

## For publication

### More environmentally friendly Council

---

Meeting: Overview and Performance Scrutiny Forum

Date: 23 January 2020

Cabinet portfolio: Health and Wellbeing

Report by: Assistant Director – Health and Wellbeing

---

### For publication

---

<b>Purpose of reviewing the topic</b>	<i>To ensure that the options to make Chesterfield Borough Council more environmentally friendly are fully considered.</i>
<b>What are the objectives of the review?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>To understand the efforts that are being made to make the council a more environmentally friendly council.</i></li><li>• <i>To ensure that all the options are fully considered.</i></li></ul>
<b>Progress to date</b>	<i>New item on the work programme.</i>

#### 1.0 **Background**

1.1 The Council declared a Climate Emergency on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the details of which are outlined below;

This Council notes the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 'Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C', published in October 2018, which confirmed the

catastrophic consequences of manmade climate change and the urgent need to act to address the marked increases that we are already seeing with regards higher sea levels, flooding, other extreme weather events, crop failures and destruction of land and marine eco-systems. This Council therefore:

- (a) declares unequivocally that our town and borough, country and planet are facing a CLIMATE EMERGENCY;
- (b) agrees to establish a Chesterfield Climate Change working group to respond to this challenge, with representation from key borough stakeholders including our schools, college and university, the private sector and community and voluntary organisations, including Transition Chesterfield, Chesterfield Climate Alliance and young people's representative groups, with the shared purpose of enabling Chesterfield to become a low carbon, resilient and sustainable borough;
- (c) invites the working group to report back and make recommendations to Full Council on a realistic date for Chesterfield to be carbon neutral, and to develop a costed action plan, by March 2020, setting out the required work to achieve this outcome;
- (d) resolves to work with other local authorities and public, private and voluntary sector partners on carbon reduction projects;
- (e) calls on the Government to provide the necessary resources and powers for Chesterfield Borough Council to achieve its ambition of becoming a carbon neutral town and borough.

## 2.0 **Current position and key milestones**

- 2.1 The first meeting of the working group took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019, further meetings have been held on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 with a scheduled final meeting at the end of January prior to the action plan being presented to full council on the 26<sup>th</sup> February.

2.2 The working group continues to work well together and has developed an excellent draft action plan covering the following key eight themes;

- **Housing / buildings**
- **Power / electricity**
- **Transport**
- **Industry / business**
- **Agriculture / land use**
- **Waste / consumption**
- **Engagement / education**
- **Policy / general**

2.3 Each theme is populated with a series of actions that are time banded to ensure the plan is realistic but sets out achievable actions that will make an impact.

### 3.0 **Barriers/obstacles**

3.1 The working group is operating well, and attendance remains strong with all members positively engaged both at the time of the group meetings and through work that happens outside of these sessions.

3.2 The nature of the subject matter means that challenges will present themselves at every stage of the work to tackle both the authorities and the Boroughs impact on climate change. However, through the work of the group and the actions identified, Chesterfield Borough Council will be well placed to take this issue forward to create a low carbon, resilient and sustainable borough.

### 4.0 **Future plans**

4.1 The working group will continue to meet to refine the draft working plan in readiness for it to be presented to full council on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

## 5.0 **Conclusion**

5.1 The working group is committed to making a difference and ensuring Chesterfield has an action plan that will result in a co-ordinated approach to support our low carbon ambitions.

## 6.0 **Suggested scrutiny activity**

6.1 *No further activity required at this stage given the scope of the working group and the reporting structure through scrutiny of the action plan.*

### **Document information**

<b>Report author</b>	<b>Contact number/email</b>
<b>Ian Waller</b>	<b>ian.waller@chesterfield.gov.uk</b>
<b>Background documents</b> These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when the report was prepared.	
<i>This must be made available to the public for up to 4 years.</i>	