

CULTURE, TOURISM & ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 28

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Environmental Industries Inquiry – Ad Hoc Panel Report

Date of Meeting: 28 September 2009

Report of: Acting Director of Strategy and Governance

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 A scrutiny panel was established by the Culture, Tourism and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CTEOSC) to explore how the city could capture the potential and economic benefits of environmental industries. The panel has agreed its final report which is attached as the appendix to this report.
- 1.2 The findings and recommendations of the inquiry by the panel are presented here for approval by CTEOSC.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That members:

- 2.1 Endorse the scrutiny panel's report.
- 2.2 Agree to refer the report recommendations to the council's Executive and to the appropriate partner organisations.
- 2.3 In line with a recommendation 21 from the report, to add the progress of the Inquiry's recommendations to the Committee's work plan.

CTEOSC will then receive a progress report in 12 months time and thereafter an annual progress report.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The impetus to set up this inquiry came from a notice of motion from Cllr Bill Randall. It was unanimously agreed at Council on 9 October 2008 (with both Labour and Conservative amendments).
- 3.2 On 13th November 2008 the Culture, Tourism & Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CTEOSC) agreed to set up an ad-hoc scrutiny panel to consider how to capture the potential and economic benefits of environmental industries for Brighton and Hove.
- 3.3 The panel comprised of Councillors Bill Randall (Chair), Steve Harmer-Strange and Melanie Davis.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Officers, Members and partner organisations have been consulted informally on the findings of the inquiry.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The funding implications of the recommendations that the Committee is being asked to endorse have not been considered or quantified at this stage. The financial implications will need to be determined by Cabinet in the context of the budget strategy, alongside any funding opportunities from partner organisations.

Officer consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 20 September 2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 If CTEOSC endorses the panel's report, it is required to prepare a formal report and submit it to the Chief Executive for consideration by the relevant Cabinet Member or Cabinet. If CTEOSC cannot agree on one single final report, up to one minority report may be prepared and submitted for consideration in addition to the majority report.

CTEOSC may publish the report or recommendations.

The Cabinet Member or Cabinet shall consider the report within six weeks of it being submitted to the Chief Executive or at its next scheduled meeting, whichever is the later (and in any event within two

months of receiving it) and shall prepare a response to the findings, including any action proposed.

If CTEOSC publish its report or recommendations, the Executive must publish their response. The report, together with the Executive response, shall be reported to Full Council for information.

Lawyer consulted: Carl Hearsum

Date: 18 September 2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no equalities implications arising directly from this covering report, but equalities considerations would be taken into account when implementing the recommendations of the scrutiny review. Under council policy, Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) would be undertaken for any significant policy changes.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report, but implementing the recommendations of the scrutiny review should have significant positive sustainability effects.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None identified directly in relation to this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None identified directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The recommendations made in this report support the council priority to 'protect the environment while growing the economy', as outlined in the Corporate Plan 2008 – 2011

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Report of the Environmental Industries Inquiry: Capturing the potential and economic benefits for Brighton and Hove. Volume 1

Background Documents:

1. Report of the Environmental Industries Inquiry: Capturing the potential and economic

benefits for Brighton and Hove. Volume 2. Available from Overview & Scrutiny.