

## **Record of Decisions**

### **Carbon Neutral Torbay Approach 2021-2022 and Initial Action Plan**

#### **Decision Taker**

Cabinet on 23 March 2021.

#### **Decision**

- (i) that the Initial Carbon Neutral Action Plan, as set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved; and
- (ii) that the proposed carbon neutral approach for 2021-22 (as set out at Appendix 2 to the submitted report) including the development of the Carbon Neutral Council Action Plan and Carbon Neutral Torbay Action Plan, be approved.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

The proposals will help the Council, and wider Torbay area, to accelerate actions towards meeting the Community and Corporate Plan's carbon neutral priorities. There are many benefits to tackling climate change. Carrying out immediate actions and developing long term action plans will ensure the Council and community can work together to help create a climate resilient, carbon neutral Torbay.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 7 April 2021 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

Torbay Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019. A range of actions are already being taken but there is now an immediate need to accelerate actions to work towards tackling the Climate Emergency and Torbay becoming carbon neutral.

Approval was sought for an Initial Action Plan which would deliver immediate actions to tackle the Climate Emergency whilst also allowing some time to refresh Torbay's Energy and Climate Change Strategy (2014-2019) and co-design and develop, with partners, new longer term action plans to work towards a carbon neutral council and carbon neutral Torbay (community).

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Law seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

#### **Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision**

The following options were set out in the submitted report:

- (i) not approve the proposed approach and adopt an ad-hoc, not fully coordinated approach to tackling the Climate Emergency and meeting the Community and Corporate Plan's carbon neutral ambitions; or

- (ii) approve the approach, enabling the development of a longer term coordinated approach, up to 2030, which will be capable of making significant progress towards tackling the Climate Emergency and meeting the Community and Corporate Plan's carbon neutral ambitions.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**Does the call-in procedure apply?**

Yes

**Declarations of interest** (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

**Published**

26 March 2021

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet