



# Public Document Pack

North Devon Council

Brynswothy Environment Centre

Barnstaple

North Devon EX31 3NP

K. Miles

Chief Executive.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Policy Development Committee will be held in the Barum Room - Brynsworthy on **THURSDAY, 19TH MARCH, 2020 at 10.00 am.**

**(NOTE: A location plan for the Brynsworthy Environment Centre is attached to the agenda front pages. There are limited car parking spaces in the Visitors parking area. If no spaces are available, please find an alternative space. Please ensure that you enter your name and car registration details in the book in front of the entrance door)**

Members of the Policy Development Councillor D. Spear (Chair)  
Committee

Councillors Campbell, Crabb, Hunt, Jenkins, Luggar, Mack, Roome, Walker and York

## AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2020 (attached). (Pages 5 - 16)
3. Items brought forward which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by the meeting as a matter of urgency.
4. Declarations of Interest.  
(Please telephone the Corporate and Community Services team to prepare a form for your signature before the meeting. Interests must be re-declared when the item is called, and Councillors must leave the room if necessary).
5. To agree the agenda between Part 'A' and Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted Information).

## PART 'A'

### INTERNAL ITEMS

6. **North Devon Council Climate Change and Environment Action Plan.** (Pages 17 - 40)  
Report by the Environment and Climate Change Lead Members/Head of Place. North Devon Council Climate Change and Environment Action Plan. (attached).

7. **North Devon Crematorium - Traffic Update.**

The Bereavement (Crematorium) Manager to report.

**If you have any enquiries about this agenda, please contact Corporate and  
Community Services, telephone 01271 388253**

11.03.20



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1. The recording must be overt (clearly visible to anyone at the meeting) and must not disrupt proceedings. The Council will put signs up at any meeting where we know recording is taking place.
2. The Chairman of the meeting has absolute discretion to stop or suspend recording if, in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice proceedings at the meeting or if the person recording is in breach of these rules.
3. We will ask for recording to stop if the meeting goes into 'part B' where the public is excluded for confidentiality reasons. In such a case, the person filming should leave the room ensuring all recording equipment is switched off.
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5. The recording should not be edited in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or in a way that ridicules or shows a lack of respect for those in the recording. The Council would expect any recording in breach of these rules to be removed from public view.

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For more information contact the Corporate and Community Services team on **01271 388253** or email **memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk** or the Communications Team on **01271 388278**, email **communications@northdevon.gov.uk**.

North Devon Council offices at Brynsworthy, the full address is:  
Brynsworthy Environment Centre (BEC), Roundswell,  
Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 3NP.

Sat Nav postcode is EX31 3NS.

At the Roundswell roundabout take the exit onto the B3232, after about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile take the first right, BEC is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile on the right.

Drive into the site, visitors parking is in front of the main building on the left hand side.

On arrival at the main entrance, please dial 8253 for Corporate and Community Services.



# **Agenda Item 2**

Policy Development Committee - 13 February 2020

## **NORTH DEVON COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of Policy Development Committee held at Barum Room - Brynsworthy on Thursday, 13th February, 2020 at 10.00 am

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor D. Spear (Chair)

Councillors Campbell, Hunt, Jenkins, Mack, Walker and York

Officers:

Head of Resources and Accountancy Services Manager.

### **40. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence received.

### **41. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH JANUARY 2020 (ATTACHED).**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest announced.

### **43. NOTICE OF MOTION FROM COUNCIL ON 15TH JANUARY 2020 - MINUTE 87(B).**

The Committee considered a notice of motion from Council on 24th July regarding minute 87(b).

The Chair invited the Head of Resources to address the Committee in relation to the notice of motion by Councillor Walker to Full Council.

The Head of Resources outlined that a request had been made by Councillor Walker to include a leaflet with the Council Tax Bills to raise awareness of fraud to the North Devon Council constituents. He advised that Council had considered the request. However, with the added cost of producing 50,000 leaflets together with the environmental impact it was felt that there were possibly other ways of communicating the message to the residents of the North Devon area. Options discussed included publishing awareness of new fraudulent activities on the Council's website together with the promotion of awareness on social media.

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Councillor Walker addressed the Committee and explained that the reason that she had requested the inclusion of a leaflet was to ensure that those hard to reach residents that might not use the internet were still made aware of the potential of fraudulent activities. She added that the banks had been very pro-active in raising awareness of the potential risks to their customers and whether there might be the potential to seek sponsorship from the banks to include a leaflet with the bill for the next year.

The Head of Resources advised that the Council could work with national fraud organisations to explore the most appropriate mechanism for raising public awareness.

In response to a question regarding whether or not there were any other mass methods of communication with local residents at the same time, the Head of Resources advised that whilst there were other methods of communication the Council Tax Bill was the only paper method which currently went to all local residents.

In response to a further question regarding whether a note could be added to the Council Tax Bill, the Head of Resources advised that the contents of the bill was quite prescriptive in terms of legislation. He added that provided that the leaflets were small, there would be minimal impact upon the postage cost. The Council would be exploring the option of creating an online portal for the Council Tax Bills, which would significantly reduce the current costs associated with printing 50,000 bills.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) that the Council engage with national fraud organisations to explore the most appropriate mechanism for raising public awareness in relation to fraud;
- (b) that the Communications Manager liaise with the local media to ascertain whether they would be prepared to publicise the risk of fraudulent activity; and
- (c) that a leaflet be handed out at the North Devon show to raise awareness of the ongoing problem.

**44. PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT QUARTER 3 OF 2019/20.**

The Committee considered a report to the Strategy and Resources on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 Committee by the Head of Resources together with a minute extract (circulated previously) regarding the Performance and Financial Management Quarter 3 of 2019/20.

The Accountancy Services Manager highlighted the following:

- As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, the latest forecast net expenditure was £12,512,000, which produced a forecast budget surplus of £6,000. For quarter 2 there was a forecast budget deficit of £87,000, details of which were shown in Appendix A of the report – Variations in the Revenue Budget. The main variances supporting the £93,000 positive movement from quarter two to quarter three included savings within Temporary Accommodation and ICT Software and Devon WAN contract.
- The original budget for 2019/20 included a forecast to achieve £239,000 worth of salary vacancy savings. This was reduced to £214,000 as a result of a virement in respect of the redesign of the salary pay structure. The current position forecasts that would be exceeded by £17,000.
- A review of procedures and processes within Works and Recycling was carried out at quarter two and the Council set targeted spend in respect of the vehicle workshop, challenging resources across all Works and Recycling manual sections and to reduce sickness levels. As a result of these changes the Council factored in a reduction in overtime and agency costs within the quarter 2 projections. The current figures indicated that these targeted reductions were being achieved, although it would continue to be closely monitored until the end of the financial year.
- The sale of recyclable material continued to be an uncontrollable variable where the Council had recently seen a reduction to zero for glass and cardboard, although the sale price of plastic had increased significantly. The continued volatility remained a risk on-going and would be monitored closely.
- At the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, the Council was still assuming a £200,000 increase to business rates growth already factored into the budget, the growth was now estimated to be £1,702,000.
- Appendix B – “Movement in reserves and balances” detailed the movements to and from earmarked reserves in 2019/20.
- Appendix C – “Strategic Contingency Reserve” detailed the Strategic Contingency Reserve movements and commitments.
- Appendix D – “Capital Programme”. The Budget and Financial Framework report to Executive 4th February 2019 outlined the Capital Programme for the 2019/20 financial year of £9,609,022.
- Variations of £908,967 were proposed to the 2019/20 Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 4.4.3 of the report.
- Variations of £528,428 were proposed to the 2020/21 Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 4.4.4 of the report.
- Variations of £171,413 were proposed to the 2021/22 Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 4.4.5 of the report.
- The revised Capital Programme for 2019/20 taking into account the budget variations was £8,102,276.
- Actual spend on the 2019/20 Capital Programme, as at 31st December 2019 was £3,795,934.
- The overall Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2021/22 was £31,275,809.
- The Programme of £31,275,809 was funded by Capital Receipts (£14,082,815), External Grants and Contributions (£14,618,838) and Reserves (£2,574,156).

- Once funds had been included in the Capital Programme the Constitution required a separate decision to release those funds. Accordingly the HGV ramp scheme needed the funds to be released so that spending can start within the following three months.
- Treasury Management and Debt Management as detailed in paragraphs 4.5 and 4.6 of the report.

In response to a question regarding significant costs in Waste and Recycling, the Head of Resources advised that the quarter 2 overspends related to manpower and vehicle costs. He explained that the quarter 3 position was slightly better than the original targets that were set. However, the service was still overspending but this had levelled out and was being controlled at an acceptable level.

In response to a question regarding an increase in tax revenue as a result of business rates, the Head of Resources advised that if businesses were to expand then the amount of business rates would increase and the Council would benefit from a percentage of that growth.

The Committee noted a typographical error within recommendation 2.6 of the report, which referred to "Executive" rather than "Members".

RESOLVED, that the decisions and recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee be endorsed.

## **45. REVIEW OF CHARGES AND FEES FOR SERVICES 2020/21.**

The Committee considered a report to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 by the Head of Resources together with a minute extract (circulated previously) regarding the review of Charges and Fees for services for 2020/21.

- This year the guidance was to increase some fees and charges by 3%, although some fees were set by statute and these would be set nationally. Other variations to the 3% increase were set out in 4.3 to 4.8.
- Building Control fees had been set to recoup the cost of providing the services. It was recommended by the Joint Building Control partnership to keep the fees at the 2019/20 levels, which was detailed in appendix B of the report.
- Trade Waste had reviewed the Holiday homes packages and removed packages 1 and 3, replacing the weekly collections with fortnightly collections for holiday homes, which was detailed in appendix C of the report.
- Land Charges fees had been set to recoup the cost of providing the service, without changing the current fees the land charges service was still budgeted to recover all the costs and break even, as detailed in appendix D.
- There were minimal changes to the Environmental Health fees, as the majority of these were set by statute or set to recover costs. The changes included amendments to the Dangerous Wild Animals, Zoo and residential caravan site licence fees.

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- Although the Pannier Market fees had recommended to be increased by 3% it was proposed that the additional £5,000 received was earmarked to be spent on the Pannier Market.
- Garden waste charges had not had an increase for 3 years and it proposed not to increase the fees for the fourth year running.
- The net changes in the charges were expected to result in £28,250 of additional income, which had been included within the draft 2020/21 budget.

In response to question regarding charges applied by the Council for bulky waste collections and whether exceptions could be made in certain circumstances to avoid an increase in fly tipping, the Head of Resources confirmed that the service used to be provided by the Council free of charge. He added that whilst exceptions to the charges were not provided at the current time, it was possible to explore the possibility in the future.

RESOLVED, that the decisions and recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee be endorsed.

## **46. REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21, CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2020-2024.**

The Committee considered a report to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 by the Chief Financial Officer together with a minute extract (circulated previously) regarding Revenue Budget 2020/21, Capital Programme and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020-2024.

The Head of Resources highlighted the following:

- Government settlement December 2019. The provisional 2020-21 settlement (included the Rural Services Delivery Grant) was £3.317m. In cash terms this was £48,000 more than 2019/20 (1.5% increase) in line with last year. The Fair Funding Review had been delayed by one year until April 2021. The New Homes Bonus in-year allocation had been allocated for 2020/21 only. There were no legacy payments on the 2020/21 allocation. The Government was intending to consult on the future of housing incentive in spring 2020 to move towards a new, targeted approach. The Rural Services Delivery Grant matched the 2019/20 level. Council Tax levels for District Councils could be increased by up to 2% or £5 whichever was higher. The referendum in relation to Council Tax levels for Town and Parish Councils had been deferred.
- The reduction in Government funding for 2012/13 to 2020/21. Funding had reduced from £28.1bn to £18.5bn (34%) to 2019/20. There were potential significant changes to core funding from the Government from 2021/22 onwards and the Council needed to put plans in place to become more commercial and improve efficiencies across the whole Council.
- Medium Term Financial Plan (2019-23) approved by Council in February 2019 was based on a number of financial assumptions about the future which included: funding from Central Government, retained Business Rates income and future Council Tax levels, cost pressures and saving plans, and

contributions to and from reserves (e.g. vehicle replacement). The forecast budget gap as at this time last year from 2021/22 onwards was outlined.

- New Homes Bonus changes introduced in 2017 and potential changes for 2021/22 year onwards.
- New Homes Bonus provisional level of funding to 2020/21. The level of funding for 2019/20 was £1,445,670. The Medium Term Financial Plan assumed £1.446m, therefore there was an additional £391,000. It was recommended that £250,000 be placed into a reserve for transformation and delivery of the corporate plan. For 2021/22 the projected income was £814,531, therefore was a potential reduction of over £1m funding on the current level. For 2022/23 the projected income was £434,860, therefore was potential reduction of over £1.4m funding on the current level. There was uncertainty around future funding and design of the new scheme for 2021/22.
- The 2020/21 Business Rate retention forecast income was £1.986m. The 2020/21 draft budget (above baseline funding) included £1.658m income. Reform of Local Government funding from 2021/22 onwards.
- Local Government Finance funding reforms which included: Spending Review for the period 2021/22; a review of relative needs and resources; Business Rates retention pilots; Business Rates baseline reset; Fair Funding review; New Homes Bonus review; reforms to Local Government funding would change the level of resources available and impact on the revenue budget; indicative allocations would be announced in Autumn 2020.
- Council Tax levels for 2019/20 Band D properties had been increased by £5.33 (equivalent to 2.99%). For 2020/21 Rural Councils could increase levels by up to 2% or £5 (whichever higher). By increasing the level by £5 for 2020/21 would increase NDC's proportion of Council Tax for Band D properties from £183.35 to £188.35 (increase of 2.73%). Devon County Council could increase its proportion of Council Tax by up to 2% and an additional 2% for Adult Social care.
- Strategic Grants (Appendix B) – it had been recommended that the level of strategic grants not be reduced. The Medium Term Financial Plan supported the principle of a planned reduction for 2020/21 of around 9%, however the Government finance settlement had been slightly better than forecast, therefore no reduction was recommended for 2020/21.
- Draft Revenue Budget 2020/21 which included: cost pressures and savings; options to balance the budget and how it would be funded. Business rates retention and New Homes Bonus were both at risk of change for 2021/22 year onward.
- Draft Revenue Budget 2020/21 (Appendix A) showed a balanced budget and assumed:
  - 2.73% (£5.00) increase in Council Tax (each 1% equated to circa £63,000).
  - Strategic Grants have not been reduced as originally planned.
  - Parish Grants removed following report and decision made by Strategy and Resources Committee on 4 November 2019 and replaced with new Climate and Environment Grants scheme for smaller Parish Councils outlined in January 2020.

- Additional one-off core Government funding placed into a Transformation Reserve to deliver the Corporate Plan.
- Reserves (Appendix C). General fund balance forecast level at 31 March 2021 was £1.161m (8.7% of net budget). The recommended level was between 5-10%. Earmarked reserves forecast level at 31 March 2021 was £3.336m. In compliance with the Local Government Act 2003, the Chief Financial Officer assured the Committee of the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves.
- Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020-24 was based on a number of financial assumption about the future which included: funding from Central Government; retained Business Rates income and future Council Tax levels; cost pressures and savings plans; and contributions to and from reserves (e.g. vehicle replacement). Paragraph 5.1.5.6 outlined the assumption on loss of core funding and New Homes Bonus. Paragraphs 5.1.5.8 and 5.1.5.11 in the report provided further detail on the budget gap and what was not included. Appendix D detailed the modelled financial projections.
- Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2022/23. Investment plans for 2019/20 to 2021/22 totalled £31.276m. 5 business cases for capital funding had been submitted. The cost to the Council was £1.936m. The Project Appraisal Group had scored all of the business cases as “high”. The Watersports Centre potential funding bid had not been included and would be presented to a future Committee. Business cases had been submitted for the following projects:
  - Online consultation software system
  - ICT projects 22-23
  - Vehicle replacement
  - Boyton House re-furbishment
  - Disabled Facility Grants
- The projects would be funded by earmarked reserves (£0.553m) and the borrowing need would increase by £1.383m.
- Future year borrowing costs had been included in the Medium Term Financial Plan. The borrowing costs would increase to £1.278m by 2023-24 (an increase of £0.578m). Borrowing costs increase would be offset by the Leisure Centre maintenance savings and new Leisure Centre contract revenue subsidy income (£0.496m). Without any further capital receipts in addition to the amount that had been forecast already, it was estimated that borrowing costs could increase to £1.480m in 2029-30 due to additional future year vehicle and ICT replacements.
- Draft Capital Programme (Appendix E). The total Capital Programme 2019-20 to 2022-23 was £34.191m which would be recommended to Council for approval on 26 February 2020.
- How the total Capital Programme 2019-20 to 2022-23 would be funded.
- Projected underlying need to borrow in accordance with the 10 year Capital Strategy.

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- Risks identified that could affect financial plans.
- Timeline – Council at its meeting on 15 January 2020 approved the Council Tax base; the budget and capital programme would be considered by the Committee on 3 February 2020 and Policy Development Committee on 13 February 2020; Council on 26 February 2020 to consider the approval of the budget and capital programme and setting of Council Tax.

In response to a number of questions, the Head of Resources advised the following:

- With regards to the potential for reducing New Homes Bonus payments for homes built on appeal, he advised that this related to planning appeals and that it was not currently included in the New Homes Bonus scheme.
- In relation to whether the Council would receive a share of any renewable energy business rates following the potential for installation of solar panels in its car parks, he advised that it would be dependent on the individual value of the car park rates.
- With regards to the government becoming aware of any potential income that the Council made, he advised that the government needed to be aware of the potential budget gap and risks that the Council was faced with.
- In relation to the potential impact on District Councils from County Councils who were struggling to support social services, he advised that the government would redistribute the core grant money where the priority of need was greatest.
- Regarding any potential risk to changes of local government re-organisation, he advised that devolved government had been in the background for quite a while. However, any work in that area had been delayed by the ongoing BREXIT situation. The government might now review the potential for the amalgamation of district Councils or closer working with its neighbouring organisations.
- Any unspent Community Councillor Grant money would be put back into the general budget. If there was any residual balance at the end of the year it could be added to the Climate and Environmental Grants or a separate reserve budget.
- The Car Parks Manager was in the early stages of reviewing the system for car park payments with a view to undertaking a complete review once all avenues had been explored. The charges would remain as they were at the present time.
- Officers were currently in the process of developing a Commercialisation Strategy, which would be presented in April/May 2020. The Council had already purchased eight properties for temporary accommodation and would continue to develop their property portfolio together with projects such as tree planting and other environmental initiatives as opportunities arose.

RESOLVED, that the decisions and recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee be endorsed.

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The Committee expressed their appreciation to the Head of Resources and his team for their continued hard work in preparing the budget.

## **47. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2020/21.**

The Committee considered a report to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 by the Chief Financial Officer together with a minute extract (circulated previously) regarding the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2020/21.

The Head of Resources highlighted the following:

- The Council was required to receive and approve three reports each year which included: Prudential and treasury indicators and treasury strategy (first report), Mid-Year Treasury Management report (second report) and an Annual Treasury report (third report).
- The Council's investment priorities were security of funds first, portfolio liquidity second and then yield, (return).
- The Capital Prudential Indicators 2020-21 to 2022-23 as detailed in paragraph 5.1.
- The Council's Capital Financing Requirement projections as detailed in paragraph 5.2.
- Core funds and expected investment balances as detailed in paragraph 5.3.
- Minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy statement as detailed in paragraph 5.5. The MRP was based on the estimated life of the assets in accordance with the regulations.
- Current portfolio position and borrowing levels would increase as detailed in paragraph 6.1. No difficulties were envisaged in the repayment of borrowing.
- Treasury indicators limits to borrowing activity and the operational boundary as detailed in paragraph 6.2.
- The majority of investment returns were short-term.
- Appendix B would be superseded by the Commercialisation Strategy when this comes forward.
- Economic background as detailed in Appendix C.

RESOLVED, that the decisions and recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee be endorsed.

## **48. 10 YEAR CAPITAL STRATEGY 2020-2030.**

The Committee considered a report to the Strategy and Resources Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 by the Chief Financial Officer together with a minute extract (circulated previously) regarding the 10 year Capital Strategy 2020-2030.

The Head of Resources highlighted the following:

- Prior to 2019, the Council only reviewed capital expenditure and financing over a short period of 2-3 years. The revised Prudential and Treasury Management code required all local authorities to prepare a Capital Strategy.
- The capital strategy document covered the ten year period from 2020 to 2030 and would be reviewed annually by Full Council prior to each financial year.
- The Council's Capital Project Governance and appraisal process as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the report.
- The Capital Strategy for years 2020/21 to 2023/24 (Medium Term) as detailed in paragraph 4.4 of the report.
- The Capital Strategy for years 2024/25 to 2029/30 (Long Term) as detailed in paragraph 4.5 of the report.
- The Watersports Centre potential funding bid had not been included in the Strategy and would be presented to a future Committee.

In response to a question regarding why there was no forecast expenditure for vehicle replacement in 2027-28 and 2028-29, the Head of Resources advised that the purchase date depended upon the lifespan of the vehicle, which was six to seven years. As the majority of vehicles owned by the Council were purchased at similar times they would need to be replaced at the same time.

In response to a further question regard the option of leasing vehicles as opposed to purchasing, the Head of Resources advised that the Council would be exploring the alternative leasing option to ascertain whether it was more cost effective than purchasing new vehicles. He added that this would be explored further as part of the overall review of Waste and Recycling Services.

RESOLVED, that the decisions and recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee be endorsed.

## **49. WORK PROGRAMME.**

The Committee considered the work programme/forward plan for 2019/20 (circulated previously).

The Chair invited the Corporate and Community Services Officer to address the Committee.

The Corporate and Community Services Officer advised that at the previous meeting there a request to invite the Associate Director of Commissioning Northern and Eastern/Planned Care and Cancer NHS Clinical Commissioning Group back to attend a future meeting following his attendance at the Committee in October 2019. At the previous meeting the Committee also discussed a request to invite a representative to a future meeting to discuss the Devon Doctors out of hour's service. However, there was no formal resolution to agree this and it would need to be resolved in order to proceed with the invitations.

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The Chairman welcomed the suggestion and also added that there were some ongoing issues with the closure of pharmacies and requested that it be added to the work programme for discussion at a future meeting.

A further request was made to invite the Crematorium Manager to attend a future meeting to discuss the continuing traffic issues associated with the construction of new houses.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Associate Director of Commissioning Northern and Eastern/Planned Care and Cancer NHS Clinical Commissioning Group be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee;
- (b) that a representative to a future meeting to discuss the Devon Doctors out of hours service and some issues that they were experiencing with the delivery of the service;
- (c) that the closure of pharmacies be added to the work programme for discussion at a future meeting; and
- (d) that Crematorium Manager to attend a future meeting to discuss the continuing traffic issues associated with the construction of new houses.

Chair

The meeting ended at 12.24 pm

NOTE: These minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.

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Open

## NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>POLICY COMMITTEE</b>
Date:	March 2020
<b>TOPIC:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; CLIMATE CHANGE</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE LEAD MEMBERS / HEAD OF PLACE</b>

### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council's [Corporate Plan](#) was adopted at the full Council meeting on 24 September 2019. The four Corporate Priorities are:-
  - Financial Security
  - Focus on delivering the best for the customer
  - Cherishing and protecting the environment
  - Planning for North Devon's future
- 1.2 Whilst the Environment priority is broad based one of the key foci of work is currently responding to the Climate Emergency. The [Climate Change Act 2008](#) introduced the UK's first legally binding target for 2050 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% compared to 1990 levels. On 27 June 2019 the UK government [amended the Climate Change Act](#) and set a legally binding target to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from across the UK economy by 2050. In response to the latest report from the UN's [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC), local authorities and other organisations in Devon have [declared climate emergencies](#) that aim to decarbonise the County by 2050 at the latest. Work is currently underway to substantiate the most appropriate Devon wide net zero deadline, which is likely to be somewhere between 2030 and 2050.
- 1.3 This report presents Policy committee with an indicative outline of what the draft Climate and Environment Action Plan will cover for its consideration as a basis to be further developed by the Climate Action Team for engagement with partners and the wider community.

### 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That members are requested to:
  - 1) Note the setting up of a member and officer working group to oversee the development and delivery of the Climate and Environment Action Plan,

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- 2) Consider the outline of the draft Climate and Environment Action Plan and give a view on it as a basis for further developed by the Climate Action Team for engagement with partners and the wider community.
- 3) Subject to 2 above recommend to Strategy and Resources that the proposed draft plan format is approved for consultation.

## 3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To meet the Council's responsibilities under the Climate Declaration. Members of the Climate Action Team working party consider it important that partners and the community is given the opportunity to shape the Action Plan before it is developed further.

## 4 REPORT

### 4.1 What is Climate Change?

- 4.2 [climate change explained](#), on the GOV.UK website, gives a good summary of climate change; its causes and impacts and what is being done to tackle it.

- 4.3 Climate change refers to a large-scale, long-term shift in the planet's weather patterns and average temperatures across the world. Since the mid-1800s, humans have contributed to the release of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the air. This causes global temperatures to rise, resulting in long-term changes to the climate.

### 4.4 How are humans changing the climate?

- 4.5 In the 11,000 years before the Industrial Revolution, the average temperature across the world was stable at around 14°C. The Industrial Revolution began in the mid-1800s when humans began to burn fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas for fuel. Burning fossil fuels produces energy, but also releases greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous monoxide into the air.

- 4.6 Over time, large quantities of these gases have built up in the atmosphere. For example, the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere rose by 40% during the 20th and 21st century and is now over 400ppm (parts per million). This level of carbon dioxide is higher than at any time in the past 800,000 years.

- 4.7 The Paris Agreement of 2016 for the first time brought all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. As such, it charts a new course in the global climate effort. The Agreement set a target of no more than 2°C global warming above pre-industrial temperatures, but also an aspirational target of no more than 1.5°C. That is because many participating countries – especially island nations particularly vulnerable to sea level rise – felt that even 2°C global warming is too dangerous.

- 4.8 There had not been a lot of research into the climate impacts at 1.5°C vs. 2°C, and so the United Nations asked the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

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(IPCC) (the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change) to publish a special report summarizing what it would take to achieve the 1.5°C limit and what the consequences would be of missing it.

- 4.9 The IPCC report concludes that a world with 2°C of global warming will lead to more heat-related deaths, smaller crop yields, worse extreme weather events, slower economic growth, more people in poverty, and increase the population facing water stress by up to 50% compared to a 1.5°C world. And the impacts will get progressively worse if temperatures warm beyond the 2°C limit.
- 4.10 We're currently on track for more than 3°C global warming by 2100.
- 4.11 The key simple critical point from the report is that we need to cut carbon pollution as much as possible, as fast as possible.

## 4.12 Climate Declaration

- 4.13 In response to the report from the IPCC and Government action, local authorities and other organisations in Devon have declared climate emergencies that aim to decarbonise the County by 2050 at the latest. Work is currently underway to substantiate the most appropriate Devon wide net zero deadline, which is likely to be somewhere between 2030 and 2050. This report sets out the current position.
- 4.14 Members of the Devon [Local Resilience Forum](#) agreed on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to form the [Devon Climate Emergency Response Group](#) (DCERG) and a supporting [Tactical Group](#). The DCERG endorsed the Climate Declaration on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 and North Devon District Council became a signatory at full [Council](#) on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019.
- 4.15 The main actions the signatories to the Declaration are committing to:
  1. review organisational carbon reduction plans within 6 months
  2. collaborate on the production and implementation of a Devon Carbon Plan
  3. lobby for national policy changes and resources to implement the Devon Carbon Plan
  4. agree to collectively review community-related risks from a 1.5-degree warmer world.
- 4.16 This report is responding to the commitment number 1, to review carbon reduction plans. North Devon Council does not currently have a carbon reduction plan.

## 4.17 Net Zero Task Force

- 4.18 The DCERG appointed a specialist [Net-Zero Task Force](#) to develop the Devon Carbon Plan. This Task Force consist of 12 people with expertise in areas relevant to carbon reduction and is drawn from economic, environmental, health and academic organisations, and chaired by a leading climate expert. Options drawn up by the Task Force will be tested and refined at a series of [citizens' assembly](#) meetings scheduled to take place spring 2020. The Devon Carbon Plan will seek to implement transformational change including:
  - Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems
  - Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings

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- Constructing zero-carbon new buildings
- Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles
- Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options
- Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with
- Divesting from fossil fuels
- Changing our dietary patterns and reducing food waste
- Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon
- Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration
- Empowering the people of Devon with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.

## 4.19 Climate Impacts Group (leading on adaptation)

4.20 The DCERG has also formed the [Climate Impacts Group](#) to review the risks from climate over the coming decades. The Group is chaired by Devon and Cornwall Police and the initial review is expected to be complete by early 2020. Four activates are underway:

- **The Met Office** is producing a reasonable worst case scenario (RWCS) of climate change effects for 2030 and 2050 and providing evidence to back up these predictions.
- **The Environment Agency** is developing evidence of what the impact will be in terms of sea level rise, flooding, drought, heatwave, etc. for the 2030 and 2050 RWCS.
- **University of Exeter** is assessing knock on risks and impacts such as social, political and economic impacts. e.g. impact on agriculture and tourism, reduction in economic activity.
- **Health** to produce a report on likely impacts on public health for the RWCS at 2030 and 2050, in terms of excess deaths due to events such as heatwaves, drought, severe weather, pressures on provision of services, increase in vector borne disease, and plant and animal disease effects which may have knock on effect on human health.

## 4.21 North Devon Council Action

4.22 A member working group called the Climate Action Team has been established to advise the Council on what it needs to do to respond to the Climate Emergency. Members and officers have developed a draft plan as a tool to engage with partners and the community. The draft plan is not meant to capture what the

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Council could or should be doing but to initiate discussion and debate as what everyone with a stake in North Devon can do to contribute to tackling climate change.

- 4.23 The plan is currently organised under a number of themes, recognising that none of them are completely discrete but relate to each other.

Climate Action Plan Themes		
Overarching		
Waste, Recycling and Resource Management	Energy and Renewables	Natural Environment
Built Environment	Travel and Transport	Community and Local Economy
Awareness, Engagement and Behaviour Change		

## 5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Internal resource will be required from all teams across the Council to contribute to the programme both in the formulation and delivery of the Plan

## 6 EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 (Please detail if there are/are not any equalities implications anticipated as a result of this report. If so, please complete the Equality Impact Assessment Summary form available on Insite and email to the Corporate and Community Services Team at [equality@northdevon.gov.uk](mailto:equality@northdevon.gov.uk) ).

## 7 CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

Article or Appendix and paragraph	Referred or delegated power?	Key decision?
Article 7.12	Appendix 4, para 17	No

## 9 STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

- 9.1 This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.

## 10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

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The background papers are available for inspection and kept by the author of the report.

## 11 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

- 11.1 The author confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers.

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Lead Members: Councillor Caroline Leaver, Councillor Netti Pearson

Author: Michael Tichford

Date: 28 February 2020

Reference:

## Draft – Framework and Indicative Actions for:

- 1) Themes
  - Overarching
  - Waste, Recycling and Resource Management
  - Energy and Renewables
- 2) Further detailing to be added on agreement of the framework
- 3) Each line item will have a dedicated action plan

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Version	Date	Distribution	Author/Amends	Changes
Version 0.1	November 2019	CAT	Michael Tichford	
Version 0.2	23 January 2020	CAT Core Team	Cllr Mackie	CAT member comments
Version 0.3	27 January 2020	CAT Core Team	Michael Tichford	Response on CAT member comments from MT
Version 0.4	3 March 2020	Policy Committee	Michael Tichford	Summary theme table headline actions added

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## Themes

Overarching	Waste, Recycling and Resource Management	Energy and Renewables	Natural Environment	Built Environment	Travel and Transport	Community and Local Economy	Awareness, Engagement and Behaviour Change
Demonstrate political commitment to acting on climate change	Send zero waste to landfill or incineration.	Reduce energy used by the council in its own estate.	Increase tree cover across the district	Retrofit council-owned properties with high levels of insulation	Reduce car use through measures such as promoting car-sharing	Connect people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing	Support partners and community to identify the climate and biodiversity impacts of their actions
Develop an Environment and Climate Change Action Plan	Send zero waste to landfill or incineration	Develop proposals for renewable energy generation on NDC sites	Protect existing local green spaces, green belt and locally designated nature sites.	Help owner-occupied homes be more energy efficient, for example by supporting energy companies to target fuel poor or vulnerable households with insulation.	Enable the shift to electric vehicles	Adopt circular economy waste policies in relevant plans and contracts.	Work with public sector, business and community and partners to identify and deliver on joint aspirations
Respond to the Devon Climate Emergency	Use food waste according to the food waste hierarchy of prevent, reuse, recycle, and ensure remaining non-recyclable biodegradable waste to generate	Identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the local plan	Manage council-owned land and road verges to increase biodiversity and drawdown carbon pollution, including through reduced pesticide use and increased planting	Enforce minimum energy efficiency standards in the private rented sector	Adopt Clean Air Supplementary Planning Document	Ensure that voices of the most vulnerable communities are represented in council decision-making and council-citizen deliberations.	Co-ordinate a series of events and activities aimed at raising awareness of climate change and the environment and Make high profile statements of commitment to

	biogas.		of wildflowers.				the Climate Change and Environment agenda
Enable councillors and officers to identify the climate, environment and biodiversity impacts of decisions and services	Increase resource efficiency and minimise environmental impacts at end of life	Integrate renewable energy features into Council developments and, as much as possible, within private sector developments	Use and managing land sustainably	Require higher standards than current national standards for privately built new homes.	Consider the transition of the council's fleet to electric.	Promote community crop producing planting	Use council memberships of Local Enterprise Partnerships to ensure all their decisions are in-line with the climate reduction pathway and nature restoration plans
Align Council statutory and non-statutory plans, policies and guidance with respective carbon reduction pathways and nature restoration plans, including procurement.	Ensure that waste collection services maximise recycling and reduce residual waste	Support the development of renewable energy and energy storage.	Produce a nature and ecosystem restoration plan to reverse and restore habitats, species, landscapes and ecosystem quality and function.	Enforce building standards.	Introduce differential charges for parking permits or other car related charges.	Provide particular support to SME businesses to access funds and expertise for reducing carbon pollution.	Use influence with schools and others to ensure that meals are delivered in accordance with the official Eat well Guide on healthy eating and the majority of options on menus are healthy and plant-based, with less meat and better meat
Raise funding for low carbon and biodiversity measures		Divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy projects.	Develop new quality green spaces in areas where they don't exist, particularly in	Require homes built on Council land to be extremely energy efficient, using the	Reduce the need to own and use a car through managing developments in	Promote community sharing and reuse.	

			neighbourhoods where people are particularly vulnerable to heatwaves and/or are deprived of nature	<b>Passivhaus</b> standard or similar.	the local plan.		
		Source electric replacements for petrol equipment.	Produce a nature and ecosystem restoration plan to reverse and restore habitats and species and ecosystem quality and function.	Develop a heating and energy efficiency strategy for the area.			
Page 26			Establish / support the establishment of a Plant and Tree Nursery. Opportunity for a CIC?	Promote use of living elements to construction, such as green walls and roofs.			
			Secure clean, healthy productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans	Update the Council's Asset Management Strategy and Plan with Environmental objectives			
				NDC Properties			

				Audit Building Operations for carbon and environmental impact			
				Conserve and enhancing the built environment			
				Implement licensing of the private rented sector to cover enforcement costs of minimum energy efficiency standards			

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Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
	<b>Overarching</b>					
	Demonstrate political commitment to acting on the environment and climate change		✓ ✓ ✓	Identifying the Environment as a corporate plan priorities Creating lead members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cllr Caroline Leaver (Climate Change) and</li> <li>▪ Cllr Netti Pearson (Environment)</li> </ul> Establishing an officer lead - SRO is Head of Place	07/19	Lead Cllrs, Place, SRO, CCS
Page 28				Devon Carbon Plan Commitments (guiding objectives for North Devon Climate Action Plan): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems</li> <li>• Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings</li> <li>• Constructing zero-carbon new buildings</li> <li>• Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles</li> <li>• Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options</li> </ul>		

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Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
Page 29				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with</li> <li>• Divesting from fossil fuels</li> <li>• Changing our dietary patterns and reducing food waste</li> <li>• Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon</li> <li>• Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration</li> </ul> <p>Empowering the people of Devon with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.</p>		
			✓	<p>Informing the public and local stakeholders of our commitment to tackling the climate change and biodiversity emergency</p> <p>Making a Climate Declaration</p> <p>Devon Climate Declaration – Appendix 2 :  <a href="https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/devon-climate-declaration/signatories/">https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/devon-climate-declaration/signatories/</a></p>		
			✓	Establishing a Member Working Group for Environment and Climate Change	Established 11/20	Chair/SRO

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Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				Establishing cross department Officer programme and project teams for Environment and Climate Change	01/04/20	SRO
Page 30	Develop an Environment and Climate Change Action Plan			<p>Creating a draft plan to 'seed' ideas for engagement with partners and communities and 'co-production' of a final Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Setting interim and measurable targets for our council to achieve net zero greenhouse reductions and</li> <li>▪ Meeting nature restoration goals.</li> </ul> <p>Establishing an Environment and Climate Change monitoring system<sup>1</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Agree approach</li> </ul> <p>Publishing a quarterly report on progress in meeting environment, climate change and nature targets.</p> <p>1 - Seek formal accreditation against ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems - ISO 14001 is the international standard that specifies requirements for an effective environmental management system (EMS). It provides a framework that an organization can follow, rather than establishing environmental performance requirements.</p>	03/20  1/6/20  1 <sup>st</sup> report April 2020	SRO
	Respond to the Devon Climate Emergency			Benchmarking the carbon footprint of North Devon Council's operations, working in partnership with the <a href="#">Devon Climate Emergency Response Group</a> and set ambitious targets for carbon neutrality	01/06/20	LMS SRO PP

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
	Enable councillors and officers to identify the climate, environment and biodiversity impacts of decisions and services			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Providing guidance and training to decision makers</li> <li>▪ Amending report templates to include environment and climate change impacts.</li> <li>▪ Securing sufficient expertise to advise on impacts</li> <li>▪ Amending the Constitution as necessary to ensure all member and delegated officer decisions give proper weight to the environment and climate change</li> </ul>	1/8/20	Legal CCS SRO
Page 31	Align Council statutory and non-statutory plans, policies and guidance with respective carbon reduction pathways and nature restoration plans, including procurement.			Reviewing statutory and non-statutory plans prioritised on a likely impact basis for instance, energy use and procurement	1/4/21	SMT
	Raise funding for low carbon and biodiversity measures			<p>For instance through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the UK Municipal Bonds Agency for low carbon infrastructure:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ UK Municipal Bonds Agency (UKMBA) was established to provide an alternative funding vehicle for UK local authorities. With 56 local authority shareholders and the Local Government Association, it provides the sector with access to market-based borrowing rates, significantly below the current PWLB rates.  <a href="https://ukmba.org/ukmba-intro/">https://ukmba.org/ukmba-intro/</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Initial opportunity scanning 1/11/20	HoR

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use legal and planning mechanisms such as Section 106 agreements to fund climate actions and nature restoration projects.</li> </ul>		
	<b>Waste, Recycling and Resource Management</b>					
Page 32	Send zero waste to landfill or incineration			<p>Applying the waste hierarchy of prevent, reuse, recycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examples required....</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing publically accessible water bottle refill stations etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• expanding TerraCycle collections to include confectionary wrappers, biscuits and snacks, cleaning products.</li> <li>• starting this in workplaces, schools and hospitals?</li> <li>• establishing Teracycle collection point for beach recycling</li> <li>• extending recycling beyond kerb side only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public bins - Street bins tried in Ilfracombe but waste was contaminated so had to go to landfill?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run trials of sorted waste bins in various locations</li> <li>Ensuring beech clean waste is sorted and recycled</li> <li>Engaging business and land owners, including beach owners, to increase waste sorting</li> </ul>		
Page 33	Use food waste according to the food waste hierarchy of prevent, reuse, recycle, and ensure remaining non-recyclable biodegradable waste to generate biogas.		✓ ✓	<p>Working with food producers, retailers and consumers to reduce food wastage</p> <p>Supporting schemes to use food currently going into the waste stream</p> <p>Sending food waste collected at the roadside to be processed by an anaerobic digester<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Providing facilities for food waste collection in Council offices</p> <p><b>1 - Anaerobic digestion</b> is the process by which organic matter such as animal <b>or</b> food waste is broken down to produce <b>biogas</b> and biofertiliser.</p>		
	Increase resource efficiency and minimising environmental impacts at end of life			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoiding the use of single-use plastic in Council offices and premises with the aim of reducing to zero</li> </ul>		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
Page 34				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review NDC procurement policy</li> <li>• Reducing litter and littering           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter from waste collection vehicles</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increasing enforcement for fly tipping</li> <li>• Supporting beach cleaning (in partnership)</li> <li>• Reducing pollution           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt air quality SPD</li> <li>• Work with the Environment Agency on water quality               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain bathing water quality (in partnership)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Review fleet management /procurement</li> <li>• Integrate within new local GI strategy</li> </ul>		
	Ensure that waste collection services maximise recycling and reduce residual waste			<p>Increasing recycling rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ more publicity and education about what can be recycled and what can't</li> <li>▪ investigating more effective receptacles for all recycling to avoid waste being windblown           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered collection bins etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Reduce missed bins and the danger of waste being left a number of days increasing chance of wind blow/scavenging etc.</li> </ul>		

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Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<p>Reviewing non domestic waste collections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review recycling options – some already in place</li> <li>• Engage with businesses, particularly tourism related on increasing waste sorting facilities and recycling rates, e.g. B&amp;Bs, hotels, holiday parks, campsites.</li> <li>• Establish a strategy to improve sorting/collection for part time holiday lets.</li> </ul>		
				<p>Establishing effectiveness of plant and equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for instance new brazier - how will it improve recycling and sorting?</li> </ul> <p>Considering investment in processing individual, high value waste streams locally, e.g. hard plastic toys for school furniture.</p>		
	<b>Energy &amp; Renewables</b>					
	Identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the local plan			Including in the work programme of the Joint Local Plan Working Party (North Devon and Torridge) revisions to the adopted local plan to support renewable energy such as identifying 'areas of search' to allow the development of onshore wind turbines		
	Reduce energy consumption by the council in its own estate.			Auditing current energy consumption and bringing forward measures to reduce – energy efficient plant, equipment and fittings, movement sensing switches etc.	01/9/20	HoR

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
	Source energy that is used from renewable sources			<p>Reviewing current energy contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>switching to renewable supplies</li> <li>generating energy locally</li> </ul>	01/9/20	HoR
	Integrate renewable energy features into Council developments and, as much as possible, within private sector developments			<p>Including renewable energy requirement, such as solar thermal, PV or heat pumps in the specifications for Council developments.</p> <p>Lobbying Government to allow local standards and a high nation baseline for building energy efficiency</p> <p>Private sector development - Government consulting on amendments to the Building Regulations to include carbon reduction measures in construction and building operations to a common national standard</p>		HoR HoP
	Support the development of renewable energy and energy storage.			Local Plan? Partnerships		
	Divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy projects.			Treasury management		
	Electric replacements for petrol equipment.			<p>Crematorium</p> <p>Cordless electric cordless lawnmower, strimmer, hedge cutter and chainsaw. Whilst the primary driver was their very low noise levels which enables staff to work close to the chapels during services the other benefits are: lower emissions (2-stroke fumes in particular as well as CO2)</p>		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				low vibration safer (no need for ear protection so more aware of public) & lower 'fuel' costs Only down side is they can be a little heavier. Whilst we do use petrol tools still I can see a transition to cordless being total as weight/longevity improves.		

## Devon Climate Declaration

1. This Declaration has been prepared by a consortium of public, private and voluntary organisations collaborating through a Devon Climate Emergency Response Group. It sets out an ambition to tackle climate change that covers all of Devon, including those people who live, work in and visit our county, and those businesses who are based or operate here.
2. We are aware of the significant implications of climate change for Devon's communities; it is already affecting our environment, infrastructure, economy and health & wellbeing. If not addressed, the impact on future generations will be profound and the ability to meet the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals will be severely compromised.
3. We understand that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has advised that carbon emissions must reduce globally by at least 45% by 2030 from 2010 levels and reach net-zero by 2050 if we are to avoid the worst effects of climate change by keeping warming below 1.5 degrees.
4. We will lead in the global response to climate change through our collective action, innovation and influence.
5. Individually, we will review (within 6 months) our plans to reduce our organisation's carbon emissions to meet or exceed these targets, including ensuring the people we do business with are doing the same. We will publicly report our carbon emissions annually in accessible formats.
6. In collaboration, we will engage Devon's residents, businesses and visitors to develop and implement a plan to facilitate the reduction of Devon's production and consumption emissions to meet IPCC recommendations at the latest. We will openly report progress on its delivery. We know this transformational change will be challenging and will include:
  - Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems
  - Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings
  - Constructing zero-carbon new buildings
  - Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles
  - Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options
  - Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with
  - Divesting from fossil fuels
  - Changing our dietary patterns and reducing food waste
  - Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon
  - Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration
  - Empowering the people of Devon with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.
7. Additionally, we will work to understand the near-term and future risks of climate change for Devon to plan for how our infrastructure, public services and communities will have to adapt for a 1.5-degree warmer world.
8. Local organisations and communities cannot do this alone as national government plays a key role in many of the policy areas that are vital to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. We call on government to prioritise decarbonisation and adaptation within decision making and work with us by using its powers to provide the resources and funding necessary to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy and society.
9. We challenge every organisation, business, community and individual to do the same.

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## Appendix A

Draft North Devon Council Climate Action Plan Ver 0.4 February 3 2020

DRAFT

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