

Cabinet Response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Board – Interim Climate Change Emergency Task and Finish Report

No.	Recommendation:	Cabinet Response:
1.	that all reports to Councillors include enhanced information on how the decision will impact on climate change;	'Section 7 Tackling Climate Change' of the Council's report template will be reviewed and enhanced in line with this recommendation.
2.	that, in order to achieve consistency in the application of our Environmental Policies, the Assistant Director Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency be requested to develop and issue a guidance document setting out how Policies in the Local Plan relating to climate change should be complied with. That guidance should explain compliance will mean submitting a statement, similar to the design and access statement, explaining how the policy is being considered;	The Cabinet welcomes this recommendation and requests the Assistant Director of Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency develop and issue a guidance document in respect of the expectations of the Planning Authority regarding compliance with policies in the Local Plan that relate to climate change.

3.	that the Panel would welcome a Cabinet Member to be responsible for taking the lead on driving forward mitigations and preventative actions to address the climate change emergency;	The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture has naturally assumed the responsibility for the Climate Change Emergency given the services contained within his portfolio and has been supported by the Climate Change Champion, Councillor Atiya-Alla. The Cabinet are aware that Local Authorities across the country have adopted differing approaches where lead members are concerned and will be asking the Local Government Association for examples of good practice. The Cabinet will then review the portfolio and report any changes at the Annual Council Meeting.
4.	that the Torbay Council draft consultation response to the Interim Devon Carbon Plan set out at Appendix 2 to the submitted report be endorsed;	The Council's response has been submitted.
5.	that the Climate Emergency Officer be requested to ensure the proposed initial 10 key actions are prioritised to show the actions that will achieve the biggest impact at the top of the list and that future action plans be also prioritised in this way;	This recommendation has been noted.
6.	that the Climate Emergency Officer be requested to work with relevant lead officers to ensure wider publication of the Cosy Devon Partnership and Exeter Community Energy schemes to ensure that Councillors and residents are aware of what is on offer;	With colleagues across the Council a comprehensive communications plan will be developed in order to raise awareness of the schemes available to assist with energy efficiency.
7.	that the proposed approach outlined in the submitted report to address the climate change emergency and enable Torbay to be Carbon Neutral by 2030 be endorsed; and	The Cabinet will take into account the Overview and Scrutiny Board's direction when considering and determining the submitted report.

8.	<p>that a cross party climate change emergency working group be established to include the relevant Cabinet Member and other interested parties to take this important issue forward.</p>	<p>The Cabinet appreciate the work Overview and Scrutiny have done during the course of the Climate Change Emergency Review and recognise that their work has concluded as the approach moves to delivery and implementation of the action plan. The Cabinet are aware that across the country there are a number of models for working groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead councillors and overarching community group – model adopted by Teignbridge District Council; • Partners develop an independent body which is serviced by the Council with an Independent Chair making recommendations to Council and Partners. Bradford have adopted this model; • Separate independent commission – managed by external body and makes recommendations to Council. This model has been adopted by Leeds <p>Torbay requires a model that secures full community participation which has an emphasis on social justice in order to avoid carbon neutrality methods excluding those who are ready experiencing high levels of deprivation.</p> <p>Cabinet therefore requests officers to present a further report for Cabinet’s consideration on the different models of working groups, the membership and terms of reference.</p>
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