

REPORT TO: Climate and Environment Advisory Committee 28 January 2020

LEAD OFFICER: Director of Health and Environmental Services

Response to Cambridgeshire County Council Consultation on Draft Climate and Environment Strategy

Executive Summary

1. This report provides a proposed response to Cambridgeshire County Council's consultation on their draft Climate and Environment Strategy.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Committee recommend the proposed response to the Leader in her capacity as lead Cabinet Member for Climate Change.

Reasons for Recommendations

3. The proposed response is in line with the Council's Green to our Core priority and incorporates comments from officers with relevant expertise.

Details

4. In recognition of the climate emergency, a Motion was agreed by Cambridgeshire County Council in May 2019 to develop a Climate and Environment Strategy.
5. As part of this declaration the Council is developing a Climate Change and Environment Strategy and Action Plan. The strategy outlines how the County Council will reduce the carbon footprint of the Council and the County; help communities adapt to the change already happening; and enhance nature and the benefits it provides.
6. In developing the strategy the County Council is keen to understand what their partners and communities think of the priorities and targets they have set themselves and how they can work with them to bring forward some of the changes that are needed to the way we live and work.
7. The Consultation runs to 31 January 2020. All consultation documents can be viewed online at <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/climate-strategy> .
8. The proposed response is at Appendix A.

Implications

9. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:-

Equality and Diversity

10. There is a risk that, in bringing about the changes necessary to address climate change, vulnerable groups are disadvantaged, for example, low income households may not be able to afford home energy improvements or electric vehicles. A comment flagging this issue is included in the proposed response.

Climate Change

11. Cambridgeshire County Council's Strategy and Action Plan on Climate and the Environment are important tools to address climate change. The Council recognises this in its response to the consultation.

Consultation responses

12. The consultation has been circulated to the Interim Assistant Director Waste and Special Projects, the Green Investment Officer, the Senior Sustainability Officer (Planning), the Ecology Consultancy Officer, the Trees Officer and the chair and vice-chairs of the C&EAC. All comments received have been incorporated.

Background Papers

All consultation documents can be viewed online at <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/climate-strategy> .

Appendices

Appendix A: Proposed response to Cambridgeshire County Council consultation on their draft Climate and Environment Strategy.

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