

CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE



Action notes

Tuesday 19th November 2019

Dugdale Centre

Attendees:

Cllr Ian Barnes (Chair); Cllr Mahym Bedekova; Cllr Chris Bond; Okan Gurhan; Christevie Ngoma; Tinu Olowe; Ian Davis; Sarah Cary; Fay Hammond; Glenn Stewart; Gwyneth Hammond; David Greely; Dominic Millen; Harriet Potemkin; Bevan Jones (Greengage); Mitch Cooke (Greengage); Sarah Woodhall; Margherita Sweetlove

Introduction from Chair

Cllr Barnes welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the Climate Change Task Force and gave an overview of the agenda. He also updated the group that work was underway to engage with local people about Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and that the borough's first School Streets schemes were expected to be up and running by January.

Baseline review and progress to date

Bevan Jones explained the work completed to date, to determine our current carbon emissions – referred to as the baseline.

This included overall emissions across the borough using BEIS Data from 2016, which shows that approximately 40% of the borough's emissions come from electricity and gas in domestic premises; 35% from road transport; and 25% from gas and electricity in commercial premises.

The highest proportion of the Council's emissions come from natural gas and purchased electricity from Council buildings. Estimated emissions from council housing stock is also significant. It was confirmed that maintained schools' emissions are counted in the Council building emissions data. Emissions from housing stock is accounted for as a separate figure to other Council buildings.

This baseline information is being finalised, in particular to capture outstanding data not yet gathered on third party suppliers. The baseline is informing a first draft strategy which will be discussed at the next Climate Change Task Force meeting.

Actions

- Baseline to be finalised and used to inform first draft strategy for discussion at the next task force meeting in January. (Bevan Jones)
- Requirement for up to date EPC certificates to be displayed in council buildings, schools and for private rented sector homes to be reviewed and certificates to be prominently displayed where required. (Sarah Cary)

Moving to purchased renewable energy in council buildings

Sarah Cary presented options for switching to renewable energy for electricity provision in council buildings, communal areas in council housing blocks and schools.

Actions

- Work to continue to assess options for switching to a Renewable Energy Guarantees Origin (REGO) certified renewable electricity provider at the earliest possible opportunity. (Sarah Cary)
- A plan to be developed for how the Council will reduce overall energy use within buildings. (Sarah Cary, supported by Bevan Jones)

Investment in renewable energy

Sarah Cary presented an overview of successes to date in regard to renewable energy, including Energetik's heat network and installation of ground source heat pumps in 400 council homes. Sarah then gave an overview of future options for Council investment in renewable energy infrastructure for the borough.

Actions

- Work to continue to assess options for investing in renewable energy infrastructure, which includes assessing options for both solar energy and onshore wind energy, as well as further developing Energetik's heat network, council housing retrofitting and continuing with the excellent achievements already made with the installation of ground source heat pumps. (Sarah Cary)

Overview of approach to electric vehicle charging

Dominic Millen gave an overview of current electric charging infrastructure in the borough and issues to consider on how the Council increases provision.

Actions

- Develop a plan for increasing electric vehicle charging in the borough as part of the draft strategy. (Dominic Millen supported by Bevan Jones)

Enfield Chase Restoration Project

Ian Davis gave an overview of the Enfield Chase Restoration Project, which will restore up to 100 hectares of woodland in the north of Enfield.

Actions

- Work with partners to further develop our plans for reforestation across the north of Enfield, capitalising on opportunities that may present as a result of the Environment Bill. (Sarah Cary)
- Develop our plans for how we can also facilitate tree-planting across parks and within schools in the borough. (Sarah Cary and Clara Seery, supported by Bevan Jones)

Communications

David Greely gave an overview of the emerging Enfield climate emergency communication plan.

Actions

- Further develop the proposed Climate Emergency Enfield logo to use in the first phase of internal and external communications for climate emergency work (David Greely)
- Work with young people to design branding for the climate emergency by presenting options to Youth Parliament (David Greely, Okan Gurhan; Christevie Ngoma)
- Promote the start of the tree planting in Enfield Chase as a first focus of the climate emergency communications campaign. (David Greely and Sarah Cary)

Staff and citizen engagement

Harriet Potemkin gave a brief update on the emerging plans to set up staff workshops and to engage with local people.

- Arrange themed staff workshops early in 2020, to include senior management; middle management; and front line staff. (Bevan Jones and Harriet Potemkin)
- Present options for a Citizens Jury event for 2020 at the next Climate Change Task Force. (Harriet Potemkin).

Role of schools

There was a discussion on the importance of working with schools as part of our strategy to become zero carbon.

Actions

- Staff focus group to be arranged to consider challenges of energy efficiency in school buildings. (Bevan Jones, Harriet Potemkin and Clara Seery)
- School resource pack to be produced to help pupils, teachers and governors in their response to the climate emergency (Bevan Jones, Harriet Potemkin and David Greely)
- Schools resource pack to be promoted within schools across the borough (Okan Gurhan and Christevie Ngoma, with support from council officers)

AOB

It was agreed that the role of planning policy and building control would be a focused discussion for the task force in the new year.