PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION 3 MARCH 2005

Present: Councillor Ahern (in the Chair)

Councillors Baxter, P Berry, Bolton, Jackman, Leeming,

Rehman, Troup and Willitts

76/04 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

77/04 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

78/04 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

79/04 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 20 January and 16 February 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

80/04 Call-In

There were no call-ins.

81/04 Performance Eye

Neil Haslam presented a discussion paper on Rethink Rubbish and explained how the recycling outcomes related to the current Performance Eye statistics. The information provided by Neil Haslam included data on the first trial which was in Chellaston, the indicators on recycling and compost rates in the city and other waste management costs. The Commission was told that this information did not show on the overall recycling rate that the city was achieving. The Commission was told that it would be possible to present the information on recycling outcomes as Performance Eye indicators.

Neil Haslam said that the City's Waste Strategy, which included Rethink Rubbish, had a number of key developments that are at various stages these covered:

- Materials Recycling Facility
- In-vessel Compositing
- Waste Treatment Facilities

- Waste Electrical, Electronic Equipment
- Landfill Allowance Trading System
- Landfill Tax Escalator

Members commented that the statistical figures for the quarter were useful but they did not answer all questions and they asked for additional information on how the Rethink Rubbish scheme was working. The Commission was told that the Council's targets for recycling had been met so far and that savings were being achieved because the amount of material going to landfill had been reduced.

The Commission was told that that the first areas to have the scheme were now showing a fall in the percentage of recycled material and that recycling levels tended to be higher in more affluent wards.

Members were of the opinion that in their present form the statistics were difficult to understand, so it was suggested that the format be simplified and that reference is made to the costs and savings per round.

The Commission was told that the City wide recycling total was expected to be around 30% for next year after the four new rounds were added to the scheme.

Pat Ethelston, Assistant Director - Highways, Transportation and Waste Management, Development and Cultural Services, told the Commission that following inspection of a plant at Blackburn, a contract had been awarded to build an automatic recycling plant in Derby. The plant would be capable of mechanically separating cans, glass, plastics and paper.

82/04 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

No new items were identified.

83/04 Responses of the Council Cabinet to any reports of the Commission

LTP Capital Programme 2005/06 Priorities for Investment

The Commission considered a minute extract from Council Cabinet held on 8 February 2005 on the LTP Capital Programme 2005/06 Priorities for Investment. The Council Cabinet had noted the recommendations of this Commission.

Resolved to note the response of the Council Cabinet.

84/04 Matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet

There were no matters referred to the Commission by Council Cabinet.

Chair of the next ensuing meeting at which these minutes were signed