

Environment and Transport Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Tuesday 24 April 2018 at 10am

Present:

P Campbell	S Coutts
S Leask	A Manson
R McGregor	A Priest
R Thomson	G Smith

Apologies:

D Sandison

In Attendance (Officers):

M Sandison, Chief Executive
J Smith, Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours
B Robb, Senior Management Accountant
P Morgridge, Transport Policy and Projects Officer
P Wishart, Solicitor
B Kerr, Communications Officer
L Malcolmson, Committee Officer

Chair:

Mr Thomson, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interests

None

Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of the meetings held on i) 6 February 2018 on the motion of Mr Thomson, seconded by Mr Priest; and ii) 5 March 2018 on the motion of Mr Thomson, seconded by Mr Coutts.

8/18 Sullom Voe Harbour Area – Development Planning

The Committee considered a report by the Acting Executive Manager – Ports & Harbours (PH-08-18-F) which presented proposals on how best to progress the consideration of planning and marine development guidance for the Sullom Voe Harbour Area.

The Acting Executive Manager – Ports & Harbours introduced the report and advised that the Development Committee, at its meeting on 23 April 2018, authorised the development of a Marine Development Masterplan for the Sullom Voe Harbour Area (SVHA). He said that it had become clear that the substantial work undertaken on the Marine Spatial Plan, which covers the whole of Shetland including Sullom Voe, could be magnified with more detail on specific aspects of the SVHA Masterplan. He

explained that the SVHA has special status across a large area and is a significant transport route for internal and indeed international transport.

During questions, the Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours was asked what impact there may be on roads infrastructure and what consideration would be given to this in the Masterplan. The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours advised that it was important to consider the whole coastal zone and the intention would be to also include land infrastructure. He advised on the ongoing work with HIE, Sullom Voe Terminal and Scatsta Airport which could be widened to include the Council's Roads Service in order to understand the different constraints and opportunities that may arise. The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours also confirmed that SOTEAG had been briefed on the proposals and associated risks. He said that in embarking on the Masterplan process there were no assumptions as to the outcome and what may be developed. He said that SOTEAG would be a core consultee adding that their monitoring regime may complement the process. The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours advised that no consultees to date had been against a comprehensive Masterplan which was seen as an investment in the Harbour Areas paid for by the Harbour Account for Harbour Users. He advised that one question that had arisen from this process so far is whether it should be carried out in other areas.

The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours responded to further questions and confirmed that the relationship with Community Partners and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan was essential. He explained that the Masterplan process had to be linked together to inform each other and in that regard he referred to paragraph 4.7 of the report. He said that in addition to engagement with business stakeholders it was important to consult with the community where there would be interest in areas such as the Crown Estate. He added that the underlying approach had to be consistent.

Comment was made that the best sites were already taken up at Ulsta and Toft and the Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours was asked if this would affect the outcome of the Toft Pier in terms of road access, as there could be congestion if the area is also used for aquaculture. The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours said that there would be reports on the Toft Pier by October in terms of where development may be undertaken. He said that in terms of internal transport plans, there may be a need to protect a bridge corridor but the Masterplan would not stop that. He added that it was important to produce a plan for now and into the foreseeable future but to have forward sight so that the site can adapt to changing circumstances.

The Chair advised that the Committee's views would be passed on to Policy and Resources Committee.

Decision

The Committee approved the content of the report for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.

9/18 Access for Wheelchair Users to Taxis and Private Hire Cars

The Committee considered a report by the Transport Policy and Projects Officer (DV-18-18-F) which proposed creating and maintaining a list of designated wheelchair accessible taxis and private hire cars (PHCs).

The Transport Policy and Projects Officer introduced the report and advised that While the Committee did not have to adopt Section 167 of the Equality Act 2010, should

adoption be agreed a further two sections would require to be implemented. The Transport Policy and Projects Officer explained the implications of approving the recommendations at Section 1 of the report, and the opportunity for drivers to apply for an exemption where they are not physically able to facilitate the carriage of a wheelchair user. The Transport Policy and Projects Officer also drew attention to 4.5 of the report and the Council's key elements of general duty defined in the Equality Act 2010.

The Chair moved that the Committee recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee approval of the recommendations contained in the report. Mr McGregor seconded.

Decision

The Environment and Transport Committee RESOLVED to recommend that the Policy and Resources Committee:-

- AGREE that the Council should create and maintain a list of designated wheelchair accessible taxis and private hire cars in terms of Section 167 of the Equality Act 2010; and
- DELEGATE authority to the Director of Development Services, or his nominee, to put in place the administrative arrangements required to comply with the legislative provisions which apply when such a list is maintained, in accordance with the relevant statutory guidance.

The meeting concluded at 10.20am.

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Chair