

STOCKPORT COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET– SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Clean Air Local Authority update

Report to Cabinet

Date: 28th July 2020

Report of: (a) Cabinet Member for Adult Care & Health

Key Decision: (b) Y

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Mark with a Y if applicable)

Summary:

This report provides a comprehensive update on the development of the GM Clean Air Plan, it sets out a proposal for public consultation in light of COVID-19 implications, and highlights that the implementation of a GM Clean Air Zone is delayed to 2022.

It recaps on work undertaken to date, highlighting new work to develop a Clean Commercial Vehicle Fund and a new Hardship Fund.

It also includes a summary of correspondence between Greater Manchester and DEFRA, including the DEFRA Minister's 18 March letter to Cllr Western, GM Green City Region lead, which included a further Ministerial Direction to act and expressing the government's desire for GM to consult on a charging Clean Air Zone Category C, and the reply which emphasised the need for government support for key sectors, including the hackney and LGV business users.

The report also highlights the close link with work to develop Minimum Licensing Standards for the taxi and private hire trade in GM, and sets out that it is intended that a public consultation on this is managed in parallel with that for the GM Clean Air Plan, suggesting that GM sets out a clear roadmap to when taxi/PHV fleets should be emission free.

Finally, the report outlines how the GM Clean Air Plan will support the wider programme of activity around decarbonising the transport sector.

Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member: (c)

Please note the continued progress being made to deliver the required Clean Air Plan.

Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member: (d)

1. Note the progress of the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan;
2. Note the progress in the development of the Clean Commercial Vehicle and Hardship funds;
3. Note the initial funding award of £41m for clean vehicle funds to award grants or loans to eligible businesses;
4. Note the Government has accepted the need for vehicle replacement funds for Hackney Carriages, and Light Goods Vehicles, but has requested further development of shared evidence on the needs within that complex sector before

responding and does not support the sustainable journeys measure.

5. Note that TfGM is seeking confirmation that the funding award for Bus Retrofit is a continuation of Clean Bus Technology Funds to be distributed as soon as possible as per previous arrangements;
6. Note the government will not support electric vehicle charging infrastructure through Clean Air monies but have committed to work with GM on securing funding from OLEV;
7. Agree the position that the GM Local Authorities will move to a statutory public consultation on the GM Clean Air Plan as soon as reasonably practicable;
8. Further agree the position that the GM Local Authorities' decision to commence a public consultation should be taken once there is a clear timeframe for exiting lockdown and moving to the next phase of the COVID-19 response;
9. Note the implementation of a GM CAZ is delayed to 2022 with a revised implementation date to be confirmed in the consultation commencement report;
10. Note the DfT's positioning paper "Decarbonising Transport – Setting the Challenge";
11. Note the assessment of the possible impacts of COVID-19 to inform a technical briefing note for decision makers; and
12. Note that the GM local Authorities intend to consult on GM's proposed MLS, alongside the Clean Air Plan consultation and agree the position for consultation, on when taxi/PHV fleets should be Zero Emission Capable.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(e)**
Adult Care and Health

Background Papers (if report for publication): **(f)**

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

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'Urgent Business': **(g)**

Yes/ No (Please circle)

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.
