

## **THE AIR QUALITY JOINT COMMITTEE**

### **General**

The Air Quality Joint Committee is a joint committee created by the Council of the City of Newcastle upon Tyne and the Borough Council of Gateshead under sections 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Act 2000 and Part 4 of the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 and all other enabling powers.

### **Membership**

The membership of the joint committee shall be four consisting of the Leader and the Executive Member whose portfolio covers clean air of each of the Councils. The Leader of each Council shall nominate substitutes for its Council.

### **Role of the joint committee**

To:

- (1) oversee effective and transparent management of the Councils' Clean Air Plan\* for the benefit of residents and road users in accordance with its objectives;
- (2) report to the Government on the compliance or otherwise of the Council's Clean Air Plan with air quality standards as set out in law and set out any remedial action to be undertaken if necessary;
- (3) note and approve the other monitoring and evaluation elements as set out in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (which forms part of the Councils' Clean Air Plan);
- (4) make decisions in relation to the "Newcastle and Gateshead Clean Air Zone Charging Order 2022" ("the Charging Scheme") including the making of decisions in relation to the Charging Scheme where the Transport Act 2000 requires charging authorities to act jointly;
- (5) provide oversight of the financial income and expenditure of all elements of the Clean Air Plan, including the Charging Scheme and consequent surplus or insufficient revenue; and
- (6) report on and assign any surplus or insufficient revenue for expenditure resulting from the Charging Scheme.

\* The Clean Air Plan comprises all of the measures for ensuring compliance with air quality legislation for Tyneside. It includes the introduction of the Clean Air Zone by the making of the Charging Scheme, alongside supporting measures such as grants, marketing, behaviour change and any other interventions outlined in the Full Business Case submitted and approved by the Government.

### **Operation**

- The quorum shall be two, with one from each Council.
- Each member shall have one vote.
- A chair for each meeting shall be appointed by the members at the beginning of each meeting.
- The chair shall not have a casting vote.

- Unless required by law, decisions shall be made by a simple majority.
- The joint committee shall meet at least four times a year and more regularly if required to fulfil its role.
- Political balance requirements do not apply.