & Neighbourhoods Geoff Little – Deputy Chief Executive, People, Policy and Reform
Lead Officers	Richard Elliott - Head of Policy, Partnerships and Research
Contact officer	Lee Walker – Scrutiny Support Officer
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To understand the context and impact of poor air quality in Manchester.</li> <li>2. To understand the health implications of poor air quality and the initiatives to improve this.</li> <li>3. To learn from good practice adopted by other UK and European Cities to initiate local improvements in air quality.</li> <li>4. To examine the impact of transport on air quality and measures to address this.</li> <li>5. To understand any potential implications for existing UK environmental legislation and standards arising from the EU referendum decision to leave the European Union.</li> <li>6. To seek to influence local Planning Policy to ensure that future developments key to the city’s sustainable growth are contributing to improved air quality in the city.</li> </ol>
Key Lines of Enquiry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To consider evidence of good practice and local initiatives from other UK and European cities to improve air quality.</li> <li>2. The group will consider the issue of transport and its impact on air quality, including the implications of emissions testing regimes. The panel will consider initiatives to : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce the number of older vehicles on the road;</li> <li>- Reduce the need to travel and the number of journeys undertaken by car;</li> <li>- Alternative fuel, including electric vehicles;</li> <li>- Lowering emissions from all commercial vehicles;</li> <li>- National Clean Air days</li> <li>- Cycling initiatives and alternative modes of transport.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. To consider how local planning policy is being used to ensure that developments which are key to the sustainable growth of Manchester are contributing to improved air quality.</li> <li>4. To consider how Public Health can influence change to promote the issue of air quality at both a local and national level.</li> </ol>

	<p>5. To discuss how the objectives of reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality whilst growing the population and economy of the city can be achieved.</p> <p>6. The Panel will hear from a number of stakeholders and invited witnesses throughout the course of this enquiry.</p>
Operation	<p>This subgroup will report its findings to the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee by submitting minutes to the Committee. The Committee will be asked to endorse any recommendations from the Subgroup.</p>
Access to Information	<p>Meetings of the Subgroup will be open to members of the media and public except where information that is confidential or exempt from publication is being considered.</p> <p>Papers for the Subgroup will be made available to members of the media and public on the Council's website and the main entrance to the Town Hall except where information which is confidential or exempt from publication is being considered.</p>
Schedule of Meetings	<p>To hold four substantive meetings with one additional meeting to agree the final report.</p>
Commissioned	<p>July 2016</p>

**Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee – Air Quality Task and Finish Group  
Draft Work Programme**

<b>Meeting 1 – November 2016 - Date / Time and Venue to be confirmed</b>				
Report Deadline:				
Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Air Quality - Understanding the local context	<p>To receive a summary report that describes the current standard of Air Quality in Manchester.</p> <p>The report will describe –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality in Manchester compared to national standards, and in comparison to other UK / selected European cities</li> <li>• The causes of poor air quality in Manchester The actions proposed to improve air quality. The challenges to improving air quality.</li> <li>• Any potential implications for existing UK environmental legislation and standards arising from the EU referendum vote.</li> </ul>	Councillor Rosa Battle	Richard Elliott	<p>Invitations to Friends of the Earth, Invite to TfGM</p> <p>Councillors Azra Ali, Fender, Hassan, Noor and Paul</p> <p>Other invites TBC</p>
Health implications of poor Air Quality	<p>To receive a summary report that reviews the evidence of the impact of poor air quality on the health of Manchester’s population, and discuss how Public Health related activity can influence change to promote the issue of air quality.</p> <p>The report will describe the social and economic impacts of poor air quality in Manchester.</p>	Councillor Paul Andrews	David Regan	<p>Invitations to the Chair of Health Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>Invitations TBC</p>
Terms of Reference and Work Programme	To review and agree the Subgroup’s terms of reference and work programme, and consider any changes or additions that are necessary.		Lee Walker	

<b>Meeting 2 – December 2016 - Date / Time and Venue to be confirmed</b>				
Report Deadline:				
Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Good Practice	To receive a summary report of evidence of good practice and local initiatives from other UK and European cities to improve air quality. Where evidence is available bench marking information is to be provided to the group.	Councillor Rosa Battle	Richard Elliott	Invitations TBC
Terms of Reference and Work Programme	To review and agree the Subgroup's terms of reference and work programme, and consider any changes or additions that are necessary.		Lee Walker	

<b>Meeting 3 – January 2017 – Date / Time and Venue to be confirmed</b>				
Report Deadline:				
Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Transport	The group will consider the issue of transport and its impact on air quality, including the implications of emissions testing regimes. The panel will consider initiatives to : - Reduce the number of older vehicles on the road; - Reduce the need to travel and the number of journeys undertaken by car; - Alternative fuel, including electric vehicles; - Lowering emissions from commercial vehicles; - National Clean Air days; - Cycling initiatives and alternative modes of transport.	Councillor Rosa Battle	Richard Elliott	Invitations to the Chair of Economy Scrutiny Committee  Invitations TBC  Cycle groups LoCity

Terms of Reference and Work Programme	To review and agree the Subgroup's terms of reference and work programme, and consider any changes or additions that are necessary.		Lee Walker	
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**Meeting 4 – February 2017 - Date / Time and Venue to be confirmed**

Report Deadline:

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Planning Policy	To discuss how local planning policy is being used to ensure that developments are contributing to improved air quality. - To receive information on good practice adopted in other cities.	Councillor Rosa Battle	Richard Elliott	Invitations TBC
Carbon Emissions and Growth	To discuss how the objectives of reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality whilst growing the population and economy of the city can be achieved.	Councillor Rosa Battle	Richard Elliott	Invitations TBC
Feedback from members on their findings	The purpose of this item is for members to feed back on the findings of this review and make recommendations that will inform the final report of the Task and Finish Group.		Lee Walker	
Terms of Reference and Work Programme	To review and agree the Subgroup's terms of reference and work programme, and consider any changes or additions that are necessary.		Lee Walker	

**Meeting 5 – February 2017 Date / Time and Venue to be confirmed**

Report Deadline:

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Final Report	To agree the final report and recommendations of the		Lee Walker	

	<p>Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>This final report is to be submitted to the 28 February 2017 meeting of Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee.</p>			
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