

Appendix A

Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Climate and Environment Panel of the Scrutiny Committee

The document sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Climate and Environment Panel on 12 September 2023 concerning the City-wide Smoke Control Area Declaration. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

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| Recommendation | Agree? | Comment |
|---|---------------|--|
| 1) That the Council ensures clear messaging in its publicity campaign that moored vessels are exempt from the Smoke Control Area, and communicates the rationale for the exemption. | Yes | <p>Paragraph 33 of the Cabinet report already refers to moored vessels and explains one of the main reasons why they are exempt from this Smoke Control Area expansion.</p> <p>However, we will ensure that if this proposal is approved, our communication strategy to members of the public will include specific elements about moored vessels to make it clear that they are exempt for the time being and why.</p> |
| 2) That the Council commits to working with the various boating communities (e.g. boaters living on permanent moorings and visiting boaters) to identify and address the barriers to these communities adopting cleaner fuel types; and explores grant funding opportunities to support the work to address these issues. | Yes | <p>The Council already expects to be developing work in this area through the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Grant funding that has been recently awarded to the City Council, for the installation of eco-moorings at the visitor's moorings in Aristotle Lane.</p> <p>The eco-moorings project will see allocated specific funding for a Community Engagement Officer who will be expected to work together with the various boating communities on education, raising awareness, and on exploring future grant opportunities and/or retrofitting schemes that may become available to boaters to support their transition to cleaner and more sustainable sources of heating.</p> |

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