

**Extract from the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment and Transport
Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 5th September 2019**

29. Leicester City Council: Transforming Cities Fund and Air Quality Directive

The Committee considered a report informing them of the work Leicester City Council was undertaking with regard to the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) and Air Quality Directive (AQD) submissions to Government. A copy of the report marked 'Agenda Item 12', is filed with these minutes.

Arising from the discussion the following points were raised:-

- i) The responsibility for air quality within Leicestershire lies with the city, district and borough councils. The County Council would support these councils in developing plans and submitting bids for funding for air quality measures, such as through a congestion relief scheme.
- ii) The County Council had no power to direct bus companies to use electric buses within the county. Officers were aware that government had recently announced a £200 million fund for electric buses and would investigate how the county could benefit from it.
- iii) The Council were aware of the air quality concerns within North West Leicestershire and Members were pleased that the Council had made a bid to Government via Midlands Connect for the A511 Growth Corridor. The plan would aim to improve movements around North West Leicestershire and try to mitigate the some of the impact of growth.
- iv) Members were concerned of the impact that a Clean Air charging zone would have for those in the county due to a lack of public transport in rural areas and a lack of electric charging infrastructure within the county. Members were assured that this was a scenario that the government decreed should be modelled. The County Council would continue to work with the City to seek to maximise the benefits and minimise any disbenefits to the county.

Members were pleased that a comprehensive report on air quality was being prepared by the Director of Public Health in order to address the Council's commitment to the reduction of its CO₂ to net zero by 2030 through a series of actions and measures that could be adopted by the Council.

RESOLVED:

That the comments of the Committee be included in the report to Cabinet on 22 October.

This page is intentionally left blank