

## CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES

**Date and Time:** Thursday 08 June, 10:00

**Place:** CR3 and Teams Virtual Meeting

**Present:**

<b>Cllr Richard Quarterman (Chair)</b>	<b>RQ</b>
<b>Cllr Gill Butler</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>Cllr Steve Forster</b>	<b>SF</b>
<b>Cllr David Neighbour</b>	<b>DN</b>

<b>Graeme Clark</b>	<b>GC</b>
<b>Steve Bennett</b>	<b>SB</b>
<b>Adam Green</b>	<b>AG</b>
<b>Andrew Radcliffe</b>	<b>AR</b>
<b>Steve Lyons</b>	<b>SL</b>
<b>Steph King</b>	<b>SK</b>
<b>Liz Vango-Smith</b>	<b>LVS</b>
<b>Matt Saunders</b>	<b>MS</b>

<b>Emma Bull (Local Partnerships)</b> <small>[OBJ]</small>	<b>EB</b>
<b>Wilf Harding (Friends of the Earth)</b> <small>[OBJ]</small>	<b>WH</b>
<b>Jo Wall (Local Partnerships)</b> <small>[OBJ]</small>	<b>JW</b>
<b>Nathan Wicks (Local Partnerships)</b> <small>[OBJ]</small>	<b>NW</b>

<b>Emma Evans (Minutes)</b>	-	<b>EE</b>
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Item		Action
<b>1.0</b>	<p><b>Introduction and apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from Tamsin Briggs (Friends of the Earth) and Councillor Alan Oliver. <small>[OBJ]</small></p> <p>Councillor Quarterman welcomed everyone to the meeting as the new Portfolio holder for Climate Change. The overarching commitment to climate change reduction targets was highlighted, and an enhanced reporting process will be place with regular reports provided for members that will be publicly available.</p> <p>Councillor Quarterman stated that he would be reviewing the structure of the working group and would welcome feedback from all members.</p>	
<b>2.0</b>	<p><b>Overview of resources</b></p> <p>GC gave an overview of the current staff resources allocated to climate change:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 FT - Sustainability and Climate Change Officer – Liz Vango-Smith</li> <li>• 1 PT - Climate Change Communications and Engagement Officer – Steph King</li> <li>• 1 PT - Project Officer – to be recruited to shortly</li> <li>• Change and Digital Manager - Steve Bennett</li> </ul> <p>The latest budget set in February agreed £200,000 for Climate Change to add to the £250,000 agreed the previous year. An underspend was identified for 2022/2023. The team will work with Local Partnerships to attract additional external funding. Officers will bring suggested projects to support the action plan to Cabinet in the Summer for approval.</p>	
<p><b>3.0</b></p>	<p><b>Climate change action plan presentation</b></p> <p>GC introduced the background to the report’s commission, outlining the parameters and aims to ensure we had a plan that was a solid foundation to build on. The plan will be discussed today and then will go to Overview and Scrutiny on 20 June and Cabinet on 06 July. A presentation was given by EB. Key areas to note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The areas that produce the most emissions are Hart District Council owned buildings and the Leisure Centres.</li> <li>• The plan has 5 main sections; buildings, energy, transport, reporting and communications and district wide.</li> <li>• Next steps will be prioritisation of actions and a key to assist with this process was outlined.</li> </ul> <p>Discussion took place around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the identification of the areas that produced the most emissions</li> <li>• future funding opportunities that could assist with de-carbonisation of buildings.</li> </ul> <p>The plan was widely welcomed as a step-change improvement to previous plans. The Chair stated that the next stage was to take the plan and develop it into an actionable plan that can operate at many levels.</p> <p>The plan was then examined by theme.</p> <p><b>Buildings</b></p> <p>A question was raised regarding whether Hart District Council owned buildings located out of the district would be included. It was confirmed that if cost-effective this would happen, but the focus would be on premises located in the district.</p> <p><b>Energy</b></p>	

A question was raised regarding some recently approved wind farms and whether the council could expediate plans. It was explained that the companies could be contacted to discuss the feasibility on joint projects.

### **Transport**

Councillor Forster declared an interest in this item.

A question was raised regarding whether the electric vehicle charger points within the civic building car park were available for public use and if the electricity used came from the solar panels.

It was confirmed that they were available for public use when the car park was open to the public, it was acknowledged that there had been a technical issue but that this had now been fixed. It was confirmed the electricity did not come directly from the solar panels.

Post meeting update.

The charging points are now registered on the system. The points are working with charge cards, but a further check will be made to establish if they work with debit/credit cards. The site is not showing on the location map, this will be followed up. The parking order is being amended to allow for the charging and to restrict usage. A further update will be provided to the group.

### **Communications and Reporting**

The importance of addressing the impact of additional tasks being delivered by the same resources providing existing services was discussed. Reassurances were given that this would be considered.

### **District wide**

Discussion included:

- that this area has huge scope for enlargement and only a snap- shot of projects had been included.
- how the range of work being undertaken by substantial number of organisations could be captured.
- that work to map key stakeholders and develop relationships is underway.
- the inclusion of Blackbushe airport and the impact of Farnborough Airport and their inclusion in the plan.
- that Hampshire County Council are working with Parity using government grants to low-income families in private sector housing access climate change measures.

**SL**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the various funding streams available including the Levi fund. It was confirmed that Hart has submitted a letter of support to Hampshire County Council regarding this fund.</li> <li>• the level of focus that should be placed on the district-wide element of the plan as the overall emissions savings that could be made in this area are larger than in the more specific areas.</li> <li>• that the plan would be amended to include comments from today's meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Local Partnerships and officers were thanked for the work on the plan. It was again acknowledged that this was a huge step forward.</p>	
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Communications and engagement update</b></p> <p>The meeting was informed about a thermal imaging camera trial. A discussion took place around the different approaches taken in Yateley and Odiham and the initial findings.</p> <p>HUG2 funding has been awarded as part of a consortium through the Southeast Net Zero Hub. This is limited to a small number of houses in the district, but upgrades to those who can benefit will be around £18,000 each.</p> <p>Great Big Green Week (10 – 18 June) was coming up and lots of events are planned.</p>	
<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p><b>Additional questions</b></p> <p>The following questions were submitted in advance of the meeting. GC provided answers.</p> <p><b>Progress of installation of electric vehicle chargers in HDC (car parks?)</b></p> <p>The estates and legal team are working with our preferred supplier on the legal agreements. The supplier has completed all their surveys of the relevant car parks and working on the agreements with the grid supplier, SSE. The agreements should be concluded in the next month, then installation can begin, no date for installation has been agreed at present.</p> <p><b>Update on progress for an electric vehicle charger on the Frogmore campus?</b></p> <p>A discussion took place which revealed confusion with previous information provided to the meeting. It was agreed that Director - Corporate would investigate the matter and report back.</p>	<p><b>GC</b></p>

**Update on plans for food waste recycling?**

Food waste recycling is tied to the Governments proposed Environment Act. Organisations are awaiting the publication of a consultative report from DEFRA before action can be taken.

A request was made for regular feedback on recycling from the Portfolio holder to Council.

**Update on plans to expand current HDC recycling collection items?**

The new recycling centre is due to open in Eastleigh in Summer 2025 this should increase the range of items recyclable.

Meetings are being held shortly with Basingstoke to discuss services and any updates on these last questions will be fed back to the meeting.

The meeting ended with the chair thanking SK and Local Partnerships for their work and welcoming LVS.

Meeting ended at 11.45.