

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	14 July 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Climate Change Strategy
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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### Purpose of this Report

1. To present to Cabinet the Hampshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2020-2025 for approval.
2. To outline the next steps towards developing an Action Plan for approval by Cabinet in September 2020.
3. To provide an update and further details of ongoing and new programmes of activity on climate change that are taking place that are contributing to meeting the Council's climate change targets.
4. To acknowledge the progress made one year after the Climate Emergency Declaration in June 2019.

### Recommendations

5. That the Cabinet agrees:
  - i. The Hampshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2020-2025 which provides a clear direction and framework for the County Council's climate change programme and sets out the carbon baseline emissions and carbon budgets for meeting the agreed 2050 climate change targets.
  - ii. The framework and next stages for developing the supporting Action Plan.
  - iii. The details on a range of climate change activity and programmes already underway within the Council towards meeting the climate change targets.
  - iv. That the Action Plan be submitted to Cabinet for approval in September 2020.

### Executive Summary

6. In June 2019, Hampshire County Council declared a Climate Emergency, setting two challenging targets for the Council and County area – to be carbon neutral by 2050 and to build resilience to a two-degree rise in temperature. Attached to this report is Hampshire County Council's Climate Change Strategy 2020-2025 (Appendix 1).

7. The strategy is a significant milestone, a major step forward by the County Council, one year after declaring a climate emergency. The targets set by the Council are challenging and far reaching. It will require significant action to be taken by the whole Hampshire community not just the County Council, including other public sector partners, residents, and businesses. It will also require support from National government.
8. This strategy provides a clear direction for climate action in Hampshire, establishing the County Council's leadership and providing an overarching framework for all future action on climate change including setting out our priorities within each key sector. This strategy will shape our work and our partnerships over the next five years, ensuring we lead by example and create a unified approach to taking real action.
9. The strategy sets out the carbon emissions baseline, the carbon budget pathway to 2050 and the strategic priorities to deliver against our emissions reduction and our resilience targets. These strategic priorities focus on the key sectors that both contribute to carbon emissions and need to be resilient to the impacts of climate change.
10. The Baseline Emissions for the Hampshire area (excluding Southampton, Portsmouth, and the Isle of Wight) for 2019 by sector are as follows:
  - Industry & Commercial – 38.89%;
  - Transport – 36.98%;
  - Domestic – 23.66%; and
  - Waste – 0.46%.
11. It is worth noting that some of the figures are significantly different to those presented in previous papers which were based on basic information available from the National government data. The work by the Carbon Trust has provided a much more robust and detailed breakdown based on local figures that has changed the percentage for transport from 49% previously to 37%, demonstrating the value of undertaking this detailed work.
12. Industry and commerce is the largest source of emissions in Hampshire, closely followed by transport. As a local authority, the biggest influence we can have on emissions is on the transport and residential sectors. However, by working in partnership with the private sector we can have influence on the Industry & Commercial sector, where the emissions are mainly from manufacturing – in particular of chemicals and refined petroleum.
13. Work to ensure that the baseline emissions are kept as up to date as possible will be ongoing, as there will always be a lag in data availability. This is important as it will ensure that efforts are focused in the right places by ensuring the baseline remains robust and evidence based. This work will be undertaken by the climate change team following training from the Carbon Trust.
14. The strategy draws on the Vision, Policy and Approach for the Council on Climate Change as set out in the Hampshire 2050 Commission of Inquiry final report, as considered at the extraordinary County Council meeting in September 2019.

15. The strategy is based upon a set of key principles which underpin the approach taken by Hampshire County Council. These principles will guide and shape the policies, actions and partnerships developed to deliver the Climate Change targets for Hampshire. The key principles are:
- Carbon Hierarchy – this is a simple and effective framework establishing how to assess the priority of what actions to take;
  - Co-Benefits – prioritising actions that deliver multiple benefits for our communities such as reducing congestion, improving air quality, improved health, and economic growth;
  - Proportionate, Affordable and Equitable – recognising our wider role to society in delivering public services for the public good;
  - Accelerate where appropriate – taking the opportunity to accelerate delivery before the 2050 target, based on availability of necessary resources;
  - National government - policy and funding – recognising that achieving the targets will require National Government action and changes to the national policy landscape. It will require a clear funded roadmap to 2050 and support for action at a local level; and
  - Digital and Innovation – recognising technology as an enabler that could deliver a significant step change towards a low carbon, resilient Hampshire.
16. The strategy is focussed on the key sectors that contribute to emissions and where resilience needs to be built. These sectors are the strategic priorities for the Council's approach. The strategy provides clarity within each sector on what the Council will focus on both for emissions reductions and resilience. The sectors covered are:
- Hampshire County Council's own operations and assets;
  - Transport – active and public transport;
  - Residential – existing and new house housing stock;
  - Buildings & Infrastructure – built environment and other key infrastructure (highways, utilities etc.);
  - Energy Generation and Distribution – renewable, clean, local energy;
  - Waste & Circular Economy - reduction in waste generated and promote a circular economy approach across all parts of society from household waste to commercial;
  - Natural Environment - support carbon sequestration and climate resilience; and
  - Business and Green Economy – resilient green growth economy through leadership, technology, innovation.
17. The strategy identifies existing County Council policies/strategies that contribute towards the delivery of these strategic priorities. Where there are gaps these will be addressed through the action plan and monitoring and evaluation process.
18. The Action Plan will draw out the details of the actions being or planned to be undertaken that will contribute towards these priorities.

19. The strategy also covers Partnerships; Communications; Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting; and Governance.

### Next Steps for developing the Action Plan

20. The carbon baseline and budgets produced by the Carbon Trust are the foundation for the strategy and action plan by establishing where the emissions are coming from and therefore where effort needs to be focused to reduce those emissions.

21. The five yearly carbon budgets set out the pathway to meeting the carbon neutral target by 2050 (in line with the UK 2050 National target). With no change to current emissions, Hampshire will use up the 2050 target carbon budget by 2035, and the 1.5°C Paris Agreement carbon budget by 2031.

22. The table below shows how emissions will need to fall by successive 5 yearly allocations, reducing carbon budgets to meet the 2050 target (i.e. UK Government 2050 target).

Budgets	1.5°C	UK Govt.
2020 - 2024	-21%	-16%
2025 - 2029	-42%	-32%
2030 - 2034	-63%	-48%
2035 - 2039	-84%	-65%
2040 - 2044	-100%	-81%
2045 - 2049	-	-100%

23. Using the information gathered on all existing and currently planned actions across the Council (covering both the organisation and the wider Hampshire area), the Carbon Trust will work with the Council to assess how far the known pipeline of projects will take us to meeting the targets and how we will bridge the gap. The focus will be on the Hampshire-wide targets as this is where the gap will be greatest.

24. The Carbon Trust will then support the Council to identify a range of carbon and risk reduction intervention opportunities to bridge the gap and move us towards meeting our targets. The interventions identified will be informed by the baseline, pathway modelling and climate risk assessment and through consultation within the Council and wider stakeholders.

25. This work will be the basis for a robust action plan that clearly demonstrates what actions/projects/policies/programmes will be delivered that will contribute towards achieving the two targets. This will be a mix of ongoing areas of activity and new areas of work.

26. It is important to note that the action plan will include significant new actions to be able to meet the targets set. These actions will be highly dependent upon securing additional funding, including potential new funding from National government.

27. To support an evidenced based and transparent monitoring and reporting process, two decision-making tools are being developed to assess the carbon and resilience impact for all key decisions as agreed by Cabinet in January 2020. The tools are in development and will be tested using two case studies – a highways scheme for carbon and a newly built school for resilience.
28. The Carbon Trust will deliver the final stages of the work by the end of August 2020. The action plan will be presented to Cabinet following the completion of this work

### **New Activity on Climate Change**

29. The climate change team is mostly in place with two positions yet to be filled due to delays with Covid-19. The team has invested most of its time on activities that will contribute towards the Hampshire-wide emissions and resilience targets.
30. The main focus of activity has been on residential emissions, this is because, as highlighted in the baseline emissions, it is a significant source of carbon emissions in Hampshire (23%) and is an area, alongside transport, where the Council can have significant impact.
31. The challenge going forward will be to understand how to better engage and work with the business sector which contributes to 39% of the emissions in Hampshire. Work will need to be done to explore opportunities and understand how in light of Covid-19 recovery, businesses can recover and thrive alongside building their resilience to and reducing their impact on climate change. Digital and innovation will be a key part of this.
32. To date the climate change team has been focusing on developing opportunities to engage with residents and communities to reduce their residential emissions and build resilience. This has included a range of activities including engagement with Parishes & Town Councils and community group events.

### Greening Campaign

33. As a result of the engagement with Parishes and community groups, a grassroots climate change campaign for Hampshire residents was identified – “The Greening Campaign”. This campaign offers a ‘blueprint’ for community groups to develop community engagement, behaviour change, community sustainability and adaptation to the changing climate through a phased and locally driven approach.
34. Following a presentation from Terena Plowright, founder of the Greening Campaign to the Parish and Town Councils in January 2020 and Hampshire Sustainability and Energy Officers Group in February 2020, the Hampshire District and Borough Council Officers agreed to manage the rollout of the Greening Campaign amongst Town and Parish Councils and Community Groups within their areas locally (including the provision of any funding).

### Climate Change Behavioural Insights

35. Another key area of work that the Climate Change team has been progressing with the Insight and Engagement Unit (IEU), Corporate Marketing and Corporate Communications teams is a Behavioural Insight led approach to

communications and marketing climate change. The research phase of this work is now complete, providing a robust evidence base for how the marketing and communications work will be developed (see Appendix 3 for the final report of this research). The research has been undertaken in partnership with other local authorities in the South East and has involved focus groups and a survey of 3000+ individuals.

36. A behaviour insight-led approach is key for identifying the biggest opportunities and barriers to reduce carbon and increase resilience to climate change, and to understand how citizens' behaviours can be most effectively influenced to realise the opportunities. Research will assess how much change might be possible, where, with whom and when. With 24% of Hampshire's carbon emissions coming from 'residential' and 37% 'transport', understanding and influencing citizen behaviour will play a key part in meeting the climate change targets.
37. Primary research, involving surveys and focus groups has also been delivered. The aim was to understand what pro-environmental actions individuals are willing to undertake and why, in relation to energy and water use, travel, food, resources and adaptation. The surveys can quantify who is willing to take different climate actions, informing who is best to target. The focus groups will help us understand how best to target behaviour change, indicating the types of messaging Hampshire residents are open to receiving from the County Council.
38. The research is feeding into an action prioritisation tool highlighting the public's willingness to change, motivations and barriers to change, and evidence of effective behaviour change. A carbon calculator has been devised alongside this, between the University of Southampton and the IEU, which will help determine which actions can deliver the largest carbon savings. An opportunity size for change will be generated based on the number of people willing to change x carbon saving. This will highlight the key actions to target, striking a balance between carbon savings and likelihood of change.
39. The Corporate Marketing Team will now build a marketing strategy to design and implement interventions, shaping the brand, graphic design and advertising that is aimed at the audiences we will aim to influence. A variety of channels will be used to influence climate change behaviours, but a digital approach will be primary, both in terms of reaching large, targeted audiences and being able to monitor and measure campaigns effectively.
40. Corporate Marketing has already facilitated the production of climate change webpages <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/climatechange> and helped devise creatives and set-up, monitor and report on Facebook adverts.
41. The Corporate Communications Team will also develop a communication strategy and plan, based on the behavioural insight research, consistent with the County Council's wider communications strategy, and will manage the County Council's reputation.

#### New projects targeting residential emissions

42. As part of the wider climate change programme and in line with the activities outlined above, the Climate Change team has identified further projects which

would complement the Greening Campaign, add significant further value to support the Council's efforts in addressing residential emissions and reducing Hampshire-wide carbon emissions.

43. Three projects were developed and approved by the Climate Change Board in early June 2020 and will be funded from the £2 million allocated to Climate Change initiatives from the Corporate Policy Reserve. The projects will all start in 2020 and will run for a maximum of 2 years.
44. The three projects not only support the Council in delivering against its carbon and adaptation targets but also work together creating a cohesive programme of activity around residents and communities/community groups. The four projects being funded are briefly set out below.

#### Telephone and Online Advice for Residents on Climate Change and Sustainability

45. Based on previous experiences with the Greening Campaign, residents can sometimes become frustrated if they don't know who to approach for advice and support that they can trust on how to take action in their homes on climate change and wider sustainability. This could be anything from energy advice to insulation etc. Insights into changes in lifestyle and behaviour have shown that the easier it is to make a change the more likely it is to happen, which is where the concept for this project originated.
46. The Environment Centre will set up a freephone advice line, available for two days per week, with an answerphone service available 24/7. This would be gradually phased out through the development of online resources such as a website, webchat, and chat bots. These resources would complement the roll out of the Greening Campaign by providing simple straightforward advice and support to residents from a trusted source. The work could also grow to support other initiatives and offer advice on more complex areas such as renewable energy, travel and other key areas of lifestyle change needed to transition to a low carbon future.

#### Establishing a Community Energy Network across Hampshire

47. One of the major gaps in Hampshire is the limited amount of renewable energy generated in the County which is currently less than 3%. The opportunity to generate our own energy that is low carbon and local is significant however the path to viable, funded schemes is complicated and not that simple to navigate without extensive experience. For the County to reach carbon neutrality, local renewable energy will be essential, and it would also build energy resilience in Hampshire. Hampshire County Council will not be able to fill this gap on its own, it does not have the financial or technical resources to do so at the scale required. The County Council can support and enable renewable energy in Hampshire and one way of doing this is through supporting community energy.
48. Community Energy South (CES) will deliver a project to stimulate the growth of a Community Energy Sector across Hampshire. The overarching project would consist of two work streams:
  1. The CES Pathways to Community Energy.
  2. A village wide community energy pilot project.

49. The emphasis will be on enabling local communities to build their own self sustainability capacity to achieve on-going, ground level emissions reductions. CES would act as a support mechanism to establish and support a network of community energy groups. The pilot project will work alongside this to identify start-up projects for community groups. This can then be used as a testcase for county-wide project development support.
50. This project would complement the work of the Greening Campaign by supporting those communities that are ready to take the step towards developing community energy.

#### Targeted Solar Group Buying Scheme for Hampshire

51. Solar Together is a group-buying scheme, which gives residents the opportunity to buy high quality solar panels at a highly competitive price. Local councils have teamed up with iChoosr to organise this innovative scheme for homeowners as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (non-domestic), to help deliver the vision of a zero-carbon county.
52. Targeted to about 125,000 residents who own their own house can register for the Solar Together group-buying scheme. The auction is a reverse auction, meaning the lowest bid wins. The winning bid sets the price for all solar systems. All suppliers are pre-vetted and must comply with criteria to guarantee the quality of the offer. The project would be cost neutral upon receiving fees through an installation conversion rate of less than 1%

#### **Ongoing Activity by the Council on Climate Change – both organisational and Hampshire-wide**

53. During late 2019 and early 2020, the climate change team gathered information from every department within the Council to map out all the current and planned activity on carbon reduction and resilience – either internally or externally focused.
54. This was an extensive piece of work and is the basis for the developing action plan. The work has highlighted the range and depth of activity already taking place within the Council on climate change.
55. The role of the climate change team will be to monitor this activity as part of the action plan process, alongside driving forward new areas of activity as outlined in the section above.
56. A few key highlights have been selected from all the information gathered, full details are provided in Appendix 2.
57. It is worth noting that extensive work has already taken place on reducing the Council's Scope 1 and 2 emissions. This was reported on in detail in the January 2020 Cabinet report. Hampshire County Council has taken an innovative and long-term approach to reducing carbon emissions from its estate and assets since Cabinet approved a Strategic Plan in July 2010. Over the last 10 years, a significant reduction of over 43% has been achieved. The first phase target was exceeded, and the second phase target achieved early in 2018 – 7 years early. Members have approved a new stretching target of 50% by 2025. Progress to date would indicate confidence that that can be achieved.

58. Across the County Council owned estate, other key areas of activity include establishing a £1million Salix De-carbonisation Fund to deliver a range of energy saving initiatives, purchasing certified green energy and increasing the plant-based menu at the EII court canteen and wider services, including schools.
59. There has been significant ongoing activity taking place on transport emissions. In addition to several service areas seeking to transition to more electric vehicles, teams within Planning and Public Health are also developing work with schools, workplaces, and communities to improve air quality. Prior to the Covid-19 situation approval to begin consultation and engagement on a new Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) had been sought. This work is progressing on the basis that the economic challenges and need to ensure our recovery is clean, healthy and green actually increases the importance of doing this work now. The LTP team has drafted a digital engagement process to seek the views of officers, members and external key organisations and stakeholders. The purpose of this engagement is to raise awareness of the need for change and seek views on what are the key outcomes desired from the transport plan. Most importantly it will seek views on a few guiding principles. These will set the approach to the LTP that will underpin everything related to movement and transport. The first round of internal officer engagement will take place towards the end of June or early July 2020.
60. Other work on transport has also included:
- I. Reviewing and redrafting Hampshire's development control policies and practices to support more integrated land use and transport planning across tiers of government, encourage better, smarter planning and see new development take place that produced high outcomes and greater public value.
  - II. Travel information, behaviour change activity, travel planning and school travel plans.
  - III. Developing a mobility strategy that seeks to identify how best to make use of new technologies like electric and autonomous vehicles, drones for deliveries, micro-mobility, and changes in the model of vehicle ownership.
  - IV. Air quality projects in Clean Air Zones and Air Quality Management Areas.
  - V. The development of active travel measure that support more active lifestyles and help people to "live local" in these challenging times. This includes the development of District wide Local Cycling and Walking Implementation plans.
  - VI. Development of a public transport strategy including mass rapid transit proposals, rural demand responsive travel pilots, interchange planning, information, and integrated ticketing. Currently, the Covid-19 situation is presenting some sever challenges which in the short-term focus is to preserve the integrity of the public transport sector in the medium to long term.
  - VII. Responding to the immediate Covid-19 challenge through the delivery of "pop up" public realm schemes designed to support social distancing but also lock in new sustainable travel behaviours.

VIII. The development of areas strategies and action plans on a rolling programme. Moving on from Winchester and Basingstoke strategies we are now starting to develop other area-based strategies.

61. Several departments across the County Council are also working to ensure that our infrastructure is resilient to the impacts of climate change. For example, Highways teams are working to improve drainage systems, considering the use of new and emerging remote sensing technology to help manage just “in time” cleansing of gullies and are developing and implementing a Network Resilience Plan so that they can more efficiently identify and respond to areas prone to flooding and/or tree fall. In several cases, the highways construction materials are either being changed, or investigated, to become less carbon intensive, fuelling innovation and the circular economy. Additionally, teams within Property Services are repairing, upgrading, and investing in buildings to make them more resilient to extreme weather conditions. The Meals on Wheels service is developing and implementing procedures to ensure service delivery disruption is minimised in severe weather. Emergency Planning are also continuing to plan for a range of events such as heatwaves, cold weather, mosquitos, ticks and flooding, and the physical and mental health effects that these direct and indirect impacts may have on our residents.
62. Several service areas are also undertaking actions with regards to minimising their waste and improving resource efficiency. For example, Facilities Management, Property and Countryside Services are seeking to increase the recycling rate within their corporate office locations and the Waste and Resource Management Team continue to provide County-wide support for recycling and waste prevention, including a greater focus on food waste prevention. In addition, a whole system carbon assessment for waste has recently been undertaken which highlighted the need to focus on a reduction in residual waste for future system modelling.
63. There is also significant activity being undertaken across County Council services in relation to protecting and improving the natural environment. The Countryside Services are planning to pilot a ‘climate positive’ country park to include rewilding and carbon sink creation. A programme of tree and wildflower planting on highways amenity land, funded by ringfencing 100% of capital receipts from sale of surplus highways land, which was approved by Cabinet in January 2020 is also underway. The Hampshire Tree Strategy has been developed, through a Strategic Alliance with the Forestry Commission, Forestry England, and Woodland Trust to assist with planting one million additional trees. To improve resilience to the changing climate, ensure habitat connectivity and facilitate species adaptation, new and current native habitats are being further protected and rewilded where possible.
64. Several Council services are encouraging behaviour change amongst staff and residents. For example, Property Services continue to lead the ‘Do your energy Bit’ amongst staff, whilst the Waste and Resource Management Team are delivering a Behavioural Insights led recycling communications approach to targeted resident groups. Children’s Services are identifying ambassadors of climate change amongst foster carers and within Children's homes to change shopping habits to reduce food waste.

65. Finally, teams across of the County Council are also engaging with businesses and organisations to help support carbon reduction across these sectors. For example, the Economic Development team is helping to develop and support a marine innovation 'catapult' proposal as part of the major redevelopment plans at Fawley Waterside – which would be a national centre of excellence for industry to develop low carbon solutions for the future and are acting as a strategic partner in a European funded project which will deliver business support, guidance and grant funding to SMEs.
66. Effective and meaningful engagement across both Hampshire County Council and wider Hampshire will also be key to successfully responding to the challenges of climate change. The Council will need to demonstrate leadership which inspires and enables partners and communities and business to act, and in some cases will need to provide tools, resources and information to support them in doing so. As a starting point this will involve understanding the needs and priorities of partners and communities as well as the drivers which will give them the agency and capacity to act.
67. The Council already co-ordinates the Hampshire Energy and Sustainability Officers Group, made up of representatives from District and Borough Councils and the Public Sector Sustainable Development Group which has members from key public service organisations across Hampshire. It is an active member of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Planning Officers Sustainable Design Group and the Hampshire Energy Efficiency Partnership.
68. On a national level the County Council also sits on the DEFRA-led Local Adaptation Advisory Panel which amongst other actions helped to develop the National Adaptation Programme for the UK.
69. These networks and groups, along with our membership of other professional organisations such as Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, and Planning (ADEPT), South East 7, UK100 (Countryside Climate Network) will be a key to engaging potential partners.

## **Conclusions**

70. The Climate Change Strategy is a key milestone for the County Council, setting out the strategic priorities for the Council in meeting its targets. It provides a clear framework for the organisation and our partners, residents, communities and businesses towards meeting the targets of net zero carbon by 2050, building resilience to a two degree rise in temperature and to fully respond to the outcomes of the 2050 Hampshire Commission of Inquiry
71. There is already significant activity taking place across the Council and new projects are also due to be launched which will all provide valuable contributions towards meeting the targets.
72. The next steps will include the development of an action plan to set out the actions that the Council will take to meet its targets along with two decision-making tools to assess the carbon and resilience impact for all key decisions. These will be brought forward by September 2020.
73. The strategy sets out the Governance for the climate change work going forward. Cllr Jan Warwick in her role as the Adviser to Executive on Climate Change will have a key role in supporting this work. The Chairman of the

Council also announced that the theme for this year would be “A cleaner, greener Hampshire, with use of clean energy, a further reduction carbon emissions and improvements in air quality”. This complements and supports the climate change work and will be taken into account when undertaking communications and engagement activities.

74. The range of work set out in this report demonstrates that real on the ground action has already begun to be delivered and signals the importance that the Council is placing on this agenda despite the challenges of Covid-19.
75. It is also important to recognise that there is a significant opportunity to embed and maximise climate change and sustainability into the post Covid-19 recovery. Recovery could mean investing in new ‘green’ jobs, cleaner air and improved health and wellbeing. This green, low carbon, just approach has been championed by international and national governments, businesses, and other organisations (e.g. Petersburg Climate Dialogue, C40 Cities, Committee for Climate Change etc.). According to Ipsos Mori, 58% of UK residents (65% globally) surveyed support a green economic Covid-19 recovery (April 2020). This opportunity has been recognised in the County Council’s own Recovery Plan objectives and approach, agreed at Cabinet in May 2020.
76. Further work on embedding climate change into recovery will be taking place with the Hampshire 2050 Partnership and the Commissioners on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020, looking at how the Partnership can provide the leadership and drive to a healthier Hampshire post Covid-19.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

<b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>	yes
<b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>	yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u> Climate Emergency Motion	<u>Date</u> June 2019
Hampshire 2050 Commission of Inquiry	September 2019
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u> Climate Change Act	<u>Date</u> 2008
National Adaptation Programme	2018

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

The Climate Change Strategy and developing Action Plan will include actions which are likely have both positive and potentially negative impacts on persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic. These include, but are not limited to, social justice in terms of carbon and climate resilience and fuel poverty.

The strategy has a key principle that states that action taken must be proportionate, affordable and equitable. As a local authority it is important to recognise our wider role to society in delivering public services for the public good. Any actions taken on climate change must be in line with this and would therefore have to adhere to the principles of proportionality, affordability and be equitable.

A key strand of developing the Action Plan will be to fully assess the potential impacts of the actions and incorporate mitigation measures, as necessary. At this stage, no impacts have been identified.