

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Maria French, Sustainability Officer

Officer Making the Decision

Richard Bennett, Head of Planning and Regeneration

Recommendation

1. That the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030, attached to this report, be approved.

Reason

1. To enable refresh the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan to reflects the overall strategic direction of the Council in relation to the challenges of responding to climate change.

Authority for Decision

Under the provisions of section 8.2 of the Constitution the Head of Planning and Regeneration has delegated authority to make amendments to the Climate Change Strategy in response to legislative changes or changes at local or regional level in consultation with the relevant Lead Member.

Decision and Date

09-12-19



Background

The Climate Change Strategy was approved by the Cabinet at its meeting in May 2018 (minute 113 17/18 refers). The Strategy sets out the Council's activities in response to the challenges of climate change and how it will encourage others in the Borough to take similar steps. The Climate Change Action Plan sets local targets and actions and the context for reporting regularly on progress.

The Climate Change Strategy contributes to the Council's 2016-2020 Corporate Plan aim to 'take action to protect the environment for future generations'.

A climate change motion on notice was approved by Full Council on 24 June to note the findings from the International Panel on Climate Change report published in October 2018 (minute 23.1 19/20 refers). The report concluded

that we have less than 12 years to act to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. The Council set an aspiration to achieve carbon neutrality from its own operations by 2030. The Council also committed to work with residents, businesses and other public bodies across the borough and region to deliver this ambitious goal through all relevant technologies, strategies and plans.

The Climate Change Strategy has been amended to include the aspiration to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Where applicable expired actions have been removed and updated where new programmes are in place.

Comments from HR

The report has no HR implications

Financial Implications

The strategy and action plan will be delivered within existing resources and through the pursuit and capture of capital and external funding where appropriate.

Risk Management

The risks associated with the delivery of the Action Plan and proposed actions to mitigate those risks are set out in the table below.

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
Council Service areas and operational managers not sufficiently engaged to deliver the climate change agenda, resulting in failure to achieve performance targets and objectives.	Moderate	Moderate	Ensure there is corporate ownership and engagement with key stakeholders is coordinated across the Council. Report progress on the Climate Change Action Plan to the Performance Scrutiny Panel.
Changes in government policy or funding affect the ability to deliver the action plan in its current form.	Moderate	Moderate	Monitor for anticipated changes in the policy or funding landscape and adapt the action plan through regular reviews.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: Climate Change Strategy