

Item 09 - Net Zero 2030 - Ebikes and Social Value

The attached report was considered by the Cleaner & Greener Advisory Committee on 28 June 2022. The relevant Minute extract is below.

Cleaner & Greener Advisory Committee (28 June 2022, Minute 11)

Officers presented the report which proposed that Cabinet authorise the engagement of a consultant to assess the viability of an e-bikes scheme. Member's attention was drawn to the supplementary agenda, which amended the recommendations

In response to questions Members were advised that the scheme would not be limited to the Share Bike proposal.

The Chief Officer Finance and Trading, confirmed that the financial risk of the Share Bike proposal would entail an initial outlay of £250,000 by the council with the intention that it was repaid by the operator. The Monitoring Officer, further confirmed that there were no governance or procurement issues.

Members discussed the proposals. Some concern was raised as to the feasibility of the proposed Share Bike scheme in urban areas. Members discussed the viability of a rental scheme for e-bikes where residents could keep the bikes at home.

Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet that

- a) the engagement of a consultant to assess the overall feasibility of introducing an e-bike scheme in the District taking into account scheme demand, geographical coverage, economic case, fleet assumptions, cost and tariff plans, delivery and operating options and scheme risks, be authorised;
- b) the engagement of the same consultant to develop a business case for a feasible scheme if such a scheme is deemed achievable by the consultant be authorised;
- c) the initial costs be funded from the Net Zero Reserve, be agreed;
- d) in principle the provision by spring 2023 of a partnership e-bike scheme within the District as a vehicle to address the issues of homelessness, under-employment and low skills in the workforce, be endorsed; and
- e) prior to the 2023/24 budget being set, a final report on this item including any consultancy advice be brought back to Cabinet for consideration.

