

Urgent Business: Possible e-scooter trial in Redditch

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr Matt Dormer
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford
Ward(s) Affected	Potentially all wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 As part of the response to the current Covid19 pandemic the Department for Transport (DFT) has brought forward a proposal for e-scooter trials planned for 2021 to be held in various locations across the Country beginning this summer. The successful areas will be determined by the DFT based on submissions by local authorities and combined authorities. The report seeks authority to submit a bid to the DFT on or around the 31st August 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Committee is asked to RESOLVE that

- 1) Officers be authorised to submit a bid for an e-scooter trial to the Department for Transport on or around the 31st August 2020; and**
- 2) subject to the Council's bid to take part in the e-scooter trial being successful, authority be delegated to the Head of Planning, Regeneration and Leisure Services and the Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services to complete all related legal and administrative documentation.**

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 £10k consultancy support has been used from existing budgets to help in understanding the e-scooter market, and to support putting the bid together. There are no financial implications beyond this; all the financial risks associated with the trial are to be borne by the e-scooter operator.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 All liabilities associated with this trial will be the responsibility of the e-scooter operator.
- 3.3 This item has been accepted by the Chair as urgent business for the consideration of the Executive Committee, following consultation with the Chair

of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This report needed to be considered as soon as possible by the Executive Committee as the Council needs to submit a bid to take part in the e-scooter trial before 31st August 2020 and there are no further meetings of the Executive Committee scheduled to take place before that date.

Service / Operational Implications

3.4 The details of the trial are currently being worked up, the broad parameters of the trial are as follows, and further details on all the points below will be provided in due course.

- The trial will be focussed on the Town Centre, but extending to the west as far as Webheath, to the south to include Southcrest, to the east as far as Forge Mill and the north to the Abbey Stadium.
- E-scooters will have to adhere to DFT speed and safety standards
- E-scooters will only be allowed to ride on roads of up to 30mph and cycleways, they will not be permitted on footpaths and faster roads.
- Only e-scooters rented from the chosen operator will be able to be legally operated in Redditch.
- Designated parking places for e-scooters will be provided in the town centre locations, in other areas of the trial area it's likely that e-scooters can be left in public places for other users of the scheme to pick up as required.
- The scheme will be operated via an app which will be provided by the operator.
- The operator will be responsible for the charging, collection and security of e-scooters which have been left within the trial area.
- The operator will collect data from the users which will be shared with the Council and the DFT to allow for the success of the trial to be evaluated.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.5 All customers of the trial must have a least a provisional driving licence, the wearing of helmets will be strongly encouraged, consideration could be given the mandatory use of helmets although it is unclear how this will be enforced.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 The risks associated with this trial will be borne by the operator

5. APPENDICES

None

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

DFT e-scooter trials guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/e-scooter-trials-guidance-for-local-areas-and-rental-operators/e-scooter-trials-guidance-for-local-areas-and-rental-operators>

7. KEY

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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