

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 12 FEBRUARY 2019

REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

CONCLUDING REPORT OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

Purpose/Summary of Report

- This report details the recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 18 December 2018 following its consideration of the concluding report of the Climate Change Task and Finish Group.

<u>RECOMMENDATION FOR EXECUTIVE: that</u>	
(A)	The adoption by the authority of the proposed climate change policy principles, be approved.

1.0 Background

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 18 December 2018 considered a report by the Chairman of the Climate Change Task and Finish Group. The report set out the Task and Finish Group's findings following its review of climate change activity in East Herts. The full report may be viewed at: <http://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=515&MId=3362&j=4>

1.2 In its report the Task and Finish Group detailed a range of actions encompassing ongoing work of the council to tackle climate change. In addition the report set out a further range of new ideas and proposals that were worthy of more detailed

consideration and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved that these be circulated to relevant Lead Members and Heads of Service for consideration when preparing revised service plans and priorities.

- 1.3 The Committee further resolved that because of the potential importance of a number of climate change policy themes to the health and wellbeing of East Herts residents, that the authority should consider adopting these ideas and proposals as over-arching policy principles. As such it recommends to the Executive that, where within its means, the following are adopted by the authority:

Climate Change Policy Principles
a) The council will take a forward-thinking, longer term approach to renewable energy technologies, with the aim of maximising their use in new developments in the District.
b) The council will proactively promote energy efficiency measures and strive to demonstrate their tangible benefits to residents, businesses and other partner organisations.
c) The council will promote the principle of sustainable transport as a means of tackling climate change, particular with regard to the development of new neighbourhoods and garden towns.
d) The council will seek to enhance and promote local cycling and walking networks and encourage uptake of these activities in place of car use.
e) The council will proactively support the national Clean Air Day and promote the involvement of residents, businesses and other partner organisations in delivery of activities.
f) The council will seek opportunities to encourage and grow the low carbon economy within the district.

Background Papers

The full agenda for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 18 December 2018 may be viewed at:

<http://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=515&MId=3362&j=4>

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