

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA

CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL

Date: Tuesday, 17 January 2023

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

Members:

Councillor Mrs T L Ellis (Chairman)

Councillor N R Gregory (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors M R Daniells
H P Davis
Ms C Bainbridge
Mrs L E Clubley
S Dugan

Deputies: Mrs J Needham



1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 18 October 2022.

3. Chairman's Announcements

4. Declarations of Interest and Disclosures of Advice or Directions

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in accordance with the Standing Orders and Council's Code of Conduct and disclosures of advice or directions received from Group Leaders or Political Groups, in accordance with Council's Constitution.

5. Deputations

To receive any deputations of which notice has been lodged.

6. Building Control Partnership Service Update (Pages 9 - 10)

To receive a presentation from the Head of Building Control on the new building regulations that aim to reduce the carbon footprint of new buildings and existing homes and the impact these new regulations will have on the Council's development projects.

7. Hampshire County Council (Pages 11 - 14)

To consider a scoping report to invite officers from Hampshire County Council to a future meeting of the Panel to explain the plans for carbon neutrality by 2050.

8. Climate Change Action Plan Update (Pages 15 - 16)

To consider an update from the Policy, Resources and Engagement Manager on prevailing climate change matters.

9. Executive Business (Pages 17 - 18)

To consider any items of business dealt with by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel, that falls under the remit of Climate Change Scrutiny Panel. This will include any decisions taken by individual Members during the same time period.

10. Climate Change Scrutiny Panel Priorities

To provide an opportunity for Members to consider the scrutiny priorities for the Climate Change Panel.



P GRIMWOOD
Chief Executive Officer

Civic Offices
www.fareham.gov.uk
05 January 2023

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FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 18 October 2022

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs T L Ellis (Chairman)

Councillor N R Gregory (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: M R Daniells, Ms C Bainbridge, J M Englefield and
Mrs J Needham (deputising for S Dugan)

Also Present: S D Martin (Items 5 and 6)



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor S Dugan and Councillor Mrs L Clubley.

2. MINUTES

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel held on the 12 July 2022 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcement: -

Thank you and welcome to all those present.

It should be remembered that the Climate Change Action Plan is a live document and subject to relevant up-dates. At the Audit and Governance Committee it was noted in the Auditors report, they stated they are ... 'mindful that climate related risks may have a long timeframe and therefore while risk exists, the impact on the current period financial statement may not be immediately material'

As can be seen in our later presentation, implementation is long term and we must heed the need for prudence with our residents' money whilst doing all we can to hasten our journey to net zero. It is also clear from reports that we should always consider the lifetime impact and cumulative carbon costs involved in any, and all initiatives.

For the wider Borough we would encourage residents to access available assistance to help their own position using alternative fuels, Warmer Homes and the Greening Campaign. Also worthy of note is the recent push for using hedging as a measure for carbon capture offset by the farming community. Something I know officers will watch with interest, alongside the Environment Bill when it finally makes it through to give clear direction and always with an eye to developing technologies. Do keep an eye on our website for up-dates.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

A deputation was received in person from Anne Stephenson on behalf of the Fareham and Gosport Friends of the Earth.

The Chairman invited Councillor S Martin, Executive Member for Planning and Development to address the Panel to comment on some of the points made by

the deputy as Climate Change sits within the remit of the Planning and Development Portfolio.

The Chairman thanked the deputy for their deputisation and expressed the importance of continued public engagement. The comments made by the deputy are an invaluable contribution to the meeting.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Panel received a report from the Policy, Resources and Engagement Manager updating Members on the progress of the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). The report also included a detailed Project Programme, mapping out the implementation of the Council's key carbon reduction projects.

Members enquired about the viability of the carbon neutral target, following comments from the deputy who raised concerns over the Council reaching its carbon neutral target by 2030. Officers explained that a lot of work is underway to improve on the 9.1% carbon reduction achieved over the last two years. As more projects are implemented and an increase in environmental technologies are brought onto the market, it is hoped that this will have a positive impact in reducing the Council's carbon footprint and reaching carbon neutrality by 2030.

Members of the Panel also asked for reassurance that the Council's Climate Action Plan is imbedded within all Council decisions as the Panel itself only considers specific elements of the CCAP. The Director of Planning and Regeneration addressed the Panel to highlight that Climate Change is fully considered alongside legal and financial considerations in all the Council's key policy and project decisions. The Policy, Resources and Engagement Manager went on to say that a key focus over the coming months is to train both Councillors and Council Staff in how they all play a part in the Council's journey to carbon neutrality.

The Chairman explained that the scope for the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel is vast and reminded Members that although all aspects of Council business must have consideration for the CCAP, the Panel's focus must continue to be the monitoring and performance of the CCAP as it is not possible for this Panel to scrutinise every Council decision.

The Panel asked if consideration is given to the environmental policies of tenants of the Council's various commercial assets. The Director of Planning and Regeneration explained that, although the Council is not typically able to significantly influence the wider environmental policies of tenants occupying its commercial premises. However, the Council does consider opportunities for investment in relevant environmental technologies as part of the ongoing property management of the Council's commercial premises stock.

RESOLVED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel: -

- a) note the contents of the report; and

- b) note and commented on the contents of the Project Programme at Appendix A.

7. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

There were no items of Executive Business pertaining to the Climate Change Action Plan for the Panel to consider.

8. CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES

The Panel were asked to consider the Scrutiny Priorities for the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel.

The Director of Planning and Regeneration addressed the Committee to advise that the following items will be brought to the next meeting for consideration by the Panel: -

- Building Control Partnership, to present information on the changes to the building regulations in relation to Climate Change, and
- A scoping report to invite officers from Hampshire County Council to a future meeting of the Panel to explain the plans for carbon neutrality by 2050.

The Chairman addressed the room to ask everyone present who wishes to suggest additional priorities for the Panel to please contact the Democratic Services department.

RESOLVED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel considered the Scrutiny Priorities for the Panel.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.20 pm).

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Presentation to Climate Change Panel

Date: 17 January 2023

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP SERVICE UPDATE

SUMMARY

Changes to England's building regulations aimed at improving the energy efficiency of buildings came into effect on 15 June 2022. These changes apply to new homes, extensions, existing buildings and non-domestic buildings.

The 2022 changes are transitional measures ahead of the Future Homes and Buildings Standards introduction in 2025, which will require more significant cuts to carbon emissions, to support the Government's target of the UK achieving net zero by 2050.

The Head of the Building Control Partnership will present an overview of these changes alongside the partnership's role in administering them.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Panel note the contents of the presentation.

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Climate Change Panel

Date: 17 January 2023

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SCOPING REPORT

SUMMARY

At the 12 July 2022 climate change scrutiny panel meeting, Members requested that Hampshire County Council be invited to attend a future meeting of the panel to allow Officers to explain the County's plans for carbon neutrality by 2050.

Members are asked to consider the scoping report at Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel consider the scoping report attached at Appendix A.

CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL
SCOPING REPORT

Issue	Hampshire County Council's approach to reducing carbon emissions and building resilience across Hampshire as a whole.
Background	<p>Hampshire County Council's (HCC) has in place a target for the whole of the county to become carbon neutral by 2050 alongside building resilience to a two-degree rise in temperature.</p> <p>A Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan support these targets, with a focus on a number of key priority sectors such as transport, energy and residential homes.</p>
Objective & Description	<p>The Climate Change Scrutiny Panel have discussed the desire to better understand the County's approach to achieving carbon neutrality and building resilience.</p> <p>It is proposed that the Panel invite representatives of HCC to present to a future meeting and answer questions (max. 30 minutes)</p> <p>Objectives would be to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Receive a top level overview of the County's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. 2) Understand the County's key priority sectors, with a particular focus on projects linked to residential, transport and energy emissions reductions and resilience building. 3) Identify opportunities for Fareham Council to work in partnership with HCC.
Proposed Way Forward	HCC representatives to be invited to a Scrutiny Panel meeting within the 2023 calendar year.
Key Dates	<p>27 May 2023</p> <p>4 July 2023</p>

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Climate Change Panel

Date **17 January 2023**

Report of: **Director of Planning and Regeneration**

Subject: **CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE SUMMARY**

SUMMARY

The 12 July 2022 Scrutiny Panel received a copy of the 2022 Climate Change Action Plan update document. This outlined the progress made in the preceding 12-months alongside the main challenges and priorities faced in the Council's journey to carbon neutrality. Following this, a detailed Action Plan project programme was presented to the 18 October Panel meeting, which included a progress update.

The 17 January 2023 presentation will provide an overview of the main areas of progress that have been made since the last update to the Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel note the contents of the presentation.

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

Date: 17 January 2023

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

SUMMARY

One of the key functions of this Scrutiny Panel is to hold the Executive Portfolio Holder and senior Officers to account in delivery of the service and the Improvement Actions identified in the Council's Corporate Priorities and Corporate Vision.

Members are therefore invited to consider the items of business which fall under the remit of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel and have been dealt with by the Executive. This also includes any decisions taken by individual Executive Members.

The remit of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel is defined as decisions pertaining to the performance, monitoring, review and updates of the Climate Change Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that Members consider the items of Business discharged by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel and make any comments or raise any questions for clarification.

