

South Lakeland District Council
Council
Tuesday, 26 February 2019
Council Policy on Climate Change

Portfolio:	Councillor Jonathan Brook - Deputy Leader and Housing, People and Innovation Portfolio Holder
Report from:	Debbie Storr - Director of Policy and Resources (Monitoring Officer)
Report Author:	Dan Hudson - Development Strategy and Housing Manager
Wards:	Not Applicable
Forward Plan:	Not Applicable

1.0 Expected Outcome

1.1 The corporate Council Policy on Climate Change is adopted to form part of the Council's Policy Framework.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Council:

(1) Approve the corporate Council Policy on Climate Change and its adoption as part of the Council's Policy Framework.

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 As part of the work of the Green Team, a corporate Council policy (as detailed in Appendix 3) on climate change has been drafted.

3.2 The policy represents a public recognition of the importance of Climate Change, an awareness of the opportunities offered by both tackling and adapting to meet the challenge of climate change and a series of ways in which the Council could reflect the importance of climate change both in how it manages itself and how it works with partners at the local, regional and national level.

3.3 The policy sets out the following Council commitments:

- Work with central government and neighbouring Councils to contribute, at a local level, to the delivery of the target for carbon dioxide reduction set out in the UK Carbon budget by 2022.
- Participate in local and regional networks for support.
- Develop plans and support projects with our partners and local communities to progressively address the causes and the impacts of climate change, according to our local priorities, securing maximum benefit for our communities.
- Publicly declare, within appropriate plans and strategies, the commitment to achieve a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from our own authority's operations, especially energy sourcing and use, travel and transport, waste production and disposal and the purchasing of goods and services.

- Assess the risk associated with climate change and the implications for our services and our communities of climate change impacts and adapt accordingly.
- Encourage all sectors in our local community to take the opportunity to adapt to the impacts of climate change, to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action.
- Monitor the progress of our plans against the actions needed and publish the result.

4.0 Consultation

4.1 The policy has been developed following meetings held with Cabinet Members and Officers. Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the draft policy on the 11 January 2019 and recommended it for approval. Cabinet, on 6 February 2019, approved the policy and recommended its approval as part of the Council's Policy Framework by Full Council on 26 February 2019.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 The alternative option is not to approve the Council policy on Climate Change as part of the Council's Policy Framework. This is not recommended as the policy acknowledges that climate change is occurring, and seeks to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits which come from combating, and developing resilience to, climate change and developing a sustainable economy.

6.0 Links to Council Priorities

6.1 The Council policy on Climate Change is the key strategic document for the organisation. The policy will form part of the overall Policy Framework.

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1 There are no financial, resource or procurement implications to raise at this stage.

Human Resources

7.2 There are no human resource implications to raise at this stage.

Legal

7.3 There are no legal implications to raise at this stage.

Health, Social, Economic and Environmental

7.4 Have you completed a Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment? **Yes** (attached at Appendix 1).

7.5 Assessments will be carried out of the health, social, economic and environmental impact of individual projects linked to the Council policy on Climate Change.

Equality and Diversity

7.6 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? **Yes** (attached at Appendix 2).

7.7 Assessments will be carried out of the impact of individual projects linked to the Council policy on Climate Change in respect of equality, diversity and inclusion.

Risk

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
The Climate Change Policy are not adopted by the council	Compromise the delivery of the priorities, service planning and performance monitoring.	Ensure significant engagement and consultation has been achieved

Contact Officers

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Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Council policy on Climate Change - Health, Social, Economic and Environmental Impact Assessment
2	Council policy on Climate Change - Equality Impact Assessment
3	Council Policy on Climate Change

Background Documents Available

Name of Background document	Where it is available
Draft Council Plan and Draft Council Policy on Climate Change – Overview and Scrutiny (11 January 2019)	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=364&MId=4505&Ver=4
Draft Council Policy on Climate Change – Cabinet (6 February 2019)	http://democracy.southlakeland.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=121&MId=4467&Ver=4

Tracking Information

Signed off by	Date sent
Legal Services	15 January 2019
Section 151 Officer	15 January 2019
Monitoring Officer	15 January 2019
SMT	17 January 2019

Circulated to	Date sent
Assistant Director	15 January 2019
Human Resources Manager	15 January 2019
Communications Team	15 January 2019
Leader	17 January 2019
Committee Chairman	11 January 2019
Portfolio Holder	17 January 2019
Ward Councillor(s)	N/A
Committee	11 January 2019
Executive (Cabinet)	6 February 2019
Council	26 February 2019