



Exeter City Council

A meeting of **EXETER CITY COUNCIL** will be held at the **GUILDHALL, HIGH STREET, EXETER** on **TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023**, at 6.00 pm, at which you are hereby summoned to attend.

The meeting will be live streamed on YouTube.

[Democratic Meetings - YouTube](#)

If you have an enquiry regarding any items on this agenda, please contact Mark Devin, Democratic Services Manager on 01392 265477.

The following business is proposed to be transacted:-

	Pages
1 Minutes	
To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary and Extraordinary meetings held on 18 July 2023 and the Extraordinary meeting on 8 August 2023.	5 - 20
2 Official Communications	
3 Public Questions	
Details of questions should be notified to the Democratic Services Manager at least three working days prior to the meeting - by 10am on Thursday 12 October 2023. Further information and a copy of the procedure are available from Democratic Services (Committees) (Tel: 01392 265115) with details about speaking at Council to be found here: Public Speaking at Meetings .	
To receive minutes of the following Committees and to determine thereon:-	
4 Planning Committee - 31 July 2023	21 - 26
5 Planning Committee - 4 September 2023	27 - 38
6 Licensing Committee - 12 September 2023	39 - 44
7 Strategic Scrutiny Committee - 21 September 2023 - To follow	
8 Customer Focus Scrutiny Committee - 5 October 2023	45 - 66
9 Audit and Governance Committee - 26 July 2023	67 - 74
10 Audit and Governance Committee - 27 September 2023	75 - 82
11 Strata Joint Scrutiny Committee - 27 June 2023	83 - 86
12 Harbour Board - 25 September 2023	87 - 92

15 Notice of Motion by Councillor Ketchin under Standing Order No. 6

This Council notes:

1. That while there is a general downward trend in air pollution Exeter has areas of poor air quality. Air pollution in parts of the city regularly exceed the limits for NO₂ set by both national legislation and the World Health Organisation. Much of this pollution derives from emissions from vehicles.
2. That the Royal College of Physicians estimates that 40,000 deaths a year are linked to air pollution with engine idling contributing to this.^[1]
3. That Government guidance as early as 2018 and reiterated annually since states that: "Poor air quality is the biggest environmental risk to public health in the UK."^[2] That every minute, an idling car produces enough exhaust emissions to fill 150 balloons with harmful chemicals, including cyanide, NO_x and PM_{2.5}. The microscopic pollutants can result in a range of health problems - from heart and lung disease to strokes and cancer and have been shown to be particularly damaging to children.
4. That idling increases the amount of exhaust fumes in the air. These fumes contain a number of harmful gases including carbon dioxide, which is bad for the environment and contributes towards climate change, as well as a range of other harmful gases including nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons which are linked to asthma and other lung diseases.
5. That the Department of Transport stated in 2019 that « Putting a stop to idling is an easy way to drive down dangerously high levels of pollution, reducing its impact on the environment and our health. »^[3]
6. That Exeter city Council has declared an area of the city to be an Air Quality Management Area, and the Council states it is « taking steps to reduce air pollution. » and that Exeter City Council's Air Quality Action Plan is due for review in 2024 having run since 2018.
7. That air pollution has a very significant impact on health, quality of life and mortality. That air pollution has a disproportionate impact on the health of children, vulnerable adults and the socially disadvantaged. That Public Health England states « Children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of air pollution. Exposure to air pollution in early life can have a long-lasting effect on lung function. There is evidence that the process of normal lung function growth in children is suppressed by long-term exposure to air pollution. »^[4]
8. That the government's health standards body the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence has since 2017 recommended action to reduce idling as a significant measure to improve air quality.^[5] That each incremental improvement in air quality delivers immediate health benefits.
9. That Public Health England recommends that « local authorities, as part of their local Review of interventions to improve outdoor air quality and public health 15 air quality management assessments, consider a range of interventions including working with children and their parents to implement no-idling zones outside schools. »^[6]
10. That research from the RAC has found that 26% of those caught idling are spotted doing so outside schools.^[7]

11. That there are identifiable 'hotspot' idling areas in Exeter where people are regularly parked or informally pulled up. Many of these are in public places where vulnerable groups gather, including schools.
12. That idling initiatives already exist on NHS premises and isolated schools in Exeter, but would benefit from a consistent messaging approach across the city.
13. That vehicle idling has been an offence since 1988, incurring a £20 fine (£40 if not paid promptly) under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2002.
14. That many Councils in England and the UK of different political persuasions have already put in place non idling measures including media campaigns, signs placed at hotspots and enforcement of fines.

This Council resolves to:

1. Develop and run an anti-idling campaign for Exeter which brings together a range of approaches to tackle known idling hotspots. This will include a range of elements to be explored further including:
 - a. A City Council branded campaign which sends a message about the Council's commitment to reducing air pollution and specifically idling.
 - b. Collaboration with local businesses through the Chamber of Commerce and business bodies and other means to encourage businesses to sign up to an Engines Off pledge or similar.
 - c. Anti-idling signage in known hotspots, including schools, parks, car parks and hotspot streets, requesting location agreement with Devon County Council when necessary.
 - d. An idling reporting tool on the ECC website for members of the public to help identify problem areas.
 - e. An attractive, easy to understand web page providing quality information about idling, to allow members of the public understand the positive rationale and engender engagement in change.
 - f. Links and free downloadable materials that can support businesses, non-commercial premises including schools, care homes, where vulnerable people and children are present, and members of the public whose streets suffer from the impacts of idling.
2. Liaise with Devon County Council Public Health and Devon and Cornwall Police to agree on collaboration to reduce idling.
3. To report back through the Air Quality status reports to assess effectiveness.

Below is a link for further background:

Brent video:

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/environment/air-quality/no-idling-campaign>

^[1] <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/guidelines-policy/clean-air-day-2022#:~:text=Prescribing%20clean%20air%20is%20central,every%20year%20in%20the%20UK.>

^[2] <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-air-pollution/health-matters-air-pollution>

^[3] <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/idling-drivers-could-face-higher-fines-under-new-government-crackdown>

^[4]

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fbf93258fa8f559cbb1add9/Review_of_interventions_to_improve_air_quality_March-2019-2018572.pdf

^[5]

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng70/chapter/recommendations#:~:text=Introducing%20fuel%2Defficient%20driving%20initiatives,related%20air%20pollution%20is%20high.>

^[6]

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fbf93258fa8f559dbb1add9/Review_of_interventions_to_improve_air_quality_March-2019-2018572.pdf

^[7] <https://www.rac.co.uk/drive/advice/emissions/idling/>

16 Questions from Members of the Council under Standing Order No. 8

A plan of seating in the Guildhall is attached as an annexe

Date: Monday 9 October 2023

Bindu Arjoon
Chief Executive