

# CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE PANEL

## MEETING ACTION NOTES

15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 - Via Microsoft Teams

**Attendees:** Cllr Ian Barnes (Chair), Cllr Mahym Bedekova, Cllr Catherine Chibah, Cllr Birsen Demirel, Rafe Bertram, Sarah Cary, Tilly Ford, Amanda Grosse, Richard Hillyard, Michelle Larche, Tinu Olowe, Harriet Potemkin, Claire Reilly, Jon Sharkey, Glenn Stewart, Doug Wilkinson. *Apologies noted for Ian Davis, Fay Hammond and Mark Bradbury.*

### Introductions

Cllr Barnes welcomed everyone and gave an overview of recent events including the announcement of the Government's 10 Point Plan and Energy White Paper as well as the publication of the 6<sup>th</sup> Carbon Budget.

### Government 10 Point Plan, Green Funding, 6th Carbon Budget – Updates

Government's 10 Point Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Includes moves to promote public transport, cycling and walking, with support for segregated cycle lanes, more low-traffic neighbourhoods and an increase in school streets.</li><li>• There will also be a ban on combustion engine sales by 2030, grants for electric cars and funding for charge points.</li><li>• Extra £200m invested in carbon capture initiatives with 30,000 hectares of trees to be planted every year.</li><li>• £1bn next year for funds to insulate homes and public buildings, using the existing green homes grant and public sector decarbonisation scheme.</li></ul>
Green Funding Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Housing Retrofit Accelerator.</li><li>• Electric vehicle charging.</li><li>• Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery.</li><li>• Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund.</li></ul>
UK's 6 <sup>th</sup> Carbon Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focuses on path to net zero which will require a 68% reduction in emissions by 2030, which will be front loaded with more happening in 2020s; this should drive change and reduce cost.</li><li>• Low-carbon investment will need to rise from around £10bn in 2020 to around £50bn by 2030 but neutral cost by 2040.</li><li>• Vehicles and boilers to be zero-carbon in operation by the early 2030s. Electricity must then reach net-zero by 2035 with the majority of existing UK homes being retrofitted in some way.</li><li>• 60% of the emissions reductions will require behaviour change.</li></ul>

**Action** An update on the Energy White Paper would be provided at the next meeting.

## **Enfield's Blue Green Strategy**

An overview of the draft Blue Green Strategy was provided. The Strategy has a long-term vision for Enfield to be the greenest borough in London and at the heart of the Capital's new national park. The main themes are:

- Increase levels of physical activity and social interaction;
- Overcome physical severance and exposure to air and water pollution;
- Create more play spaces and cycle/pedestrian-friendly streets;
- Enhance the public realm at key gateways (e.g. town centres);
- Widen access to waterspaces and parks, especially within deprived areas;
- Reduce flooding from rivers and surface water run-off;
- Remediate degraded environments;
- Increase biodiversity and sustainable food production;
- Celebrate our rich landscape heritage; and
- Promote green tourism.

The Strategy also provides an update to the existing Parks and Open Space Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plan, as part of the borough's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the threats arising from climate change. It is out on public consultation until 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

There was a discussion with points raised:

- Community involvement – To deliver the Strategy will need engagement with local communities, including some capacity building so that external funding opportunities can be maximised.
- Equality of access – The Strategy recognises that while there are significant assets, there are differing levels of access across the borough so making sure all communities have equal access is a core outcome.
- Green roofs and walls – It was noted that due to maintenance requirements, including the need for watering, their provision can be challenging.
- Street trees – There was agreement that opportunities for increasing provision should be looked into as a separate area of work.

### **Updates on recent progress**

- Energy – It was noted that a working group has been set up to look at delivery of the related Climate Action Plan actions and targets.
- Schools – There has been really positive engagement with schools and the next step is to have a workshop early in 2021 to inform a climate action handbook.
- Retrofit London Programme – Enfield is joint lead borough, alongside Waltham Forest, for a London wide retrofit programme which is currently focused on getting every house to EPC B or equivalent by 2030. A draft action plan should be ready for summer 2021.

**Meeting forward plan** - The next meeting would be scheduled for January with the topic to be confirmed.

**AOB** - None.