

TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICERS CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES

Date and Time: Monday 29th November 2021 14:00pm

Place: Teams Virtual Meeting

Present:

Cllr David Neighbour	- DN
Cllr Alan Oliver	- AO
Cllr Steve Forster	- SF
Cllr Alex Drage	- AD
Cllr Anne Crampton	- AC
Peter Summersell	- PS
John Elson	- JE
Nicky Williamson	- NW
Adam Green	- AG
Wilf Hardy	- WH

Item		Action
1.0	Introduction and apologies	
	Apologies received from Cllr James Radley and Tamsin Briggs	
2.0	Notes form previous meeting	
2.1	PS provided an update on Serco waste & recycling contract and September 26 – 32% reduction on cardon emissions over the lifetime of their contract.	
2.2	AC asked for an update to the group on the Civic Quarter. No plan is in place yet to scope what the carbon would be as not had consultation of various option. This will be discussed at the Civic Quarter Working Group (CQWG). SF advised he is not allowed to attend CQWR, and the library is a major contributor to carbon savings in the civic quarter so would like to be updated, or he would like to attend those meetings to observe. DN advised it is for that working group to work out with him, and not for discussion here.	
3.0	Environment Act	
3.1	NW provided an updated on the Environment Act about the details recently published for the four main areas: Waste and Recycling; Clean Air; Water; Nature and Biodiversity	
3.2	AC requested the parts that affect local authorities to be circulated to the group.	NW

3.3	WH commented the general consensus regarding the Act is, it is an ambitious act and well accepted. The problem is the implication and accountability issues where there are some concerns.	
3.4	<p>DN spoke of some aspects of the Act which will not be directly relevant to the Climate Change Working Group but will impact a direct impact on the Council. Collectively we will need sight of where the triggers are.</p> <p>NW will confirm if the Environmental Improvement Plan is a statutory requirement and guidance received for this.</p>	NW
3.5	<p>AO spoke about waste and recycling and HDC being the collection authority and aligned with HCC as the disposal authority. HCC need the detail from this to assess cost implications and to understand waste streams to plan suitable action plans.</p> <p>SF declared interest as executive member for HCC and commented HDC can be more proactive rather than wait for HCC.</p> <p>An example discussed was Rushmoor and their new food waste collection and discussions to see if we get involved with that once it is up and running and issues ironed out.</p>	
4.0	Friends of the Earth Letter	
4.1	A letter received from BVFOE had been circulated to the group for discussion.	
4.2	<p>Recycling - Project Integra in operation, but hopefully the Environment Act will incentivise this to progress, having regard to contract timelines. WH felt HDC together with neighbouring authorities could put pressure on HCC to fast-track.</p> <p>SF responded recent HCC meetings show a political cross-party desire to do more, but Hampshire are one of largest in Country.</p> <p>WH recognised HCC are working towards improving, but information he received two weeks ago from one of the assistant directors was not ambitious and did not have timescales. WH felt a 65% recycling rate by 2025 could be achievable.</p> <p>JE a report is going to O&S (possibly in December) on the implication of the Waste and Resources Strategy and the discussion for the working group should follow that report.</p>	
4.3	Sustainable Development - some parts listed are being done, other parts may not have legislation in place to enable us to, and rats, badgers, ground nesting birds and a species of newts are covered.	

	<p>The planning policy team will come up with and work with housing for net zero homes. EV points in flats we took charge of and carparks, and a grant for help with passive house can all be used to evidence.</p> <p>In relation to Policy, AO advised Place Portfolio will put technical notes to support our local plan, they can only do this with the legalisation in place. This working group could look at and give feedback to officers developing this. DN confirmed most guidance will flow from the Planning White Paper in spring. SF questioned how much can be provided by local neighbourhood plans against local plans as in terms of EV charging this will be mandated, but an early local plan review would be welcomed.</p>	
4.4	Pension Divestment – HDC staff pay into the pension fund, but it is administered at County Council level. HDC can ask, not insist on requirements of divest from fossil fuels.	
4.5	Transport – most falls within remit of HCC. Walking and cycling networks plan being worked on now and currently developing Green Grid with HCC. Use of S106 monies, but any funding needs to be into most appropriate scheme.	
4.6	Farnborough Airport WH wanted to flag up there are plans to increase flight to the maximum from 30,000 to 50,000. Could affect Crookham area. SF been working with TAG staff, and they are responsive to lowering noise and air-pollution and use of new fuels to lower the carbon footprint.	
5.0	Update Hart Climate Change Action Plan	
5.1	<p>PS reported the Carbon net zero pathway tender received 13 responses. These are being scored, hopefully to appointment by end of week. From this a plan for meeting net zero for the Council's activities by 2035 with priority steps including financial and carbon reduction information. It will also look at the 2040 target.</p> <p>PS reported together with NW they have put a Biodiversity net gain paper together, to identify opportunity for carbon offsetting projects.</p> <p>SF questioned the reference to carbon offset, which is not carbon reduction. PS clarified to reach goals of net zero by 2035 and 2040 the offsetting is understanding we can only get so far to reduce, then offset last amounts and opportunities to reach those targets. DN clarified the terminology carbon offset means alternative ways to capture carbon to mitigate areas where we do not yet have the technology to get zero carbon from an operation. JE and AO advised a paper is going to Cabinet which should help reassure the group. AG confirmed any opportunities relating to carbon can be brought back to the group. Opportunities may be minimal, but an exercise will be done to quantify alongside biodiversity offset.</p>	

5.2	<p>AD spoke about a scheme outside Potley School with wildflower meadows, where seeds had been provided. He questioned as HDC own a lot of land what is the thought for these schemes for biodiversity? AG confirmed these had been encouraged for many years, but we are looking at a grander scheme on our own land to deliver more major offsets. Still have the Roundabout fund but is about getting the message out that we can help, an addition not a supplement. All agreed getting the message out that funding may be available was important and this needs to be co-ordinated with the Comms team.</p> <p>SF advised HCC are planting 1 million trees on streets, and some of them could perhaps come to Hart. It was suggested we wait to see how HCC will run scheme and then identify how Hart could get involved as this. AG suggested this could help in tandem with a tree strategy being developed.</p> <p>The group agreed to contact HCC regarding the tree planting opportunities.</p>	<p>AG</p> <p>AG</p> <p>ALL</p>
5.3	PS advised there is a paper looking at energy efficiency measures on new affordable housing for housing association properties, for example passive house standards is going forwards.	
5.4	PS has identified issues with data from our buildings so looking to put in smart meters in where possible and working with Portsmouth City Council to look at potential renewable projects that can be done on our buildings.	
5.5	Leisure - energy audit of buildings, verbal update, Fleet generally fine no real opportunities but Frogmore potential good for projects with non-LED lighting. Area part owned by a school, so a 50% contribution cost required from HCC. SF advised HCC promoting community initiative for this type of project, any community building can apply for grants of up to 30K (but perhaps not schools). Peter will pass to Paul Weavers	PS
5.6	Green Grid – tenders in process for Fleet Pond corridor, expecting award letter to go out today and to run between now and next summer and complete by 31 March. SF asked if Fleet Pond to MOD land, and does it include up to Cove Road. Adam shared draft of the scheme that was received today (Phase 1) and will send this to the group	AG
6.0	Carbon Literacy Training	
6.1	Peter confirmed Carbon Literacy Training is taking place on 14 th December via Zoom. This will be circulated soon. Peter also asked for best results, people join using a laptop as opposed to another type of device.	PS

	AC asked if it an all-day event or broken into chunks. Peter will circulate agenda. Peter also advised the event will be recorded	PS
7.0	AOB	
7.1	The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 25 th January at 3pm	