

Proposed Cabinet response to recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the Climate and Ecological Emergency

Recommendation arising from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 6 January 2025.

Context

The Committee considered a report it had commissioned from the Council's Climate Change & Carbon Reduction Lead on work being undertaken to address the climate and ecological emergency. The Committee recognised that work in this field is important and in principle endorses the continued support of it

Recommendation	Agree (Y / N)	Comment	Responsible Cabinet Member	Lead Officer
1. That the Council ensures that it has processes in place for testing and developing the value of the work it is undertaking on the climate and ecological emergency with a view to providing positive ongoing investment in this field.	Y	The council has adopted governance and decision-making processes that give significant priority to climate change. All reports prepared for decision-making purposes now include a mandatory section on the implications for the Climate and Ecological Emergencies. Additionally, the council is trialling a	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainability	Climate Change & Carbon Reduction Lead



		<p>Sustainability Impact Assessment Tool, designed to ensure that sustainability considerations are reviewed at key stages of projects including the design stage when beneficial changes can still be made. The tool ensures for example: the carbon implications of building/operating new buildings is assessed; opportunities to mitigate negative impacts by design is identified; facilities and access to sustainable transport is provided; and ecological enhancement in site landscaping is maximised.</p>		
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