

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: June 2022
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.	A refresh of the Healthy Torbay Supplementary Planning Document is planned and will include comprehensive guidance on climate change for developers. Low carbon development training was provided to Planning Committee on 16 June. Similar will be provided to all DM Officers with an accompanying guide to support them.
3.	that the Panel would welcome a Cabinet Member to be responsible for taking the lead on driving forward	The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture has naturally assumed the responsibility for the	N/a

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	mitigations and preventative actions to address the climate change emergency;	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 will be finalised by August 2022. Cabinet will receive a paper to endorse the Plan in Aug/September 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 Exeter Community Energy schemes to	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.	In November Heat Devon was launched. This is a regional programme, led by the South West Energy Hub and funded by the Green Homes Grant Local Authority

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	ensure that Councillors and residents are aware of what is on offer;		<p>Delivery Phase 2. It offered energy efficiency measures¹ to homes in fuel poverty, including Torbay. This scheme ended on 31 March 2022.</p> <p>A new programme through Cosy Devon was launched in June. This is funded by the Sustainable Warmth Fund. This will fund energy efficiency measures in on and off gas properties across Devon, including Torbay.</p> <p>Retrofit Devon is in the final stages of development. This will offer a one-stop-shop support service to retrofitting in Devon.</p>
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 Programme.</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 and to use our influence to help the wider</p>

¹ Qualifying criteria that need to be met.

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			<p>Torbay work towards carbon neutral by 2030. This work is also supported by the £1m capital climate fund. See appendix 1 for a summary of the actions.</p>  <p>Appendix1_CarbonNeutralActionPlan-Pres</p> <p>A new corporate Environment and Carbon Neutral Policy was also approved. This policy will help staff understand what they can do to help the council achieve carbon neutrality.</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 have held so far 4 Climate Conversations with the public and key stakeholders. These sessions are designed to capture what our local residents, businesses and stakeholders want us to tackle across Torbay. They also attended</p>

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			<p>the Imagine This Festival and commissioned Sound Communities to run a podcast workshop for Young People. The theme was how to tackle climate change in Torbay. Over 30 businesses have feed into a climate questionnaire/similar. All will be used to help codesign how Torbay tackles climate change. The Torbay Climate Partnership will oversee this work and will then codesign a new Carbon Neutral Torbay Action Plan. This will go out for further public consultation in Autumn 2022. O&S Board are asked how they would like to review this work as it continues to develop.</p>
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>	<p>Completed. The next meeting of the Torbay Climate Partnership is 30 June. Dennis Flynn of the Wild Planet Trust is now the new chair person for the Torbay Climate Partnership.</p>

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		<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>	

