

# MINUTES OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

5 DECEMBER 2023

## PRESENT:

**Members of the Working Group:** Councillors Picker (Chair), Edwards, Ms Livesey, Rabin, Roodhouse, Slinger and Ms Watson-Merret (substitute for Councillor D Keeling)

## 17. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillor D Keeling.

## 18. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The working group received an overview of the recent Climate and Environmental Impact assessments.

It was agreed that the forms should be reviewed to see whether improvements could be made to support officers in producing detailed documents containing the right level of detail and including mitigation measures.

### AGREED THAT –

- (1) an officer group be convened to review the Environment Impact Assessment form to see what improvements could be made; and
- (2) a guidance document be produced to assist officers when completing the assessment form.

## 19. RECYCLING UPDATE

The working group received an overview of simpler recycling and Sherbourne Recycling Limited provided by the Deputy Chief Executive.

### AGREED THAT –

- (1) officers would proceed with communications around Sherbourne Recycling Limited through social media channels and the Rugby Net Zero microsite; and
- (2) the Waste Services Development Officer be requested to produce a recycling plan for consideration by the Working Group as a matter of priority.

## 20. CORPORATE STRATEGY DELIVERY PLAN (CSDP)

The Working Group considered the recently agreed Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan and in particular, the projects relating to the Climate outcome. It was noted that there were a number of projects within the other three outcomes which would have an environmental impact and should therefore also be considered by the Working Group. Examples included the plans for the regeneration of the town centre and the Economic Development Projects

The Project Initiation Document (PID) for the Trees and Woodlands Strategy project was considered. It was noted that a number of complaints had been received over the summer about trees and it was agreed the creation of a communications strategy around Tree and Woodlands Strategy Project would help support community buy-in.

**AGREED THAT –**

- (1) the suggested communications strategy around the Tree and Woodlands Strategy Project be referred to the Chief Officer for Leisure and Wellbeing;
- (2) members of the working group would provide feedback to the Deputy Chief Executive by 15 December;
- (3) copies of the Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) for the Electric Vehicle Charging and Climate Communications be circulated to the working group, once completed;
- (4) broader projects within the CSDP would be included as additional workstreams for the working group; and
- (5) analytics would be included on the Net Zero Website and included in the PID.

**21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Council Climate Action Scorecards <https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/> had recently been published and the working group commented that, in general, the scores were low.

It was noted that there were some shortcomings in the scoring methodologies. Fuller feedback on this would be provided at a future meeting.

**AGREED THAT –** the following items would be included on the agenda for a future meeting:

- (1) an update on the Climate Adaptation and Resilience project; and
- (2) feedback on the scoring methodology for the Council Climate Action Scorecards.

**CHAIR**