

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

No.	Recommendation:	Cabinet Response:	Update: Jan 2023
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.	Completed
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.	<p>The Healthy Torbay Checklist has been developed and is in use within the Development Management (DM) Team. See Appendix 1.</p> <p>Training on the checklist and more detailed training on Energy Statements has also been provided to DM officers.</p> <p>We will review low carbon local plan policies in 2023.</p>
3.	that the Panel would welcome a Cabinet Member to be responsible for	The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture has naturally	N/a

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	taking the lead on driving forward mitigations and preventative actions to address the climate change emergency;	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.	Update - The final Devon Carbon Plan was finalised in September 2022. Cabinet endorsed the Plan on 13 December 2022.
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.	Completed
6.	that the Climate Emergency Officer be requested to work with relevant lead officers to ensure wider publication of the Cosy Devon Partnership and	With colleagues across the Council a comprehensive communications plan will be developed in order to raise	119 properties received energy saving and low carbon heating measures through the national Local Authority Delivery Phase 2

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	Exeter Community Energy schemes to ensure that Councillors and residents are aware of what is on offer;	awareness of the schemes available to assist with energy efficiency.	<p>funding. This scheme has now ended.</p> <p>In quarter 2 of 2022 Exeter Community Energy (ECOE) have delivered the following support - 115 in depth assessments (by telephone/home visit), attended 3 events and held 17 drop in clinics. 127 individuals have been offered advice at the clinic. A new community energy saving support programme commenced in November with ECOE. This work will provide 1:1 support for homeowners, community clinics, recruit and train local energy champions and provide access to grants to help install energy. Press releases have also been issued about this support.</p> <p>In December, through Devon County Council, a Homes Upgrade Grant (HUG) Phase 2 bid was made. This will support energy efficiency and low carbon heating measures in qualifying off-gas homes (~600) across Devon (including Torbay).</p>

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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.	<p>Work is ongoing to deliver 1)the Carbon Neutral Council Action Plan</p> <p>Cabinet approved the Carbon Neutral Council Action Plan on 22 March 2022. This includes plans to decarbonise our estate, fleet, various corporate functions. Recent progress includes the decarbonisation of Torbay Leisure Centre, the installation of heat pump in the Arid House of Torre Abbey bidding for and reaching the final stages of securing Public Sector Decarbonisation Funding to install a heat pump at Watcombe Nursery. Carbon Literacy training has commenced for staff (SLT and Cabinet received this training in 2021).</p> <p>2)Carbon Neutral Torbay Programme:</p> <p>To develop the area-wide Carbon Neutral Torbay Action Plan, Torbay Council and the Torbay Climate Partnership spent the summer</p>

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			<p>holding climate conversations with the public and key stakeholders. These sessions capture what local residents, businesses and stakeholders want to tackle across Torbay. The Torbay Climate Partnership has co-designed and drafted a new Torbay Climate Emergency Action Plan. See Appendix 2. A public consultation on this draft is live and seeking further support for the actions within the Action Plan. See here for more details (and including a quick read version of the Action Plan). This Board is invited to provide comments on the latest draft at the meeting.</p> <p>Appendix 3 is a recent members briefing which highlights some of the other actions being delivered across the Council and wider Torbay.</p> <p>A whole new set of pages on tackling the climate emergency in Torbay has been developed on the Council's website. See here.</p>

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8.	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>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</p>	<p>Completed. The most recent meeting was on 9 December 2022. A webpage on the Partnership has been established here</p>

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		<p>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>	