

8 March 2024

Our Ref Cabinet Panel on the Environment 20  
March 2024  
Contact. Committee Services  
Direct Dial. (01462) 474655  
Email. [committee.services@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:committee.services@north-herts.gov.uk)

To: Members of the Committee: Councillors (Chair), (Vice-Chair), Amy Allen, Steve Jarvis, Cathy Brownjohn, Dominic Griffiths, Chris Hinchliff, David Levett, Gerald Morris, Michael Muir and Louise Peace

Substitutes: Councillors David Barnard, Ruth Brown, Juan Cowell, Bryony May, Tamsin Thomas and Daniel Wright-Mason

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A**

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

to be held in the

**REMOTE MEETING**

On

**WEDNESDAY, 20TH MARCH, 2024 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.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Members are required to notify any substitutions by midday on the day of the meeting.  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.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES - 6 DECEMBER 2023</b> To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 6 December 2023.	(Pages 5 - 10)
<b>3.</b>	<b>CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> <u>Climate Emergency</u>  The Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to achieving a target of zero carbon emissions by 2030 and helping local people and businesses to reduce their own carbon emissions.  A Cabinet Panel on the Environment has been established to engage with local people on matters relating to the climate emergency and advise the council on how to achieve these climate change objectives.  A Climate Change Implementation group of councillors and council officers meets regularly to produce plans and monitor progress. Actions taken or currently underway include switching to green energy, incentives for low emission taxis, expanding tree planting and working to cut food waste.  In addition the council is a member of the Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership, working with other councils across Hertfordshire to reduce the county's carbon emissions and climate impact. The Council's dedicated webpage on Climate Change includes details of the council's climate change strategy, the work of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment and a monthly briefing on progress.	

## Ecological Emergency

The Council has declared an ecological emergency and is committed to addressing the ecological emergency and nature recovery by identifying appropriate areas for habitat restoration and biodiversity net gain whilst ensuring that development limits impact on existing habitats in its process.

The Council has set out to do that by a) setting measurable targets and standards for biodiversity increase, in both species and quantities, seeking to increase community engagement, b) to work with our partners to establish a Local Nature Partnership for Hertfordshire and to develop Nature Recovery Networks and Nature Recovery Strategy for Hertfordshire and c) to investigate new approaches to nature recovery such as habitat banking that deliver biodiversity objectives and provide new investment opportunities.

## Declaration of Interest

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.

### **4. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS**

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.

The Chair will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.

### **5. INFORMATION NOTE: WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2023/24**

This note highlights proposed items scheduled in the work programme for the Cabinet Panel on the Environment for 2023/24, agreed at the initial meeting. The Work Programme at Appendix A highlights the agreed topics.

(Pages  
11 - 20)

### **6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public.

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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 WEDNESDAY, 6TH DECEMBER, 2023 AT 7.30 PM

#### MINUTES

**Present:** *Councillors: Steve Jarvis (Chair), Amy Allen, Gerald Morris, Michael Muir and Louise Peace.*

**In Attendance:** *Georgina Chapman (Policy & Strategy Team Leader), Ellie Hollingsworth (Policy & Strategy Trainee) and James Lovegrove (Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager).*

**Also Present:** *At the commencement of the meeting approximately 4 members of the public, including registered speakers.*

#### 82 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

*Audio recording – 2 minutes 47 seconds*

No apologies for absence were received.

Councillors Cathy Brownjohn, Dominic Griffiths, Chris Hinchliff and David Levett were absent.

#### 83 MINUTES - 27 SEPTEMBER 2023

*Audio Recording – 3 minutes 01 seconds*

Councillor Steve Jarvis, as Chair, proposed and Councillor Amy Allen seconded and, following a vote, it was:

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 27 September 2023 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

#### 84 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Audio recording – 3 minutes 21 seconds*

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The Chair reminded Members that the Council had declared a Climate Emergency. This was a serious decision and means that, as this was an emergency, all of us, Officers and Members had that in mind as we carried out our various roles and tasks for the benefit of our District.

**85 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS**

*Audio recording – 4 minutes 00 seconds*

There was no other business notified.

**86 INFORMATION NOTE: WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2023/24**

*Audio recording – 4 minutes 04 seconds*

The Policy and Strategy Team Leader presented the Information Note entitled 'Work Programme for 2023/24' and the appendices, and advised that:

- This meeting would focus on waste, as part of the programme agreed at the first meeting of the Civic Year.
- The Herts Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership (HCCSP) had its annual event on 7 November, with North Herts leading on the biodiversity programme.
- Feedback was provided at this event, and this was being reviewed and incorporated into current work.
- The event had been featured on Channel 4 News.
- The second round of the Solar Together scheme had now closed, with 872 people registered. At Monday 4 December, 856 people had applied and 175 had accepted an offer, with the majority of these adding battery storage.
- 41 people had applied for battery storage alone, with 8 people accepting the offer.
- The most common reasons for declining the offer were cost and personal situation of the applicants.
- The average cost of this round was 34% cheaper than market price, which was an improvement on the previous scheme.
- Through the HCCSP, the team were drafting a climate related risk log to identify climate risks to services and the district as a whole. This would be brought together along with equivalent logs from all Councils in Hertfordshire, to identify mitigative actions that could be taken across the county.
- A second round of Home Upgrade Grants had been made available to retrofit properties for those living in fuel poverty.
- There had been three heat decarbonisation plans drafted and submitted as part of the Public Sector Decarbonisation scheme, which were for leisure sites, and a decision was due on these by mid-March 2024.
- The team had continued to monitor the Climate Hive engagement page and had attended events across the district, including the Baldock Ecofest.
- The Community Investment Fund was available to support community groups to build capacity, and climate projects could be included in this.
- On the Action Tracker, completed actions had been removed, a couple of actions alongside other teams were on hold until the Waste Awareness Officer had been appointed and were looking into work around car idling with the HCCSP.

The following Members asked questions:

- Councillor Gerald Morris
- Councillor Louise Peace

In response to questions, the Policy and Strategy Team Leader advised that:

- There had been little change to actions on the Action Tracker since the last meeting, other than the removal of completed actions. Those remaining may take longer to address.
- A clearer idea of when an action had been completed was needed.
- Action on enforcement to prevent idling was being delayed due to resourcing issues.

- There was no further update on the Council action to reduce single use plastic or other items.

In response to questions, Councillor Steve Jarvis advised that:

- The next meeting of the Cabinet Panel was to review achievements from the Civic Year and the review of the Action Tracker could form part of this.
- NHDC could work with the County Council to promote action on idling around schools.

Diane Ketcher advised that she had been in discussions with the Letchworth BID regarding the introduction of a reusable cup scheme across cafes in Letchworth, which would reduce single use waste and offer a discount on products when using the reusable cup.

## 87 PRESENTATIONS

*Audio recording – 17 minutes 36 seconds*

The Chair invited Cllr Amy Allen, Executive Member for Recycling and Waste Management, to provide a presentation on waste at Christmas. Councillor Allen advised that:

- As Christmas only happens once a year, it is often not thought about until the last minute, and this impacted on the ability to practice sustainable living at this time of year.
- There was a tendency to indulge more, travel more and buy more over the Christmas period, which often led to waste. Having less at Christmas can be beneficial on both finances and carbon footprint.
- It was important to think about sending cards, especially who to send these to and whether a physical card was necessary.
- The ability to reduce waste at Christmas came from a position of privilege, as many families are having to reduce their expenditure all year round.
- Poorer families often must choose a cheaper, plastic alternative to the sustainable option, as they do not have the financial capacity to afford to live sustainably.
- Some things at Christmas cannot be controlled, but it was important to identify the areas which you can control and make changes to be slightly more sustainable.
- It was not possible to control the actions of others.

The Chair invited David Birley, Waste Aware Co-Ordinator – Herts Waste Partnership, to provide a presentation on reducing food waste. Mr Birley provided a presentation supported by slides and advised that:

- The Herts Waste Partnership existed to promote better understanding of waste, recycling and was reduction, with a specific campaign on food waste.
- The costs associated with producing packaging that ends up in the waste system were increasing and therefore this was an incentive for manufacturers and consumers to think about materials used more cautiously.
- There was a significant drop in waste generated between 2021-22 and 2022-23.
- There were three ways of managing organic waste: In Vessel Composting, Open Window Composting and Anaerobic digestion.
- Almost all organic waste material generated across Herts are processed within Herts, or just outside, and all three methods were available within the North Herts District.
- Of the 49% of residual waste collected in Herts, 56% was non-recyclable with the other 44% being split between dry recyclables (14%) and recyclable organic waste (30%).
- There were two types of food waste. Edible waste which had been brought for consumption but had not been eaten and unavoidable food waste such as peel, skin and cores.

- The impact of edible food waste was that Councils would need to collect this, which would increase the cost to the residents. There was also an environmental impact of this kind of food waste, which contributed to climate change and biodiversity issues.
- Councils collected more edible food waste than unavoidable waste.
- It was important to identify what types of edible foods were being wasted so that a campaign can be organised to address this.
- The cost of living crisis had caused people to reduce their food waste either through necessity or a realisation that whilst some were wasting food, others could not afford to eat.
- There were several UN programmes to address food waste, which had prompted the #WorthSaving campaign in Herts.
- The Herts Waste Partnership (HWP) had developed a simple programme to follow, to encourage people to plan, shop, store and eat properly and linked to other apps and schemes already in existence.
- A pilot took place in Three Rivers which consisted of online content, printed materials, advertising on refuse vehicles and attendance at in person events.
- Over summer 2023, the HWP reached 178,000 people through the above methods.
- The campaign materials were reviewed and revised throughout to ensure effectiveness.

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

- Councillor Michael Muir
- Councillor Gerald Morris
- Diane Ketcher
- John Webb

The following points were raised as part of the discussion:

- Whilst plastic bags from supermarkets had been reduced, they were still available and being used by customers, but the practice should be stopped, and alternatives found.
- Whether a real Christmas tree was more environmentally friendly than a plastic, reusable tree, as real trees were usually grown in the UK on land not suitable for farming or agriculture.
- Reduction of food waste was most effective action to be taken.

In response to questions and discussion points, Councillor Allen advised that:

- There would be bin collections on all days over the Christmas period, except for Christmas Day and Boxing Day, and leaflets had been circulated this week advising of changes to collection dates.
- Food collection would remain weekly over this period, with possible changes to collection days.
- Garden waste bins would not be collected, as there was usually little to collect at this time of year.
- It was important to think about the food people will eat over Christmas and be responsible when deciding. Often tradition leads to people overindulging at this time of year.

In response to questions and discussion points, Mr Birley advised that:

- Up until around 5 years ago, food waste processed through Anaerobic digestion (AD) would produce electricity due to financial incentives available.
- Newer AD plants produced gas that was supplied to the gas grid.
- At the point edible food makes it to AD stage, the damage had been done environmentally, as it was important to use less land for food production and repurpose this land for other means.



- Inedible food waste would need to go to AD, but it was the edible waste that needed to be addressed.
- Processing of North Herts food waste at the Bygrave plant would make most sense in terms of food miles, or the site in St Albans.
- AD had a role to play, but it was important that it was used for what it was designed for.
- It was important to use leftovers effectively, as well as to plan ahead to reduce waste.

Following these discussions, the Chair invited Councillor Allen to provide a short update on the soft plastic recycling trial taking place in Knebworth. Councillor Allen advised that:

- The trial was underway in 2000 householding in Knebworth.
- The first collection saw 391 bags of soft plastics collected, this increased by 56% by the second collection.
- The short lead time on the project was likely the reason for the lower first collection rate, as residents were not aware of the scheme.
- Crews were getting feedback from residents on the ground.
- The point of this trial was to identify any issues to be addressed, before rolling out across the district in 2025.

## 88 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*Audio recording – 85 minutes 23 seconds*

The Chair invited Robert Sprigge, Knebworth Environmental Group, to provide feedback on the soft plastic recycling trial. Mr Sprigge thanked the Chair and provided the following points, that:

- Collection bags and explanatory leaflets had been left by the kerb and these could have easily blown away. People may have received the bags without knowing what they were for.
- The uptake on his road had been good and cannot think that previously everyone would have been saving this plastic to recycle at a collection point.
- It appeared very easy for refuse workers to handle and manage collections.
- It was said on a Facebook page that it was all combined with residual waste.
- The feedback from the Knebworth Environmental Group had been positive, with the overwhelming view that it was easier than currently.
- Some questions remained around whether making collection of soft plastics easier would encourage their use more widely rather than reducing.
- There were also questions about whether the plastic bags used for the trial would be replaced when rolled out further, and why there was a disparity between what was collected at kerbside and what could be deposited at supermarkets.

In response to the points raised, Councillor Allen advised that:

- A lot of residual waste was sorted through to reduce, as far as possible, what was sent to landfill.
- Knebworth was the only place in North Herts participating in the trial at the moment.
- The leaflets and bags had been delivered by crews on their normal rounds and therefore kerbside was the most suitable place to leave the collection bags and leaflets.
- It was important to know what was in the bag and that the correct things were being collected.
- There was usually a central bin which would collect in multiple loads to deposit into the waste vehicle at once.
- Plastics would also be needed for some things and government was mandating the reduction of this, but this scheme for now prevented items going to landfill.

**Wednesday, 6th December, 2023**

- This scheme could not accept all plastics, as under the TerraCycle scheme, and was only for soft plastics currently. However, this could widen further, once what is manageable and easy for residents is better understood.

The meeting closed at 9.12 pm

Chair

**CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**20th March 2024**

**\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2023/24**

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR: Environment and Leisure & Recycling and Waste Management.

PRIORITY: SUSTAINABILITY / A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This note highlights proposed items scheduled in the work programme for the Cabinet Panel on the Environment for 2023/24, agreed at the initial meeting. The Work Programme at Appendix A highlights the agreed topics.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 This meeting will focus on achievements and progress made across a number of areas over the last civic year, including decarbonisation, waste, and biodiversity.
- 1.4 The Action Tracker has been reviewed and completed actions archived.

**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<sup>1</sup>. The Constitutional Amendment Report of the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023<sup>2</sup> recommended that this Panel is the only remaining panel for 2023.
- 2.2 By way of update to the Panel, we have been involved in the following work:

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

We have now worked through the feedback received on the Strategic Action Plans at the HCCSP annual event in November 2023. For the Biodiversity plan, which we lead on, we have noted the key themes of the feedback and will be looking at incorporating these when we revise the Action Plan following the completion of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hertfordshire.

The second round of Solar Together is now closed. 185 households in North Herts have accepted their solar pv recommendation. The price achieved for the average 14-panel system within this scheme is 34% cheaper than the typical market price for an equivalent system according to iChoosr's market research. Installations have now begun, with 213 completed across Hertfordshire so far.

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<sup>1</sup> [Appendix B - Revised Terms of Reference for Cabinet Panel on the Environment.pdf \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Constitutional amendment report 18.4.23.docx \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](#)

We have compiled a draft climate-related risks log. This identifies risks to council services and to the district from climate impacts (extreme heat; flooding; drought; storms). This is part of the Adaptation subgroup work to ensure there is a log of climate risks across the county. This risk log has been reviewed by relevant service areas and by our Climate and Sustainability Officer Group. The risk management group are now looking at the potential to include a climate risk on the risk register relating to the risk of failing to adapt our council services to climatic changes and subsequent extreme weather events.

The Hertfordshire Growth Board have now launched their missions, one of which is Sustainable County. Sustainability is also mentioned within several of the other missions. The HCCSP is referred to in the missions and given a specific remit around developing a local area energy plan for Hertfordshire. A working group will be formed for this shortly.

## **2.4 Home Upgrade Grant 2 (HUG2)**

The Home Upgrade Grant phase 2 remains open to applications. The scheme aims to provide free home improvements to those at risk of fuel poverty by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes. There has been a recent change in the eligible income threshold. Applicants previously had to have a household income of below £31,000 per year, but this has now been amended to £36,000 to increase the number of eligible applicants. This was following lower than expected uptake levels across the country. The scheme is available for off-gas properties with an EPC rating of D, E, F, or G. We have completed mailouts to the key target areas of Hitchwood, Offa, and Hoo; Weston and Sandon; and Ermine. We have also had social media posts 'boosted' to key postcode areas. We are continuing to market the scheme. More information about the scheme and how to sign up can be found on our webpage. [Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/home-upgrade-grant-phase-2)

## **2.5 Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme**

We have been successful in securing up to £7,743,224 from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for decarbonisation works at our leisure centres. These works include installing air source heat pumps at Hitchin Swim Centre, North Herts Leisure Centre, and Royston Leisure Centre, as well as solar pv, and various energy efficiency measures such as insulation. These initiatives aim to achieve annual savings of up to 1,176 tonnes of carbon.

## **2.6 Climate Engagement**

The North Herts engagement hub for climate change and sustainability, the Climate Hive has now been running for a year and has proven successful so far in engaging with and updating residents around climate and sustainability topics. The Hive had just over 100 subscribers in March 2023 and now has over 350.

Over the course of the year we have provided updates on energy efficiency schemes, sustainability tips and products, local events, details for the cabinet panel on the environment, weather adaptation information, green skills, ways to help nature, a number of county-wide surveys and lots more. We have engaged with residents through discussion topics on reaching our net zero targets, finding out what contributions residents are making towards climate action and how they planned to have a sustainable Christmas.

Throughout January this year we ran a successful Q&A on sustainability, with residents sending in their questions for Cllr Jarvis, our Executive Member for the Environment and Leisure, on a range of topics including biodiversity and wildlife, solar PV, housing and retrofit, active travel and transport, and waste. We will continue to keep residents updated on action the council is taking and provide information on how residents can help towards our sustainability targets.

## **2.7 Community Investment Fund**

The successful applicants to our Community Investment Fund have now been announced. Several projects relating to climate and environment are due to receive funding. Green Heat Co-op will use their award to develop and launch a home energy and retrofit advice service to improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions, initially in the Royston area with a view to expanding to all of North Herts. The Baldock Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association will use their allocation towards redeveloping land in Baldock to create 30 half-plots to meet local demand. Create Community and Greencare Norton entered a collaborative bid, having previously worked alongside each other, with many Create Community participants going on to volunteer with Green Care projects. Create Community will use the allocation towards employing a volunteer manager, while Green Care will be improving grounds maintenance and expanding their locally grown flower social enterprise. More information can be found [here](#).

## **3. INFORMATION TO NOTE**

3.1 Our Environment inbox is a means for members of the public or organisations to provide suggestions/presentations for the panel's consideration. The address is - EnvironmentPanel@north-herts.gov.uk.

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 – Work Programme and Action Tracker 2023/24.

## **6. CONTACT OFFICERS**

Georgina Chapman, Policy & Strategy Team Leader, 01462 474121  
[Georgina.Chapman@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Georgina.Chapman@north-herts.gov.uk)

Reuben Ayavoo, Policy and Communities Manager, 01462 474212  
[Reuben.Ayavoo@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Reuben.Ayavoo@north-herts.gov.uk)

Ellie Hollingsworth, Policy & Strategy Trainee Officer, 01462 474220  
[Ellie.Hollingsworth@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Ellie.Hollingsworth@north-herts.gov.uk)

**APPENDIX A – WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER 2023/24**

**PROGRAMME FOR CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT MEETINGS 2023-24**

<b>Meeting 1.</b> <b>19<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b>	<b>Setting the Work Programme and Water</b>
<b>Meeting 2.</b> <b>27<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>	<b>Sustainable Development</b>
<b>Meeting 3.</b> <b>6<sup>th</sup> December 2023</b>	<b>Waste</b>
<b>Meeting 4.</b> <b>20<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>	<b>Achievements</b>

**CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT – ACTION TRACKER: March 2024**

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Deadline for Implementation	Additional commentary
11092019 EP8	Proposal of surveying clients at Best Before Café/Hitchin Food Rescue to assess needs/client base	Community/Partnerships Team	On-going		Initial survey conducted and results received during the pandemic. Community Partnerships liaising with Best Before Café and Hitchin Food Rescue Hub to determine whether any further action is needed on this.
06012020 EP27	Explore what educational content schools provide on waste and recycling, and enable the sharing of best practice on this.	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	Not started		Action to be reviewed once the waste awareness officer is in post (2024)
06012020 EP34	Consider how we can promote eco-friendly action around waste, packaging, and recycling to local food outlets.	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	Not started		Action to be reviewed once the waste awareness officer is in post (2024)
06012020 EP38	Encourage the use of recyclable cups at district events.	Executive member for Recycling and Waste	On-going		The Council's licensing policy states that as part of an application or Event Management Plan, the applicant should include a full environmental assessment of the event with measures to address waste management arrangements including maximising recycling. The policy also states that where plastic vessels are used at a premises, the Council

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Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Deadline for Implementation	Additional commentary
					<p>encourages the use of compostable and/or biodegradable plastics and that suitable recycling provisions should be in place.</p> <p>To be reviewed once the waste awareness officer is in post (2024).</p>
<p>05032020 EP46</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 17</p>	<p>Consider opportunities to reduce idling in the district.</p>	<p>HCC/HCCSP/Licensing/Policy&amp;Strategy</p>	<p><b>On-going</b></p>		<p>NHC's Taxi Licensing Policy states that all taxi and private hire vehicles must switch off engines when stationary and all are required to display an anti-idling sticker provided by the council to remind drivers to switch engines off when stationary.</p> <p>The County Council investigated what approach should be taken on idling on their sites, and have now banned vehicle engine idling at all sites it owns or manages, including schools, care homes, day centres and household waste recycling centres. Some printed assets are also available for schools who have travel plans and these can be received by</p>

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Deadline for Implementation	Additional commentary
Page 18					<p>contacting HCC's Active and Safer Travel Team.</p> <p>Sustainability officers from Hertfordshire local authorities have discussed their current approaches to anti-idling. There are several pieces of legislation which could support local authorities to enforce against idling. However, no council in Hertfordshire reported that they currently enforce against idling. This is due to issues in resourcing enforcement and in demonstrating that there is an air quality issue in the areas where anti-idling enforcement would be pertinent.</p> <p>HCC and Public Health have developed a microsite to inform, assist and keep residents updated on the latest developments, including local pollution alerts. It also provides campaign resources and information on various issues pertaining to air quality including <a href="#">idling</a>. See:</p>

Date and Min No	Action/Resolutions	Action/Response/Outcome	Status (Complete/in progress)	Deadline for Implementation	Additional commentary
05032020 EP49	Consider how we can best encourage active or public transport to and within our town centres	HCC highways/Transport officer	<b>On-going</b>		<p><a href="#">Let's clear the air</a></p> <p>The North Herts Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan was adopted in September 2023. The proposed changes can be viewed <a href="#">here</a>. We will consider opportunities for promoting the changes when relevant.</p> <p>Consider campaign opportunities such as World Car Free Day.</p>

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