

PUBLIC

**MINUTES** of a meeting of **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY AND CARBON REDUCTION** held on Monday, 14 February 2022 at County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG.

## **PRESENT**

Councillor W Major (in the Chair)

Councillors R Redfern, B Bingham, S Bull, A Clarke, M Ford, A Hayes, T Kemp and P Rose.

Officers present: David Arnold (Head of Planning), Joe Battye (Director - Economy & Regeneration), Claire Brailsford (Director - Environment & Transport), Stuart Etchells (Principal Procurement Officer), Juliette Normington (Democratic Services Officer), Richard Sandbach (Planner), Roz Savage (Improvement and Scrutiny Officer) and Caroline Toplis (Programme Manager - Climate Change).

### **9/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **10/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

### **11/22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

### **12/22 THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LOW CARBON AND SUSTAINABLE PLANNING POLICY ACROSS THE COUNTY**

David Arnold introduced the report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, informing Committee of the continued joint work with Derbyshire partners that was taking place across Planning Services to develop up to date and meaningful policies to help tackle climate change.

The report was supported with a presentation jointly made with Richard Sandbach which provided the Committee with an overview of the Planning function, its link with the Council's climate change agenda, an introduction to the SPG application assessment tool and the energy study that would be taking place across the county and Peak District National Park, in the near future.

Members asked a number of questions around the Policy. The Chair suggested that at the next meeting Members might like to consider adding this topic to the Committee's work programme for 2022/23 to look at specific aspects of it in more detail.

**RESOLVED to** acknowledge the progress being made and support the ongoing activity in collaborative work with D2 partners for developing low carbon planning policies including the development of draft Supplementary Planning Guidance and the Strategic Renewable Energy Study.

### **13/22 SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT**

Stuart Etchells introduced the report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, providing an update on the Council's proposals for implementation of Sustainable Procurement. This was supported by a presentation outlining the function of procurement and its purpose around sustainability and the Council's development of its own framework, the Social Value Portal.

Members asked a number of questions, particularly around timescales and benchmarks such as ISO 14001. They also welcomed the work done to ensure other standards and practices were embedded across all services and partner working.

**RESOLVED to:**

1. Consider the Sustainable Procurement Policy and the implications contained within the Policy;
2. Resolve to support the further development and implementation of the Sustainable Procurement Policy; and
3. Resolve to support the use of the Social Value portal in Council procurements.

### **14/22 CLIMATE CHANGE PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

Caroline Toplis introduced the report, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, presenting Committee with details of the Council's approach to reporting on performance against delivery of the Council's Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025) (the 'Strategy'), specifically through the Climate Change Programme Dashboard (Appendix 2), which was developed and managed by the Council's Climate Change and Environment Programme Board (CCEPB).

The report had been developed to provide assurance to the Committee on the role of the CCEPB in monitoring performance and to assist the Committee in fulfilling its role of providing oversight and undertaking scrutiny of the climate change programme's governance procedures and processes.

**RESOLVED that:**

- 1) On a quarterly basis the Committee receive a report on performance against delivery of the Council's Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025). The report would be based on the Climate Change Programme Dashboard, presented to the Committee on 14 February 2022; and
- 2) In fulfilling its role of providing oversight and undertaking scrutiny of the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy, the Committee will use the dashboard report to review whether performance was on track. Where performance was not on track and the Committee had concerns that the stated mitigation measures were not sufficiently robust, the Committee may request further information or add the issue of concern to the Committee's Work Programme.

The meeting finished at 3.34 pm