

APPENDIX A – WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER 2024/25

PROGRAMME FOR CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT MEETINGS 2024-25

Meeting 1. 17 th July 2024	Setting the scene and work scoping
Meeting 2. 16 th October 2024	TBC
Meeting 3. 22 nd January 2025	TBC
Meeting 4. 2 nd April 2025	TBC

Topics Previously Discussed include:

Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Water Sustainability (with Affinity, Anglian, and Thames water)

Biodiversity - Biodiversity Net Gain; greenspace team projects

Climate Change Adaptation

Waste – reducing food waste; reducing waste at Christmas

Air Quality

Carbon Reduction

Suggested topics for future meetings:

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

District Design Code (planning)

Retrofitting (following the upcoming HCCSP retrofitting guide)

CABINET PANEL ON THE ENVIRONMENT – ACTION TRACKER: July 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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					<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>
05032020 EP46	Consider opportunities to reduce idling in the district.	HCC/HCCSP/Licensing/Policy&Strategy	On-going		<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>

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					<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 idling. See:</p>

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					Let's clear the air
05032020 EP49	Consider how we can best encourage active or public transport to and within our town centres	HCC highways/Transport officer	On-going		<p>The North Herts Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan was adopted in September 2023. The proposed changes can be viewed here. We will consider opportunities for promoting the changes when relevant.</p> <p>Consider campaign opportunities such as World Car Free Day.</p>