

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
6 JULY 2022	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adrian Chapman, Executive Director Place and Economy	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Marco Cereste, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning, Housing and Transport	
Contact Officer(s):	Hannah Swinburne, Principal Climate Change Officer	Tel. 01733 453479

CLOSURE OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Adrian Chapman, Executive Director Place and Economy	Deadline date: N/A
It is recommended that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee:	
1. Recommend to Cabinet the closure of the existing Climate Change Working Group	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report was requested by the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee has recently been established. This report seeks support to close the Climate Change Working Group, to ensure duplication does not occur.

2.2 This report is for Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

4. Climate Change;

2.3 Tackling climate change is a corporate priority. Closure of the Climate Change Working Group will ensure that the role of the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee is not duplicated.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The Climate Change Working Group was established by Cabinet in November 2019 in response to the Council declaring a climate emergency. It was set up with the purpose of aiding greater understanding of the key issues which the council must consider, and the reasonable options that exist to address those issues.

The Climate Change Working Group has performed some key roles in its co-development and

scrutiny of each of the council's annual climate change action plans. This steer was invaluable in strengthening the commitments recommended for adoption and ensuring cross-party support.

The Climate Change Working Group have also discussed and subsequently given policy steers on many topics including tree planting, the Council's approach to electric vehicle charging infrastructure and regional transport policies.

In recognition that climate change is one of the Council's key priorities, a Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee has been established to, amongst other items, ensure that delivery of the climate change programme is scrutinised. It is proposed that the Climate Change Working Group should cease, to ensure that efforts are not duplicated between the two groups.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 No consultation has occurred.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 It is anticipated that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee support the closure of the Climate Change Working Group.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 It is recommended that the Climate Change Working Group close as the function will now be covered by the newly established Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The alternative option is to not cease the Climate Change Working Group, however this was rejected as this would lead to duplication between the working group and scrutiny committee.

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

9.2 There are no legal implications.

Equalities Implications

9.3 There are no equalities implications.

Rural Implications

9.4 There are no rural implications.

Carbon Impact Assessment

9.5 There are no carbon impacts associated with this proposal. The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee will continue to scrutinise climate change activities, thus ensuring that the climate change programme continues to be held to account.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 [Cabinet paper - establish cross party climate change member working group](#)

11. APPENDICES

11.1 N/A

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