

<b>CABINET</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 8</b>
<b>12 JULY 2021</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Steve Cox, Executive Director Place & Economy, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Nigel Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment	
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## UPDATE TO CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

RECOMMENDATIONS	
<b>FROM:</b> Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
It is recommended that Cabinet approves the updated terms of reference for the climate change working group.	

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 The climate change working group recommend that its terms of reference be updated to reflect the recent requirement to hold evidence gathering sessions in public.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to:

1) recommend that the climate change working group's terms of reference is updated.

- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.9, '... [To make] recommendations to Council about proposed changes to the Council's major policy and budget framework.'

### 3. TIMESCALES

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

#### 4.1 Introduction

The climate change working group was established to provide a cross-party steer on policy development. It makes recommendations to the relevant decision making group, e.g. Cabinet or Council.

In November 2019 Cabinet approved the establishment of the climate change working group and agreed the terms of reference. The climate change working group recommends that Cabinet approves the updated version of the terms of reference to reflect the recent requirement to hold evidence gathering sessions in public, unless the matters are of a sensitive nature. The updated

terms of reference also includes other minimal changes to wording which do not significantly alter the content.

## **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 All members of the climate change working group recommend that Cabinet approves the revised terms of reference.

## **6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

- 6.1 It is anticipated that Cabinet will approve the revised terms of reference.

## **7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 In March 2021, Council voted to require evidence gathering sessions of working group meetings to be held in public, unless the subject matter is sensitive in nature. The climate change working group agreed that its terms of reference should reflect this. The revised terms of reference also includes minor changes to the wording elsewhere.

## **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 8.1 Not altering the terms of reference was considered, but it was deemed necessary to update the document to reflect the recent requirement to hold evidence gathering sessions in public.

## **9. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

- 9.1 Updating the terms of reference has no financial implications.

### **Legal Implications**

- 9.2 There is no legal requirement to produce a Council-CMAP or City-CMAP, and no legal requirement for the council to hit specific carbon saving targets. However, the council is under a general duty to have regard to the environment in all decisions it makes, and national government has set a legally binding target to reduce national carbon emissions to net-zero by 2050.

There is a legal duty to maintain any trees planted on land that the Council owns and is responsible for, as defined in the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999, Highways Act 1980 and The Occupiers Liability Act 1957. If Council commits to the planting of additional trees, PCC will be legally responsible for their maintenance.

### **Equalities Implications**

- 9.3 There are no known implications, positive or negative.

### **Carbon Impact Assessment**

- 9.4 Updating the terms of reference has no implications on carbon emissions.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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

- 10.1 Current terms of reference

## **11. APPENDICES**

- 11.1 *Appendix 1: Terms of reference*