



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
17 September 2020

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) Affected: N/A

JOSC Working Group on review of Climate Change issues

Report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability & Resources

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

1.1 This report sets out the recommendations from the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) Working Group which was created as part of the JOSC Work Programme to review climate change issues in Adur and Worthing.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That JOSC consider the report and recommendations from the Climate Change Working Group and refer the recommendations to the Joint Strategic Committee (JSC) for consideration in due course.

3. Context

3.1 As part of its Work Programme, JOSC agreed to set up a Working Group to review climate change issues and help the Councils protect and improve the environment in Adur and Worthing. The Working Group agreed the following terms of reference:-

(i) To receive a briefing on climate change issues to enable Members to be better informed to fully scrutinise the issues;

(ii) To scrutinise the Adur & Worthing Carbon Neutral Plan and review how the Councils are implementing the Carbon Neutral Plan aims by 2030. This would be done using available best practice and information available from other Councils on this issue;

(iii) To scrutinise the processes and outcomes of the proposed Adur & Worthing Climate Change Strategy;

(iv) To liaise with representatives from the West Sussex Climate Change Task and Finish Group on the outcomes and objectives from that Group to help enhance the scrutiny of Climate Change issues in Adur and Worthing;

(v) To lobby Government as appropriate to provide the powers and the resources to make the 2030 target, as set out in the Carbon Neutral Plan, possible; and

(vi) To consider if there is a need for any recommendations to be put to the Joint Strategic Committee/relevant Executive Members to help with the implementation of the Adur & Worthing Carbon Neutral Plan and the Adur & Worthing Climate Change Strategy.

4. Issues for consideration

4.1 JOSC is asked to consider the report and recommendations from the Climate Change Working Group set out in the appendix to this report and agree to refer the recommendations to the Joint Strategic Committee for further consideration in due course.

5. Engagement and Communication

5.1 The JOSC Working Group that has undertaken the Climate Change review has held discussions with relevant Council Officers, local stakeholders, partners and those members of the community with an interest in climate change matters.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications relating to this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to do anything to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of their functions.

7.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a Local Authority to do anything that individuals may do (subject to any current restrictions or limitations prescribed in existing legislation).

Background Papers

Any papers referenced in the Working Group report

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2.2 Equality Issues

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

3. Environmental

Matter considered. Developing the Councils and communities role in Tackling Climate Change and Supporting our Natural Environment is one of five platforms for development in “Platform for our Places : Going Further”. The report from the Working Group attached as an appendix to this report includes updates on how the Councils are working to develop this platform.

4. Governance

Matter considered. The JOSC Working Group has been set up in accordance with the JOSC Procedure Rules and forms part of the agreed JOSC Work Programme for 2020/21. Recommendations from the review will need to be presented to the Joint Strategic Committee for consideration.