

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Thursday 16 January 2020 at 7.30pm

Council Chamber
Runnymede Civic Centre, Addlestone

Members of the Committee

Councillors M Heath (Chairman), J Wilson (Vice-Chairman), M Brierley, B Clarke, S Dennett, T Gracey, J Olorenshaw, S Walsh, D Whyte and M Willingale

In accordance with Standing Order 29.1, any Member of the Council may attend the meeting of this Committee, but may speak only with the permission of the Chairman of the Committee, if they are not a member of this Committee.

AGENDA

Notes:

- 1) Any report on the Agenda involving confidential information (as defined by section 100A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972) must be discussed in private. Any report involving exempt information (as defined by section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972), whether it appears in Part 1 or Part 2 below, may be discussed in private but only if the Committee so resolves.
- 2) The relevant 'background papers' are listed after each report in Part 1. Enquiries about any of the Agenda reports and background papers should be directed in the first instance to **Mrs C Holehouse, Democratic Services Section, Law and Governance Business Centre, Runnymede Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone (Tel: Direct Line: 01932 425628). (Email: carol.holehouse@runnymede.gov.uk).**
- 3) Agendas and Minutes are available on a subscription basis. For details, please ring Mr B A Fleckney on 01932 425620. Agendas and Minutes for all the Council's Committees may also be viewed on www.runnymede.gov.uk.

4) In the unlikely event of an alarm sounding, members of the public should leave the building immediately, either using the staircase leading from the public gallery or following other instructions as appropriate.

5) **Filming, Audio-Recording, Photography, Tweeting and Blogging of Meetings**

Members of the public are permitted to film, audio record, take photographs or make use of social media (tweet/blog) at Council and Committee meetings provided that this does not disturb the business of the meeting. If you wish to film a particular meeting, please liaise with the Council Officer listed on the front of the Agenda prior to the start of the meeting so that the Chairman is aware and those attending the meeting can be made aware of any filming taking place.

Filming should be limited to the formal meeting area and not extend to those in the public seating area.

The Chairman will make the final decision on all matters of dispute in regard to the use of social media audio-recording, photography and filming in the Committee meeting.

LIST OF MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION
PART I

Page

Matters in respect of which reports have been made available for public inspection

1.	FIRE PRECAUTIONS	4
2.	NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP	4
3.	MINUTES	4
4.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	4
5.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	4
6.	PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION	4
7.	ENFORCEMENT OF LITTER AND DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION	6
8.	SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL – CLIMATE CHANGE	8
9.	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2019/2020 RESULTS– QUARTER 2	9
10.	EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	11

PART II

Matters involving Exempt or Confidential Information in respect of which reports have not been made available for public inspection

a) Exempt Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading)

(b) Confidential Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading)

1. **FIRE PRECAUTIONS**

The Chairman will read the Fire Precautions, which set out the procedures to be followed in the event of fire or other emergency.

2. **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

3. **MINUTES**

To confirm and sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 November 2019 **Appendix 'A'**

Runnymede Borough Council
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

21 November 2019 at 7.30pm

Members of the Committee present: Councillors M Heath (Chairman) J Wilson (Vice-Chairman)
A Alderson, M Brierley, S Dennett, T Gracey, J Olorenshaw, S Walsh and D Whyte

Members of the Committee absent: Councillor M Willingale

345 FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Chairman read out the Fire Precautions.

346 NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Group mentioned below had notified the Chief Executive of their wish that the change listed below be made to the membership of the Committee. The change was for a fixed period ending on the day after the meeting and thereafter the Councillor removed would be reappointed.

Group	Remove from Membership	Appoint Instead
Runnymede Independent Residents'	Councillor B Clarke	Councillor A Alderson

The Chief Executive had given effect to this request in accordance with Section 16(2) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

347 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20 June 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

348 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor M Willingale.

349 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Heath declared a non-pecuniary interest on item 12 (Fireworks – Animal Welfare) as she runs an All-party Parliamentary Group for Animal Welfare for which the RSPCA are members. Councillor Heath remained in the chamber, took part in the discussion and voted thereon.

350 ANNUAL REVIEW OF CAR PARKING CHARGES IN OFF-STREET CAR PARKS

At its meeting in September 2005, the former Economic Development Committee resolved that there should be an annual review of car parking charges. Charges were reviewed in November for implementation in January, along with the Council's other fees and charges.

The Committee reviewed the car parking and permit charges in the Borough's 14 Council owned and managed off-street 'pay and display' car parks and was asked to approve the Officers recommendation that current charges in the Council's car parks, including the charges for permit and contract parking remained the same.

Members received details on the estimated income from the car parks should charges remain the same, assuming current trends for usage of the car parks continued.

Estimated Income from the Car Parks with charges unchanged

Town Centre Tariffs		
Time Period	Current tariff	Projected
1 hr	£1.30	£217,679
2 hr	£2.50	£188,255
3 hr	£3.50	£63,830
4 hr	£4.00	£37,112
5 hr	£4.50	£37,107
6 hr	£5.50	£7,744
All day	£7.00	£246,267
Estimated income		£797,993
Ex Vat		£664,994
Out of Towns Tariffs		
1 hr	£0.60	£4,087
2 hr	£1.20	£7,439
3 hr	£2.00	£7,420
4 hr	£3.00	£4,575
5 hr	£3.50	£9,930
All day	£5.50	£16,170
Estimated income		£49,621
Ex Vat		£41,350

Members were fully supportive of car park and permit charge levels remaining unchanged in the forthcoming year. It was noted that increases had been approved last November and further increases may adversely impact on the number of visitors throughout the Borough. Officers advised the Committee that the Council's Planning Department would be undertaking

a full review of parking provision in the Borough next year. As part of this review, parking on residential streets, parking enforcement, ANPR and barrier systems in Council's car parks could all be considered.

The Committee received a copy of a letter regarding parking sent to Officers from the Egham Chamber of Commerce on 21 November 2019. The Egham Chamber of Commerce were asking the Committee not to increase charges and requested some changes to parking charges in Egham when the Egham Gateway project commenced. Whilst Members were supportive of not increasing charges for the forthcoming year they did not support the other proposals suggested by the Egham Chamber of Commerce at this time. However, the parking review in 2020 would look at all Borough parking provision.

RESOLVED that –

Car park and permit charge levels remain unchanged for the next year.

351 FEES AND CHARGES 2020/21

The Committee's approval was sought for the proposed mix of statutory and discretionary fees and charges for those services falling under the remit of Environmental Services.

The main fees and charges being increased related to; Refuse Collection, Recycling, Highways and Engineering and Environmental Protection with proposed fee increases being between 2 – 5%.

The Committee was supportive of the proposed fees and charges

RESOLVED that –

the proposed fees and charges for 2020/21 be approved, to be effective from the dates within the appendix or as soon as practical thereafter

352 SINGLE USE PLASTIC

Members were advised that a single-use strategy for the County had been formulated and agreed by the Surrey Environmental Partnership (SEP) in early 2019. The strategy aimed to eliminate as much Single Use Plastic across Surrey as possible. The Committee was asked to agree that the strategy formed an RBC SUP policy on eliminating avoidable single use plastic (SUP).

Members were pleased to note that RBC were already taking small steps in eliminating SUP. The Committee was very keen to support the RBC SUP policy and to promote the use of the policy across the Borough. Officers were asked to provide the Committee with quarterly updates on progress on RBC's and Surrey wide elimination of SUP.

RESOLVED that –

Runnymede Borough Council (RBC) adopt the RBC SUP policy on eliminating avoidable single use plastic along with promotion of that policy across the Borough

353 SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL AGENCY AGREEMENT FOR HIGHWAY VERGE CUTTING AND WEED CONTROL INTER AUTHORITY AGREEMENT

The Committee was updated on the present arrangements with Surrey County Council and Spelthorne Borough Council (SBC) for carrying out highways verge cutting and weed control in Runnymede. Members were asked to consider extending the arrangement for a further period of nine months to enable a detailed review and decision on how the service was provided from 2021.

At the meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee on 15 March 2018 Members resolved to enter into an Inter Authority Agreement with SBC for an initial period of 2 years to fulfil Runnymede's obligation to Surrey County Council (SCC) for highways verge cutting and weed control. The present Inter Authority Agreement between RBC and SBC (£110,000) would expire on the 31 March 2020. However, RBC's obligation to SCC ran until 31 March 2022.

Members received details on the present state of agreements between the three authorities and several options for future verge cutting and weed control within Runnymede. The Committee was fully supportive of the Officers recommendation that the present arrangements be extended for a further period of nine months. Members felt this gave Officers time to fully explore future options available.

It was noted that there had been some problems with weed control particularly over last Summer and Members had received numerous complaints from residents in this regard. Officers assured the Committee that new arrangements would be in place next year which would alleviate the problem. Concern was also raised regarding tree suckers breaking through both footpaths and roads which caused damage. Officers would look into treating the suckers expeditiously in order to prevent further damage.

With regard to verge cutting the Committee was keen to avoid aggressive cutting in order to encourage biodiversity. Consideration however would need to be given to verges where sight lines may be affected.

RESOLVED that –

the present arrangements with Spelthorne Borough Council for verge maintenance and weed control be extended for a further period of nine months from 1 April 2020 until 31 December 2020

354 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN COMMITTEE AGENDA REPORTS

Members were asked to approve that all future Committee agenda reports requiring a decision included a mandatory section that dealt with the consideration of environmental and sustainability/biodiversity implications of the subject matter in the reports.

With regard to further environmental transparency, accountability and the increasing current awareness within both Runnymede Borough Council (RBC) and the country at large in respect of climate change matters, the Council at its meeting on 18 July 2019, resolved to commit RBC to undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) when any decision was made, funding agreed, or actions taken. Officers advised Members that to carry out a full EIA in respect of each individual decision would be both time consuming and inappropriate for the vast majority of tasks and decisions undertaken on a daily basis. However, the statutory EIA principles and the effects on the wider environment should be a determinant for all decision makers.

In order to facilitate this commitment, it was proposed that the mandatory environment and sustainability/ biodiversity considerations were included in all reports requiring a decision. Members were advised that the existing RBC 'draft agenda report format' template already provided for the relevant environmental implications to be included and considered in a report. This would be mandatory in future and if there were no direct environmental implications arising from reports etc. then a statement to that effect should be included to show that the issue had been considered. Therefore, an emphasis and commitment to ensuring these implications were addressed would satisfy the requirements of the Council's EIA resolution on 18 July.

The Committee supported the Officers recommendation and requested that Officers advise all Committee Chairs that this Committee had approved the recommendation, and all future reports requiring a decision being considered should include the mandatory section to show consideration had been given to environmental, sustainability and biodiversity implications.

RESOLVED that –

all Committee agenda reports requiring a decision include a mandatory section that deals with the consideration of environmental and sustainability/biodiversity implications of the subject matter in the reports

355 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2020/21

The Committee was asked to approve the 2020/2021 Environmental Services Business Centre Plan and note the business cases requiring additional expenditure.

As part of the annual business planning cycle each business centre completed an annual Business Centre Plan which set out for the forthcoming year: key drivers/influences, objectives, performance/activity indicators, the links to the themes in the draft Corporate Business Plan 2020-2024, and key risks, by utilising a standard corporate template.

Environmental Services was a multi-disciplinary business centre covering a range of services including Environmental Health and Licensing, Direct Services Organisation (DSO) and Engineering Services.

The Committee noted the business cases requiring additional expenditure which were still subject to recommendation by Corporate Management Committee and Full Council. Members also approved the 2020/21 Environmental Services Business Centre Plan. Officers were asked to include Officer names alongside the job titles in the organisation charts in the Business Plan in future.

RESOLVED that –

- i) the 2020/21 Environmental Services Business Centre Plan be approved; and**
- ii) the business cases requiring additional expenditure be noted**

356 FIREWORKS – ANIMAL WELFARE

The Committee was asked to approve the formal adoption by Runnymede Borough Council (RBC) of measures aimed at preventing or sufficiently reducing the risk of fireworks causing distress, injury and anxiety to people or animals.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) whilst, acknowledging fireworks could bring much enjoyment to some people, had recently highlighted the significant problems caused by fireworks to both people and animals in terms of distress, injury and anxiety. In line with other authorities RBC were seeking to adopt measures aimed at preventing or sufficiently reducing the risks posed to people and animals by fireworks.

The RSPCA believed that further research was needed to properly understand the impact of noise on animals and several things could be done to improve the situation for animals and people by:

- introducing a limit on the public use of fireworks on or close to specific dates and times
- tightening restrictions on the sale of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire night
- reducing the maximum noise level of fireworks sold to the public, ensuring they are labelled accurately
- licensing all public firework displays – and ensuring displays are better advertised to the public

In support of the RSPCA campaign Members were asked to adopt the following measures:

- to encourage all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people
- to annually raise the issue around the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can

be taken to mitigate risks via the Council's magazine, website and social media.

- to write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays
- to encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.

The House of Commons Petitions Committee in its First Report of Session 2019 'Fireworks' published on 5 November 2019 had made a number of recommendations to the Government concerning the sale and use of fireworks and their detrimental effects on human and animal health. The report included a recommendation for the Government to fund and coordinate a major, national awareness campaign on the responsible use of fireworks to get the message across to the public from October 2020 and annually thereafter.

The Committee fully appreciated the distress and anxiety loud fireworks caused to both people and animals. Whilst they supported the proposal Members felt it would be very difficult to enforce the offence until legislation was passed at national level. It was agreed that generally public firework displays were advertised as these were invariably run for fundraising purposes, but small private displays could also be problematic. The Committee felt the measures should be adopted and the harm fireworks caused both people, animals and wildlife should be placed on the Council's communications channels, in particular in the run up to festivities where fireworks may be used.

RESOLVED that –

Runnymede Borough Council adopts measures aimed at preventing or sufficiently reducing the risk of fireworks causing distress, injury or anxiety to people or animals

357 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2019/20 QUARTER 1 RESULTS

The Committee received the results of the Environmental Services Key Performance Indicators for Quarter 1 of 2019/2020.

Officers advised the Committee that figures relating to ES1 (Residual household waste per household) and ES2 (Percentage of household waste sent for re-use, recycling and composting) were not yet available and therefore these would be reported to the next meeting. With regard to ES3 (Number of missed bin collection complaints) Officers were proposing to report these as a percentage figure in next year's business plan. At present 99.7% of bins were collected on time, which should be celebrated. However, the way the figures were currently reported did not convey this. The Committee was advised that some complaints were not genuine due to bins being missed because residents hadn't put out their bins or they had been left because they had been rejected as being contaminated. Officers were looking at ways to streamline complaints, so figures were more reliable.

It was highlighted that there was a problem with overflowing bins in Egham, High Street and Officers were asked to look into installing larger bins in this area.

(The meeting ended at 8.39pm)

Chairman

4. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

If Members have an interest in an item please record the interest on the form circulated with this Agenda and hand it to the Legal Representative or Democratic Services Officer at the start of the meeting. A supply of the form will also be available from the Democratic Services Officer at meetings.

Members are advised to contact the Council's Legal Section prior to the meeting if they wish to seek advice on a potential interest.

Members are reminded that a non pecuniary interest includes their appointment by the Council as the Council's representative to an outside body and that this should be declared. Membership of an outside body in their private capacity as a director, trustee, committee member or in another position of influence thereon should be regarded as a disclosable pecuniary interest, as should an appointment to an outside body by the Council as a trustee.

Members who have previously declared interests which are recorded in the Minutes to be considered at this meeting need not repeat the declaration when attending the meeting. Members need take no further action unless the item in which they have an interest becomes the subject of debate, in which event the Member must leave the room if the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or if the interest could reasonably be regarded as so significant as to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest.

6. **PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION
(ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – Peter Burke)**

Synopsis of report:

To inform Members of the expiration on the 22 January 2020 of the Dog Control Public Space Protection Order (Runnymede Borough Council) 2017

Recommendation:

None – This is for information only

1. **Context of report**

- 1.1 Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) issued under The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 remain in force for a maximum period of 3 years. In January 2017 Runnymede Borough Council issued a PSPO covering dog control matters related to dog fouling, keeping dogs on leads and excluding dogs from specified areas. The Order which came into effect on the 23 January 2017 will expire on the 22 January 2020.

2. **Report**

- 2.1 A Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) can be made by a local authority if it is satisfied that the following conditions are met:
- Activities carried on in a public place have a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality or it is likely that such activities will be carried on and that they will have such an effect.
 - The effect of the activity is likely to be of a persistent or continuing nature, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable.
- 2.2 PSPOs can be framed to apply to all persons or persons in specified categories. Before making such an order, the local authority must consult with the Police, Police and Crime Commissioner and other relevant bodies.
- 2.3 In January 2017 Runnymede Borough Council (RBC) issued a PSPO covering dog control matters related to dog fouling, keeping dogs on leads and excluding dogs from specified areas. The Order which came into effect on the 23 January 2017 will expire on the 22 January 2020.
- 2.4 There have been 52 incidents of dog fouling reported to RBC in the 3 years the order has been in place and 2 fixed penalty notices for dog fouling issued. There have been a couple of reported incidents of dog behaviour causing annoyance or disturbance both of which were dealt with by way of alternative powers available under the Act with a Community Protection Notice served on the individuals concerned.
- 2.5 Statutory consultation for a new PSPO covering dog control matters is in process. It is intended that the new order will be similar to the 2017 order but with the additional requirement for any person who is believed to have engaged in a breach of the order, being required to give their name and address to a police officer or an officer authorised by RBC.

3. **Resource implications**

- 3.1 PSPO enforcement is likely to be carried out by an external contractor or via a RBC Joint Enforcement Team (JET).

4 **Financial implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications in respect of this report.

5. **Legal implications**

- 5.1 Under section 60 of the 2014 Act a PSPO may not have effect for a period of more than 3 years unless extended under that section.
- 5.2 The Corporate Head of Environmental Services has delegated powers to issue Public Space Protection Orders.

6. **Equality implications**

- 6.1 There are no equality implications in respect this report.

7. **Environmental implications**

- 7.1 Enforcement of dog fouling (dog control) offences contribute to the Council's corporate theme of improving the quality of local people's lives and its key priorities as set out in the RBC Corporate Business Plan 2016-2020 of improving and enhancing our environment by dealing with environmental crimes robustly and proactively
- 7.2 There is potential for dog fouling and other environmental or ASB crime to increase which would have a detrimental effect on community wellbeing overall.

(For information)

Background papers

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014: Anti-social behaviour powers
Statutory guidance for frontline professionals (last update August 2019)

7. **ENFORCEMENT OF LITTER AND DOG CONTROL LEGISLATION
(ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – Peter Burke)**

Synopsis of report:

To inform Members of the termination of the current enforcement arrangements between the Council and Kingdom Environmental Protection Services (KEPS) with respect to the service of fixed penalty notices for litter and dog control offences effective from 1 January 2020

Recommendation:

None – This is for information only

1. **Context of report**

- 1.1 In June 2018 Members gave delegated authority to Officers to tender the enforcement of fixed penalty notices for littering and dog control legislation for a minimum two-year period beginning January 2019. Kingdom Environmental Protection Services (KEPS) who had previously provided this service to the Council on a trial basis since 2017, were successful in the tender process and subsequently a new contract was entered on 3 January 2019. On the 14 November 2019 the Kingdom Services Group gave notice to the Council of its intention to not continue delivering the service after 1 January 2020 it being no longer commercially viable for them to do so.

2. **Report**

- 2.1 In January 2017 Members approved an active 12-month trial enforcement of fixed penalty notices (FPN's) for littering and dog control offences by an external contractor KEPS. The trial initially ran from June 2017 to June 2018 and was then extended until 31 December 2018 following a report to this Committee in June 2018. This was to allow a tendering of the service to be completed with a view to awarding a new minimum two-year contract from January 2019.
- 2.2 KEPS who had previously provided the service to the Council were successful in the tender process and entered into a new contract with Runnymede on 3 January 2019. KEPS have now given notice of their intention to not continue delivering the service after 1 January 2020 it being no longer commercially viable for them to do so. The number of notices served by KEPS in 2019 steadily declined in line with KEPS struggling to find staff to resource the service.
- 2.3 KEPS have openly reported difficulty in attracting 'skilled experienced and sustainable staff' to deliver the service on our behalf. Officer turnover due to the 'confrontational nature' of issuing FPNs was highlighted as a continuing problem in the June 2018 report and will remain a factor no matter how this service is delivered.
- 2.4 Moving forward, officers under delegated authority will look to secure a replacement for KEPS to take up the service from April 2020 onwards. This would allow due consideration of delivery of this service in-house subject to the outcome of on-going exploratory work into the establishment of a Runnymede Joint Enforcement Team (JET).

3. **Resource implications**

- 3.1 The service provided by KEPS was cost neutral with managerial oversight met from within existing environmental health resources.

4 **Financial implications**

- 4.1 Potential income paid to Runnymede by KEPS under the contract will cease. Total amount paid to Runnymede since January 2019 under the present contract was £5,115.

5. **Legal implications**

- 5.1 KEPS have given the required notice of termination as required under the terms of the present contract.

6. **Equality implications**

- 6.1 There are no equality implications in respect of this matter.

7. **Environmental implications**

- 7.1 Enforcement of littering and dog fouling (dog control) offences contribute to the Council's corporate theme of improving the quality of local people's lives and its key priorities as set out in the RBC Corporate Business Plan 2016-2020 of improving and enhancing our environment by dealing with environmental crimes robustly and proactively
- 7.2 There is potential for littering, dog fouling and other environmental or ASB crime to

increase which would have a detrimental effect on community wellbeing overall.

(For information)

Background papers

Report on Trial Enforcement of Litter and Dog Control Legislation Environment and Sustainability Committee 21 June 2018

Interim Report Enforcement of Litter and Dog Control Legislation Environment and Sustainability Committee 28 September 2017

Trial Enforcement of Litter and Dog Control Legislation in Runnymede Borough Council Environment and Sustainability Committee 19 January 2017

8. **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL – CLIMATE CHANGE
(ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – Peter Burke)**

Synopsis of report:

To inform Members of the outcome of a Surrey County Council (SCC) meeting held on 10 December 2019 at which SCC Members formally adopted a ‘Call for Action’ in response to the SCC declaration of a climate emergency in July 2019

Recommendation:

None – This is for information only

1. **Report**

1.1 This report is to inform the Committee of the adoption by Surrey County Council on 10 December 2019 of a ‘Call For Action’ on itself following on from a declaration of a climate emergency by SCC in July 2019.

1.2 The SCC Officer Report containing the Call For Action is at **Appendix ‘B’**. Members are made aware that the Call For Action followed a recommendation from the SCC Cabinet on 24 November 2019 ‘Report of Surrey’s Greener Future Task Group’ looking at climate change issues. This report is available at <https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/mgChooseDocPack.aspx?ID=6331> open supplementary agenda pack.

2. **Environmental implications**

2.1 These are detailed in the Surrey’s Greener Future Task Group report.

(For information)

Background papers

None



OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL

SURREY'S GREENER FUTURE – CALL FOR ACTION

KEY ISSUE/DECISION:

For council to adopt the Surrey's Greener Future Task Group's Call for Action and to agree to the development of a zero carbon strategy and action plan.

BACKGROUND:

1. cross-party Task Group was established by the Communities, Highways and Environment Select Committee in July 2019 responding to Surrey County Council's declaration of a climate emergency, to identify actions the council needs to take to achieve net zero carbon emissions as soon as possible. The task group agreed to consider the role residents need to play in their local community and the wider impact of other public sector organisations and the private sector on the county's environment to develop a system-wide position.
2. The membership of the Task Group was agreed as the following:

Andy MacLeod (Chairman)
Paul Deach
Jonathan Essex
Becky Rush
Fiona White
John O'Reilly (ex-officio)

Nikki Barton subsequently joined the task group in October 2019 and due to time commitments, Fiona White was unable to continue on the task group.

3. The Task Group met numerous times, hearing evidence from a diverse range of stakeholders in an effort to understand the full range of issues that contribute to climate change. The task group was also keen to consult residents to gain an understanding of their concerns for Surrey in relation to climate change and to gain a resident perspective on how the Council itself can work to reach net zero carbon.



4. Various methods were used to engage with stakeholders, starting with an open call for evidence which ran from 14 August 2019 to 15 September 2019 and received 142 responses via the survey with 15 responses sent to the democratic services email, making a total of 157 responses. Out of the survey responses, 19 (13.38%) responded as an organisation and the remaining 123 as individuals.
5. Following the call for evidence, the Task Group undertook a series of witness sessions, focussing on three key groups:

Council officers with a key role within the themes above
External Experts working in this field
Councils identified as leading the way in tackling elements of climate change

6. The Task Group's approach utilised five key themes:
Energy;
Buildings, development and infrastructure;
Waste, resources and the circular economy;
Agriculture, forestry and other land use; and
Transport.
7. The work culminated in recommendations that have been supported by Cabinet (**Annex 2**) and a Call for Action (**Annex 1**).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That council notes the task group report and the Cabinet Member's response to their recommendations;
2. Adopts the Call for Action (**Annex 1**); and
3. Agrees to the development of a zero carbon strategy and action plan.

Lead/Contact Officers: Ross Pike, Committees Business Manager

Sources/background papers:

Annex 1: Surrey's Greener Future - Call for Action
Annex 2: Cabinet Member for Waste and Environment's response to the Task Group Report
Surrey's Greener Future Task Group report available here:
<https://mycouncil.surreycc.gov.uk/documents/s64341/CEHSC%20Forward%20Plan%20141119.pdf>



Annex 1: Call for Action

Surrey County Council Action	Action with partners and communities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure climate change is at the centre of the work we do through organisation-wide integration of climate change practices supported through training and engagement. 2. Be zero carbon across our organisational emissions by 2030. 3. All SCC's electricity delivered through a green energy supplier by 2020. Switch energy suppliers to a green tariff for gas. 4. Ensure the council's vehicle fleet will be zero emissions in the medium term. 5. Introduce a zero emission bus fleet across Surrey by 2030 6. We will use our procurement practices and influence across our supply chain to require and incentivise environmentally responsible commissioning 7. Work with pension funds and other investors to divest from fossil fuels and increase investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, low carbon transport and low carbon heat solutions. 8. Work with staff to drive behavioural changes that help reduce business emissions, for example, reducing mileage travelled in private transport. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Commit to set long term targets (five-years) to reduce both the County's Scope 1, and 2 emissions, and measure and report on these annually 10. Commit to measure and report Scope 3 emissions annually, with an ambition to consider approaches to reduce or offset. 11. Establish effective engagement practices to ensure our strategy is co-designed and delivered with partners, businesses and residents across Surrey. 12. Continue to push for national level action to redirect investments and introduce market mechanisms that deliver changes that avoid negative outcomes for residents and help to support informed choices 13. Improve our communications and engagement on climate change to support ongoing changes in resident behaviour e.g. travel choices, dietary choices and build public acceptance 14. Improve public transport links and active travel infrastructure to reduce car use. 15. Further develop our EV strategy to enable electric transport with infrastructure and incentives 16. Work towards all new developments being zero carbon and leaving the natural environment and biodiversity in a better state than before. 17. Develop a land-use strategy for Surrey focused on increasing green spaces, woodland cover in line with national targets and sustainable farming practices. 18. Develop our approach to engaging residents and businesses to refocus on reducing consumption and production of waste as a priority, supported by increased reuse and recycling.

9. **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2019/2020 RESULTS– QUARTER 2
(ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – Peter Burke)**

Synopsis of report:

This report sets out the results for the Key Performance Indicators for Quarter 2 July- September 2019.

Recommendation:

None – This is for information only

1. **Context of report**

1.1 This report informs Members of the Performance Indicator results for Quarter 2 of 2019/2020.

2. **Report**

2.1 The annual targets were agreed as part of the Corporate Key Performance Indicators and are incorporated in the Environmental Services Business Centre Plan.

2.2 Table of Performance Indicators

Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2019/20	Q1 Result	Q2 Result	Q3 Result	Q4 Result	Annual Result 2018/19
ES1: Residual household waste per household (kg)	460	81	107.3			
ES2: Percentage of household waste sent for re-use, recycling and composting (%)	47%	46.5%	42.2			
ES3: Number of missed bin collection complaints (refuse, recycling, food trade waste and green waste)	2000	1095	1298			
ES4: Number of street cleansing reports (overflowing litterbins, overflowing dog bins, and general litter/detritus)	151	156	258			
ESvii: Percentage of food establishments in the borough achieving level 3 or above ratings under the National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (%) (Yearly figure)	94%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	94%

- 2.3 For reasons unknown there was a marked increase in the average residual household waste collected in the second quarter (still below the 115kg quarterly target). This increase may also have impacted on the reduced recycling rate for the same quarter.
- 2.4 The number of missed bin collections also increased from the first quarter and whilst disappointing, Members are reminded that the target figures for this KPI will change next year to 4,000 per year, a more reflective indication of the overall collection service which currently achieves a 99.7% success rate.
- 2.5 ES4: This indicator is only indicative of the number of reports received i.e. matters reported by members of the public. They are not necessarily a report that an expected action has not taken place etc. e.g. a report of an overflowing litterbin maybe received the day before it is scheduled to be routinely emptied.
- 2.6 Whilst not a specific KPI, Members are made aware that there has been a continuous increase in tonnage of textiles and furniture sent for reuse. For example, in 2018/19 the textile tonnage sent for reuse was an average of 1.5t/quarter. In July 2019, following reorganisation of the textile bagging/storage area by the new Recycling Officer, the placing of a 240L textile bin for the crews to make unloading easier and a new 3 weekly collection by the contractor D&M transport Ltd, textile recycling rates are now nearer to 3t/quarter. Although the tonnages are small, relative to the DMR, food waste and garden, they are a step in the right direction.
- 2.7 Further since September 2019 there has been a concerted effort to recycle batteries and a new 240L 'pink-lidded' bin made available to crews to assist in collection and recycling of electrical goods. The recycling Officer is presently involved with a trial at Surrey Towers providing containers for textiles, small electrical appliances and batteries all aimed at increased recycling in communal refuse areas. Lastly, since October Runnymede have been working with Associated Polymer Resources to recycle the wheelie bins (and other bulk plastics) that are broken/no longer usable. The collection is free and so far, we have sent just over 4t for recycling. This gives us some scope to start recycling bulky plastic items (e.g. plastic crates/chairs) which are often abandoned in communal areas.
- 2.8 Members are asked to note that this report should be distinguished from committee specific reports and is a standard report submitted to all the service committees. The aim is to improve awareness of corporate performance and should be read in conjunction with this Committee's Business Centre Plan.

(For information)

Background papers

None

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

If the Committee is minded to discuss any of the foregoing reports in private it is the

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION that –

the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of reports under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the reports in question would then be likely to involve disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in appropriate paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Act.

(To resolve)

PART II

Matters involving Exempt or Confidential Information in respect of which reports have not been made available for public inspection

a) Exempt Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading)

b) Confidential Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading)