

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 22 SEPTEMBER 2021

QUESTION F

Councillor Sandison to ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Lowe:

“In response to Rugby Borough Council’s declaration of a climate emergency on 3rd February 2020, the council through Cabinet announced a £500k kickstarter fund. How many kickstarter projects has Cabinet subsequently approved, when will they commence and what are the details and budget for each project?”

Councillor Lowe, Leader of the Council, to reply as follows:

“Cabinet was delighted to agree a fund of £500,000 in 2020 to pump prime the initial works required to begin to address the climate emergency. It was clear from discussions, including those at the cross party climate emergency working group, that in order to make best use of this money, a clear baselining and strategy exercise was required first.

Whilst Covid 19 has had an impact on our desired timescales, I am pleased to report that the external consultant is completing the initial work and that a Climate Strategy will be consulted on in the coming months. It is from this strategy that we will be able to clearly evidence where our limited resources can be spent to have the biggest impact.

Notwithstanding the need for a strategy, I am pleased to confirm that a number of Climate Change focussed projects are well underway. For example, Cllr Sandison will recall that Council has received a report detailing the significant government funds which have been secured to begin works to decarbonise our housing stock. Funds which were supplemented with match funding from this Council.

I look forward to working with all members from all groups to agree our Climate Change Strategy in the coming months and allocating the funds appropriately.

In the meantime, if Cllr Sandison has specific projects in mind which could benefit from immediate funding, I would be very grateful if he could ensure that they are raised through the cross party Climate Emergency Working Group.”