

**NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**



5/11/2021

Our Ref Cabinet Panel on the  
Environment/16/11/2021  
Contact. Committee Services  
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To: Members of the Committee: Steve Jarvis (Co-Chair), Amy Allen (Co-Chair), Val Bryant, Juan Cowell, George Davies, Sarah Dingley, Keith Hoskins, Gerald Morris and Adem Ruggiero-Cakir

Substitutes: Councillors Mike Hughson, Michael Muir, Carol Stanier, Kay Tart, Richard Thake and Tom Tyson

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A**

**MEETING OF THE CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

to be held as a

**REMOTE MEETING**

On

**TUESDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER, 2021 AT 7.30 PM**

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson  
Service Director – Legal and Community

**\*\*MEMBERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DOWNLOAD ALL AGENDAS AND REPORTS VIA THE MOD.GOV APPLICATION ON YOUR TABLET BEFORE ATTENDING THE MEETING\*\***

## **Agenda** **Part I**

<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	<p>Members are required to notify any substitutions by midday on the day of the meeting.</p> <p>Late substitutions will not be accepted and Members attending as a substitute without having given the due notice will not be able to take part in the meeting.</p>	
<b>2. MINUTES - 7 SEPTEMBER 2021</b>	<p>To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 7 September 2021.</p>	(Pages 5 - 10)
<b>3. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<p>Members should notify the Chair of other business which they wish to be discussed at the end of either Part I or Part II business set out in the agenda. They must state the circumstances which they consider justify the business being considered as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.</p>	
<b>4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<p>Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chair of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest, wishing to exercise a 'Councillor Speaking Right', must declare this at the same time as the interest, move to the public area before speaking to the item and then must leave the room before the debate and vote.</p>	
<b>5. INFORMATION NOTE - WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER FOR 2021/22</b>	<p>INFORMATION NOTE OF THE POLICY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER</p> <p>To highlight items scheduled in the work programme of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment 2021/22</p>	(Pages 11 - 24)
<b>6. PRESENTATION ON WASTE AND RECYCLING</b>		

**7. PRESENTATION FROM ROYSTON REPAIR CAFÉ**

**8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & DISCUSSION**

To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public and to discuss the contributions to the meeting.

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# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

## NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT

MEETING HELD AS A REMOTE MEETING  
ON TUESDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 AT 7.30 PM

#### MINUTES

**Present:** *Councillors: Amy Allen (Co-Chair), Steve Jarvis (Co-Chair), George Davies, Sarah Dingley, Keith Hoskins, Gerald Morris, Adem Ruggiero-Cakir and Sean Prendergast*

**In Attendance:** *Reuben Ayavoo (Policy and Community Engagement Manager), Alice Sims (Trainee Policy Officer) and Penny Copestake (PA to Service Director – Legal and Community)*

**Also Present:** *At the commencement of the meeting approximately 5 members of the public, including registered speakers.*

#### 18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

*Audio recording – 2 minutes 10 seconds*

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Val Bryant and Michael Muir.

#### 19 MINUTES - 23 FEBRUARY 2021, 8 JUNE 2021, 6 JULY 2021

*Audio Recording – 2 minutes 23 seconds*

Councillor Amy Allen proposed, Councillor Steve Jarvis seconded, and it was:

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Cabinet Panel held on 23 February, 8 June and 6 July 2021 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

#### 20 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Audio recording – 2 minutes 57 seconds*

- (1) The Chair welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation;
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting was being audio recorded as well as filmed. The audio recordings would be available to view on Mod.gov and the film recording via the NHDC YouTube channel.
- (3) The Chair drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.

**21 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS**

*Audio recording – 3 minutes 26 seconds*

There was no other business notified.

**22 INFORMATION NOTE - WORK PROGRAMME & ACTION TRACKER**

*Audio recording - 3 minutes 40 seconds*

The Policy and Community Engagement Manager presented the Information Note entitled Work Programme and Action Tracker for 2021/22 and drew attention to the following:

- The Corporate Policy Team have been involved in the Biodiversity Sub-group and NHDC is the Bio-Diversity Lead;
- The Team had been reviewing various Carbon Footprint calculators;
- There was a Greenfest in Letchworth on 11 September and NHDC would have a stand – posters with QR codes would be displayed to reduce paper usage.

The following Members, Officers and members of the public took part in a discussion regarding the Policy and Community Engagement Manager's update.

- Councillor Steve Jarvis;
- Councillor Sarah Dingley;
- Councillor Gerald Morris;
- Councillor Amy Allen;
- Councillor George Davies;
- Christine Watson;
- Reuben Ayavoo.

The discussion covered various points including:

- Update on adopt a tree;
- Similar festivals to Greenfest in Letchworth taking place in Baldock and Royston in October ;
- Community Composting;
- Brown Bins;
- Making sure the Carbon Footprint Calculators give roughly the same information.

**RESOLVED:** That the Information Note entitled Work Programme and Action Tracker for 2021/22 be updated.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To ensure the Cabinet Panel on the Environment can plan its workload and monitor actions.

## 23 RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION - BEOND GROUP PRESENTATION

*Audio recording – 15 minutes 34 seconds*

Mr Gavin McCormick from Beond Group gave a presentation on renewable energy generation.

Some key points from the presentation were:

- The Government wants a 75% reduction in emission by 2035, with a goal to achieve Net Zero by 2050;
- Smart homes and buildings are required to make this possible;
- Need to change the way people make choices and move away from carbon intensive activities;
- Is Hydrogen a solution?

The Chair lead a discussion following the presentation.

The following Members and members of the public took part:

- Councillor Gerald Morris
- Councillor Steve Jarvis
- John Somerville
- Christine Watson
- Gavin McCormick

The discussion covered a range of points including:

- The Port of Dover and Solar power – will it reach a saturation point?
- The life of Solar Panels – warranty for 25 years, but will degrade every year, it is possible to get an additional 10 years from them. What is not realised is the need to swop out the Inverters every 12 years;
- The different types of Hydrogen, the cost, and the mixture with gas;
- Renewable energy / heat pumps / retro fitting houses;
- Battery storage – expensive and not an economic investment;
- Large scale solar farms;
- Council plans for building Smart Homes.

The Chair thanked Mr McCormick for attending to give this useful and informative presentation.

## 24 WEST SUFFOLK COUNCIL SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION SCHEME PRESENTATION

*Audio recording – 1 hour 0 minutes 40 seconds*

Mr Luke Simpkin from West Suffolk Council gave a presentation on their solar energy generation schemes.

The presentation provided a high-level view to West Suffolk Council's approach to renewable energy. Some of the main points were:

- West Suffolk has a history of Energy and Strategy plans going back to 1998;
- West Suffolk is working towards a sustainable plan which ensures the residents are less reliant on fossil fuel and provides a revenue for the Council;

- West Suffolk Council own a Solar Farm – this was built by an external organisation (who took all the risk), and then the Farm and business were purchased by the Council;
- West Suffolk have an action plan to become Carbon neutral by 2030.

The Chair lead a discussion following the presentation.

The following Members and members of the public took part in the discussion:

- Councillor Keith Hoskins;
- Councillor Steve Jarvis;
- Councillor Gerald Morris;
- John Somerville;
- Roger Lovegrove;
- Luke Simpkin.

The discussion covered a range of points including:

- Large scale Solar installations and connection to the Grid;
- The number of staff West Suffolk have working on their renewable energy schemes;
- Letchworth Leisure Centre being a good candidate for Council-funded Solar Panels.

The Chair thanked Mr Simpkin for the interesting and impressive presentation.

The Trainee Policy Officer was requested to circulate the presentation to Members.

## **25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Audio recording – 1 hour 40 minutes 01 seconds*

The Chair invited Ms Diane Ketcher from Transition Town Letchworth and Ms Sue Lines to speak about Letchworth Greenfest taking place on 11 September 2021.

A history of the festival was provided and confirmation of what was taking place.

Next, Mr Roger Lovegrove and Mr John Webb, Transition Town Letchworth presented on Hydrogen as a fuel for heating and transport, Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage.

Mr Roger Lovegrove spoke about the need to get the atmosphere and greenhouse gases back to pre-industrialisation levels. Some of the main points were:

- The Council needs to aim for tighter targets than the Government is enforcing;
- Hydrogen and how it could be used to replace natural gas;
- The different colours of hydrogen, and the fact the colours based on how the hydrogen is extracted from the air;
- Currently hydrogen takes more energy to create than what is produced;
- Hydrogen is easy to store, so likely to be used for transport in the future;
- Discussion around heat pumps and the expense, and electric boilers using too many amps to currently make them viable;
- Bricks are poor insulators / new estates need to be eco-friendly.

Mr John Webb then presented on Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS). Some of the main points were:

- Three types of Carbon Capture;
- The amount of energy required;
- The practicalities of Carbon Storage.



The Chair thanked all four members of the public for their contributions to the meeting.

The slides would be made available to Members for reference.

## 26 DISCUSSION REGARDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEETING

*Audio recording – 2 hours 16 minutes 28 seconds*

The Chair led a discussion / question time regarding the contributions to the meeting. The following Members and members of the public took part.

- Councillor Steve Jarvis
- Councillor Amy Allen
- Sue Lines
- Roger Lovegrove
- John Somerville

Some of the points discussed included:

- Building houses that required less energy;
- Making existing houses more energy efficient;
- “39 ways to save the planet”;
- The use of Helium from 2050;
- NHDC to look at some of the projects West Suffolk are working on, so that the Council can produce a plan that is Environmentally and Financially beneficial to the Council and is beneficial for local businesses.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm

Chair

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**CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**16<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER FOR 2021/22**

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS – Environment and Leisure Executive member and Recycling and Waste Management

PRIORITY: RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT

## **1. SUMMARY**

1.1 This note highlights items scheduled in the work programme for the Cabinet Panel on the Environment for 2021/22 following the initial meeting. The Work Programme/Action Tracker at Appendix A allow the scene to be set for evaluation of such actions, and the agreement of topics for 2021/22 civic year.

The Cabinet Panel aims to set a work programme which will enable open discussion that may lead to recommendations to Cabinet /the relevant Executive Members or Service Director, regarding actions that they believe that the Council should be taking to address climate and environmental issues.

## **2. STEPS TO DATE**

2.1 Cabinet approved the establishment of the Cabinet Panel for the Environment at the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019 meeting. The amended terms of reference were tabled for the Full Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> June:

<https://democracy.north-herts.gov.uk/documents/s10892/Appendix%20C%20-%20Revised%20Terms%20of%20Reference%20for%20Cabinet%20Panel%20on%20Community%20Engagement%20Enterprise%20and%20C.pdf>

2.2 By way of update to the Panel, the Corporate Policy Team have been involved in the following work:

### Contributions to the Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership (HCCSP)

The Biodiversity Action Plan was officially launched at HCCSP's COP26 event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. It will be finally approved by HCCSP at the end of the month.

Regular meetings around the county-wide biodiversity baseline continue to occur. Recent meetings have looked to establish a data hierarchy (reflecting the varying levels of confidence in the numerous datasets which will be utilised); discuss if/how habitat condition can be included in the data; and discuss various aspects of usability and how we can make the finished dataset as user-friendly as possible for officers and others who would like to use it.

The papers on the county-wide Solar Bulk Purchase Scheme have been taken to PLB as part of internal processes for approval. The project received broadly positive feedback. The papers will be taken to HCCSP for approval at the end of November and NH's Managing Director has suggested that our formal report to participate in the scheme be taken by

delegated decision (by the Service Director for Legal & Community) once it has been approved there.

We continue to attend meetings of the Behaviour Change subgroup and are currently identifying which actions we can work on from the other subgroup action plans and establishing which of these are priorities, as well as where there are gaps for other actions.

### Monthly Eco-Actions

Monthly suggestions on how residents can be more environmentally friendly continue to be published on the council's social media pages as well as NH Now, the Recycling and Environment Bulletin and Insight. October's theme covered 'Shopping and Consumption' whilst November and December will cover Christmas related actions. The Policy team have also reviewed climate-change related posts and press releases which are planned to be posted and published over COP26.

The communications plan for climate change and sustainability is still in the process of being formed.

### Carbon Footprint Calculators

As a result of discussions from previous Cabinet Panels on the Environment, a range of footprint calculators have been reviewed by the Policy Team. Comments from the Cabinet Panel have been considered and a range of other factors have been taken into account. Considerations include user-friendliness, level of detail, consistency with other calculators and what, if any, positive action users are encouraged to take upon completion. Further details on this are included in the attached document.

## **3. INFORMATION TO NOTE**

- 3.1 An Environment inbox has been set up to allow members of the public or organisations to provide suggestions/presentations for the panel's consideration. The address is - EnvironmentPanel@north-herts.gov.uk. The Policy and Community Engagement Manager will also provide a verbal update to the Panel.
- 3.2 The Panel could choose to accept suggestions from outside the meeting including:
- Suggestions by Members of the public or organisations either at the meeting or by email;
  - Recommendations from Council, Cabinet or any other Committee;
  - Suggestions by any Member of the Council;
  - Suggestions by any Officer of the Council.
- 3.3 The Panel will seek to ensure that consideration of agenda items minimises additional burdens on staff resources. Wherever possible, requests are made for the presentation of documents already in existence rather than the production of new documents specifically for the Panel. Suggestions from outside sources, as detailed in paragraph 3.2 will only be placed on the work programme if agreed by one of the alternating Chairs or at a meeting of the Panel.
- 3.4 Attendance from external bodies and members of the public is actively encouraged.
- 3.5 This is a non decision-making advisory body and therefore this or any notes/reports to the Panel do not include a recommendation on a key Executive decision and have not been referred to in the Forward Plan. However, recommendations for action from the Panel for

consideration by Cabinet may do so. This will therefore need to be borne in mind for any recommendations of the Panel.

#### **4. NEXT STEPS**

4.1 Other topics for consideration and inclusion in the Panel's work programme will be considered at each meeting. When considering additional topics, their risk assessment and prioritisation will ensure that the most appropriate items are taken forward to the work programme.

#### **5. APPENDICES**

5.1 Appendix A Programme of meetings and Action Tracker

#### **6. CONTACT OFFICERS**

Reuben Ayavoo, Policy and Communities Manager  
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William Edwards, Member, Committee and Scrutiny Officer, 01462 474295  
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Georgina Chapman, Policy Officer, 01462 474121  
[Georgina.chapman@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Georgina.chapman@north-herts.gov.uk)

Alice Sims, Trainee Policy Officer 01462 474220  
[Alice.sims@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Alice.sims@north-herts.gov.uk)

#### **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 Appendix A Action Tracker

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## APPENDIX A

### PROGRAMME FOR FUTURE CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT MEETINGS 2021-22

<b>Meeting 1. 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021</b>	<b>Introductory Session:</b> Discussion around topics for upcoming meetings
<b>Meeting 2. 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b>	<b>Leadership and Behaviour Change</b> (Including HCCSP update; Hertfordshire County Council Behaviour Change Unit presentation; and Cambridge's Carbon Footprint Calculator and Charter presentation)
<b>Meeting 3. 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>	<b>Renewable Energy Generation</b> Andy Oswald West Suffolk Council - Solar Scheme case study Gavin McCormick, BEOND Group – Renewable Energy
<b>Meeting 4. 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>	<b>Waste Minimisation</b> Chloe Hipwood And Louise Overington - North Herts Waste Team Chris Lee – Royston Repair Café
<b>Meeting 5. 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022</b>	<b>Adaptation to Climate Change</b>

**CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT – ACTION TRACKER: October 2019**

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
11092019 EP8	Proposal of surveying clients at Best Before Café/Hitchin Food Rescue to assess needs/client base	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Initial survey results received. Further action to refine information once the demand on services has diminished after the pandemic.</b>
2811019 EP20  Page 16	Explore the possibility of Community composting	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>On hold</b>	Actions to be placed on hold until the outcomes of the consultation on the National Waste Strategy and subsequent actions for Local Authorities are finalised
06012020 EP25	Investigate the options of installing chewing gum bins in the district (GUMDROP)	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>On hold</b>	<b>As EP20</b>
06012020 EP26	Investigate the renewal of a Furniture Reuse facility	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>On hold</b>	<b>As EP 20</b>
06012020 EP27	NHDC publicised activity of schools in recycling	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>On hold</b>	<b>As EP 20</b>
06012020 EP28	Investigate a less formal approach to litter picking (survey users to make sure this service is accessible and working well; issues with depositing at the tip)	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>On hold</b>	<b>As EP 20</b>
06012020 EP37	Investigate the possibility of recycling points in the district	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>On hold</b>	<b>4 more recycling bins were installed in Royston at the beginning of the civic year.</b>



Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
06012020 EP31	Encourage more volunteers to consider recycling opportunities	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	As EP 20
06012020 EP33	Investigate the option of litter picking stations (include schools)	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	As EP 20
06012020 EP34	Establish a 'Eco- credentials' of food outlets( Similar to food hygiene scoring)	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	As EP 20
06012020 EP36	Investigate 'Rocket' composting sites	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	As EP 20
06012020 EP37	Investigate the service change of 4 weekly collections/smaller bins/incentivise better recycling habits	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	As EP 20
06012020 EP38	Encourage the use of recyclable cups at district events	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	As EP 20
06012020 EP42	Establish Community composting workshops	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On hold	
05032020 EP46	Anti-idling policy development.	NHDC Legal team/ Environmental Health	On-going	To be further developed as part of the Sustainable North Herts programme/Taxi Licencing Policy
05032020 EP47	Smart Card option bus use in district	Transport officer	On-going	Update from the Intalink Enhanced Partnership – the potential use of Smart Cards is being investigated in line with the stated requirement in the latest National Bus Strategy.

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
				(introduction date unknown)
05032020 EP48	Review criteria of cycle to work scheme eligibility (HCC or NHDC)	Either HCC or NHDC	On-going	As EP46
05032020 EP49	Consider the instituting of car free days in Hitchin	HCC highways/Transport officer	On-going	As EP46
11092019 EP1	Meeting Two to be amended to cover - 'Transport, Travel and Air Quality'	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Completed	
11092019 EP2	Swap the running order of meetings 2 and 3. Planning will now be meeting two and Transport will be meeting three	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Completed	
11092019 EP3	Meeting four will include consideration of food waste	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Completed	
11092019 EP4	Meeting five will include Trees and Landscaping	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Completed	
11092019 EP5	Meeting Two will include Street lighting, the decommissioning of solar farms and energy	Policy and comm. Engagement Manager	Completed	
15102019 EP10	That the Service Director – Regulatory informs Members of the Luton airport expansion consultation dates and locations: <a href="https://futureluton.llal.org.uk/">https://futureluton.llal.org.uk/</a>	Circulated by Policy and Community Engagement Manager. Links also circulated via FB and Twitter feeds on external website.	Completed	
15102019 EP11	That the Service Director – Regulatory circulates to the Panel the Future Homes Standards consultation. <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-homes-standard-changes-to-part-l-and-part-f-of-the-building-regulations-for-new-dwellings">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-future-homes-standard-changes-to-part-l-and-part-f-of-the-building-regulations-for-new-dwellings</a>	Circulated by Policy and Community Engagement Manager. Links also circulated via FB and Twitter feeds on external website.	Completed	
15102019 EP12	That the Service Director – Regulatory circulates to the Panel details of Stirling Awards 2019 – The project for Norwich City Council: <a href="https://www.architecture.com/awards-and-competitions-landing-page/awards/riba-stirling-prize">https://www.architecture.com/awards-and-competitions-landing-page/awards/riba-stirling-prize</a>	Circulated by Policy and Community Engagement Manager. Links also	Completed	

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
		circulated via FB and Twitter feeds on external website.		
15102019 EP13	That the Chair ensures re-iteration of NHDC's Climate Change Emergency through NHDC communication channels (Outlook, external website etc.)	External Webpage has been updated with a permanent direct link in the ' Popular Now' section to the Climate change/Environment Panel pages. Latest Outlook magazine features a range of articles relating to the environment and climate change.	Completed	
15102019 EP15	That the relevant Executive Member/Service Director draft a letter to the other 10 Hertfordshire District Councils to express concerns regarding the proposed Luton Airport expansion.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Completed	
281102019 EP18	Circulate Dr Porter email address to panel and all attendees for additional questions. Philip Porter - p.r.porter@herts.ac.uk	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Completed	
28112019 EP19	Circulate Alex Inza details to Greenspace manager regarding tree planting list	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Completed	
15102019 EP9	That the Service Director – Regulatory provides an update with regard empty dwellings within in the district and how, where appropriate, these can be brought back into use as homes.	Service Director – Regulatory	Completed	
15102019 EP14	That the Executive Member for Planning and Transport consider the possibility of a Design Standards Committee.	Executive member – Planning and Transport	Completed	
15102019 EP16	That the Service Director - Regulatory be requested to explore whether there was an opportunity to identify, in the Local Plan, which sites were most sustainable and whether these could be developed first.	Service Director – Regulatory	Completed	
05032020 EP43	Circulate details of Air Quality website to Panel members	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	Completed	

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
28112019 EP21	Acknowledgement of high water consumption in Hertfordshire. Circulate water saving measures (Affinity Water and Environment Agency) on Council social media accounts.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	<b>Completed and On-going</b>	
28112019 EP17	Himalayan presentation from November panel – will be circulated by Dr Porter in January 2020.	Policy and Community Engagement Manager	<b>Completed</b>	On NHDC YouTube channel
06012020 EP24	Investigate costs of Weekly update in Comet/ Monthly billboards	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>Completed</b>	Not financially viable but looking into ways the waste team can widen comms reach
06012020 EP29	Investigate the process to access an empty shop for Terracycle and other voluntary organisations	Policy and Community Engagement Team	<b>Completed</b>	The Community Engagement has facilitated the installation of a Terracycle collection point at the Morrisons store at Letchworth.
06012020 EP30	Add other external recycling organisation onto the NHDC website	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>Completed</b>	Link on external website for reuse of Furniture and Household items
<b>06012020 EP32</b>	Identify an officer for Plastic Free initiative	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>Completed</b>	Within remit of Waste Aware officer
06012020 EP39	Re-advertise real nappy campaign/exchange	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	<b>Completed</b>	Link on External website and further links to Waste Aware Real Nappy website and North

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
				Herts Library Facebook page
06012020 EP35	County Council to increase signage of being more litter aware.	Cllr Hone in county capacity	Completed	As EP 20/Ongoing Campaign –‘Don’t Be a Tosser’ in regard to littering
06012020 EP40	Highlight existing repair and re-purpose campaigns and promote new initiatives	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	Completed	Reusing Furniture and Household items links on Website
06012020 EP41 Page 21	Monthly educational campaigns	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	Completed	Waste Awareness campaigns including Food Waste Pledge/ Monthly eco-briefings on various NHDC social media outlets
06012020 EP22	Circulate details of Zero Waste Europe to Panel	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	Completed	Details circulated to Panel members
06012020 EP23	Circulate Herts Waste Partnership data to Panel (Trending data, make up/volume/percentage of contaminated waste)	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	Completed	Herts Waste Partnership Annual report circulated to Panel members
07072020 EP50	That the Joint Chairs of the Panel be requested to engage with the Executive Member for Planning and Transport to discuss actions required to develop a plan for a cycle network in North Herts;	Engagement on-going at Member and Officer level as appropriate	Completed	District councils are being requested to draft a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) by HCCC and convene a stakeholder events

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Additional commentary
				to develop high quality LCWIPs commencing in July 2021.
07072020 EP51	That the Executive Member for Planning and Transport be requested to engage with community groups and members of the public in the process for developing a plan for a cycle network in North Herts.	Engagement on-going at Member and Officer level as appropriate.	Completed	As above

## **Review of Carbon Footprint Calculators:**

As a result of discussions from previous Cabinet Panels on the Environment, a range of carbon footprint calculators have been reviewed by the Policy Team. Comments from the Cabinet Panel have been considered and a range of other factors have been taken into account. Considerations include user-friendliness, level of detail, consistency with other calculators and what, if any, positive action users are encouraged to take upon completion.

It is recognised that the key aims of promoting a carbon calculator through the council would be to raise awareness of each individual's impact on the environment, as well as encouraging residents to take action to reduce their overall carbon footprint. Therefore, carbon footprint calculators that are user-friendly and provide personalised carbon-reduction actions upon completion have been prioritised.

Having reviewed over 15 different carbon calculators, the WWF calculator has been assessed as the most user-friendly, whilst still covering the four key areas that contribute to carbon emissions: transport; housing; food; goods, services and leisure. It is therefore recommended that the WWF Carbon Calculator be promoted through council communications as it is likely to be the most engaging for residents.

It is recognised that the WWF calculator does not allow in-depth answers in the same way that some other calculators do. This is primarily due to its multi-choice questions. It is therefore proposed that an additional calculator with more in-depth detail is also promoted alongside this, so that residents that are keen to gain a more detailed insight into their carbon emissions are provided with this option.

The Resurgence Calculator has been included to give a more in-depth calculation with regards to individuals' transport, housing, and food. However, it is worth noting that goods, services and leisure are simply calculated by an individual's income and therefore this does not take into account individual shopping habits and spending patterns. However, this has been chosen as the calculator of choice for those that may want a more in-depth calculation as it provides various options for an individual to calculate their housing and transport emissions in detail and is based on UK data. This calculator does not provide personalised suggestions as to how residents can reduce their emissions and is therefore proposed to be shared as an addition to the WWF calculator.

The Cambridge Carbon Footprint Calculator was also taken into consideration; however it was felt that the WWF's multi-choice options and clear information given with each question made the WWF carbon calculator more user friendly and therefore, more likely to be completed by users.

**RECOMMENDED: WWF Footprint Calculator:** <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

Summary: User friendly and covers the four key categories for carbon emissions: Transport; Housing; Food; Goods, Services & Leisure

**Pros:**

- User-friendly including simple, multi-choice questions that are easy to complete.
- Each question gives information about what is being asked as a 'did you know' or a 'hint'. This ensures that users understand what is being asked and why.
- Users' carbon footprint is shown in comparison with the UK government's target for carbon emissions per person and therefore allows a contextual comparison.
- Tips on how to improve your carbon footprint are provided.
- An option to download the WWF app gives the opportunity for individuals take further action.
- This calculator is intended for UK residents.

**Cons:**

- Multiple choice and simplicity mean the answers given are less precise.



**The Resurgence Carbon Dioxide Calculator:**

<https://www.resurgence.org/resources/carbon-calculator.html>

Summary: This Carbon Calculator requires very detailed input from users and therefore may be suitable for those that wish to spend more time entering detailed information in order to receive a more precise estimate.

Covers three key categories in detail: Housing, Transport and Food.

**Pros:**

- Contains an 'Accurate Calculator' which requires your energy bills and MOT certificate to provide more precise results
- The calculator is based on UK data

**Cons:**

- Not as user-friendly as the WWF calculator
- Does not give detailed options for Goods, Leisure and Services and estimates; this based on annual income rather than individual shopping habits

**Other:**

- Does not provide personalised actions to reduce carbon emissions but does provide a link to 'The Guide to Low Carbon Lifestyles'