

**MEMBERS AND OFFICERS
CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP
MEETING NOTES**

Date and Time: Monday 27 June 2022, 14:30

Place: Teams Virtual Meeting

Present:

Cllr Alan Oliver (Chair)	- AO
Cllr Steve Forster	- SF
Cllr Dr Anne Crampton	- AC
Cllr Gill Butler	- GB
Cllr James Radley	- JR
Peter Summersell	- PS
John Elson	- JE
Steph King	- SK
Wilf Hardy (Friends of the Earth)	- WH
Tamsin Briggs (Friends of the Earth)	- TB
Alex Massie (Eunomia)	- AM
Laura Stone (Eunomia)	- LS
Sharon Black (Minutes)	

Item		Action
1.0	Introduction and apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Neighbour.	
2.0	Notes form previous meeting The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as accurate. The majority of the actions were covered under the Eunomia Action Plan item, but others discussed included: Minute 3.5: It was agreed that EPC ratings for insulation, for heat pumps, needed to be D or higher Minute 4.1: The TAN was being put to Cabinet in August. A copy is attached to the minutes for information. Minutes 4.2, 5.3 and 5.4: These are included in the TAN Minute 6.1: this item is included in the budget (Agenda item 4). No interim figures for greener homes grants were available, but these would be circulated as soon as they were available. Minute 7.0: Item completed	PS
3.0	Net Zero Carbon Pathway Final Draft Discussion (Eunomia)	
	Alex Massie and Laura Stone from Eunomia were welcomed to the meeting for this item. AM gave a brief overview on the potential impact on the Council's action plan and whether changes were needed to meet both the operational and district targets.	

WH queried what the discussion was intending to achieve? Was it to approve the final plan or to be able to make comments on the draft that could then be incorporated into the final plan. It was confirmed the latter and that input from the meeting would be incorporated into the final report where appropriate. The final report would be circulated to all Councillors in due course.

The presentation had already been given to Council in April and had been circulated to Councillors.

There were 2 separate reports and action plans – one for the operational target (2035) and one for the district target (2040). AM explained that items that the Council had no control over, such as aviation, had been removed from the action plan. WH queried this, saying that the Council had airfields within its boundaries. JR concurred and advised that the Council had representatives on local airfields' bodies, and that these could be used to influence decisions. AM agreed but advised that this section was a flat rate proportion of the carbon emissions of larger airfields, such as Heathrow and Gatwick. JR said that at the last meeting of FACC, discussion took place regarding how both the airfield and aircraft could move to net zero carbon emissions. To coincide with those discussions an ecology specialist had joined the Committee and was contributing positively.

Operationally – buildings and transport formed the majority of emissions. There were a number of key actions that could be taken to reduce these emissions – heat pumps for buildings and electric vehicles being just two.

SF queried the £2m cost for heat pumps, and whether that included all ancillary work such as new radiators and insulation. If so he felt it was a low figure. AM confirmed that the figure had been baselined against other councils, and that it included the units and changes to the systems. However a feasibility study was recommended. SF felt that the figure was too low for the buildings within the Council's portfolio. It was noted that only the offices within Hart's boundary had been included.

AO queried whether it would be the freeholder or leaseholder of a building who would be responsible for undertaking the work needed? It was likely the person who owns the equipment (boiler etc) who would need to take action but it would be made clear in the report. Carbon footprint data on Scope 3 buildings would be obtained and a calculation made, following which a decision would be made as to whether to include those buildings in the final action plan.

PS

	<p>District targets were ones where the Council doesn't have control over most of the emissions. However there were actions that the Council could take that would have an impact, such as training landlords to help them improve energy efficiency in their properties; updating the Hart local plan; encouraging residents to recycle more and then pre-treating waste to reduce the burning of plastics further. The Council should be seen to be a trusted adviser to stakeholders and a provider of information to others.</p> <p>Discussion took place around the recycling of food waste within Hart and disposal of plastic within the main waste collection. Reducing plastic content in this would reduce carbon emissions. The question of financial viability for these items needed to be borne in mind. A request to HCC would be made for a feasibility study into the pre-sorting of waste to remove plastic.</p> <p>Discussion also took place around the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decarbonising vehicles – section 2.1 does not include fleet vehicles which were covered elsewhere • Whether the plan for carbon reduction would be a straight line scenario, or one with step changes • The suggestion that average vehicle occupancy be increased • Whether new build houses becoming carbon neutral need government backing? This might be answered in the TAN, and MJ would be asked to give further information • Whether proposed solar farms would be within the Council's boundary or more widespread? LS advised that this could be anywhere that the Council could procure electricity from • Whether bikeability operates in Hart, and the local cycling and walking infrastructure plan • Whether the cost of electric vehicles would decrease in the future <p>In general it was agreed that the action plans needed to be refined, to include outcomes, dates and owners.</p> <p>Any further questions could be forwarded to PS for discussion at the next meeting.</p>	<p>PS</p> <p>MJ</p> <p>PS</p>
4.0	Climate Change Budget Discussion	
	<p>AO introduced the proposed allocation of the climate change budget, which it was proposed would be the items focussed on over the next year. AO had been involved in the preparation of the budget allocation and explained that funds had been allocated to the new Communications and Engagement Officer (Steph King) to allow her to pull together communication strategies with stakeholders.</p> <p>Discussion took place around the following items:</p>	

	<p>then go to Cabinet for final approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable warmth initiative had been launched and the Council had started promotions on it. However there was a delay in applications being considered, and the Government were now looking for a new partner to carry out work. Comms are ready but nothing further will be sent out until we know they are ready to take applications. • Advert out for the role of Ecology Officer. • Everyone Active having a separate waste contract with Veolia for commercial waste • The possibility of HCC suggesting a reduction in the frequency of waste collections 	
7.0	AOB	
	None	
8.0	Date of Next Meeting	
	Tuesday 19 th July at 2.30pm SF sent his apologies in advance.	

Meeting ended at 4.15pm.