

23rd January 2025**Report of the Chair of Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny****Matters referred to Cabinet in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules**

Scrutiny Committee	Title of Matter referred	Date of Scrutiny meeting
Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee	Climate Change update	11 th December 2024

Exempt Information

None.

Purpose

To notify Cabinet of the recommendations from the Climate Change Update report that was discussed at the meeting of Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee on the 11th December 2024.

Recommendations

Following consideration of the item the Committee agree to the following recommendations being made to Cabinet:

1. Ask Cabinet to look at the feasibility of including solar panels on council properties

(Moved by Councillor M Couchman and seconded by Councillor C Adams)

Background Information

Tamworth Borough Council declared a Climate Change emergency on the 19th November 2019 and in 2023 Cabinet endorsed the County Council's Climate Adaptation Strategy. In December 2023 the Council made a nature recovery declaration.

Executive Summary

At the meeting on the 11th December 2024 the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability, Recycling and Waste and the Climate Change Officer attended the Committee Meeting to update the Committee on the authority's work around climate change asking them to endorse the recommendations going to Cabinet on the 23rd January 2025.

The Committee asked questions and sought clarification in a number of areas including tree planting and working with community groups in this area; the amount of

carbon dioxide used by heating Marmion House and whether the Council had considered using Hydrogen in their buildings as well as whether all council properties have double glazing.

The Committee asked about the use of solar panels on council buildings and whilst it was confirmed that the declaration looked at operational buildings there was work to do to look at the wider council stock. The Committee moved a recommendation to Cabinet to look at this further.

The Committee moved the following recommendations from the report –

1. Endorsed the climate mitigation action plan and commitment to refresh every three years
2. Endorsed the climate adaptation strategy
3. Endorsed the Borough Council's climate change communication plan
4. Endorsed the Staffordshire net zero by 2050 planning policy
5. Endorsed an annual update to Scrutiny and Cabinet on progress

Options Considered

None.

Key considerations

1. Scrutiny committees have statutory powers to make recommendations to the Executive, and the Executive (Cabinet) has a statutory duty to respond. They may also make reports and recommendations to external decision making bodies.
2. The agenda for Executive meetings shall include a standing item entitled 'Matters Referred to the Cabinet In Accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules'. The reports of overview and scrutiny committees and sub-committees referred to the Executive shall be included at this point in the agenda (unless they have been considered in the context of the Executive's deliberations on a substantive item on the agenda) within one calendar month of the overview and scrutiny committee or sub-committee completing its report/recommendations.
3. Scrutiny recommendations are addressed to the Cabinet, as the main Executive decision making body of the council (or, where appropriate, an external agency).
4. Cabinet is being asked to note the scrutiny report / recommendations and that an Executive Response to the scrutiny recommendations be prepared for consideration by the Cabinet within two months from receiving the report or recommendations.
5. The minutes of the meeting of the scrutiny committee provide the record of the scrutiny committee's consideration of the issue and the scrutiny recommendations made during the meeting.
6. The scrutiny committee will be notified of the Executive Response made in respect to the scrutiny recommendations and may track the implementation of

the Cabinet decisions and any actions agreed. This enables the scrutiny committee to track whether their recommendations have been agreed, what actually was agreed (if different) and review any outcomes arising

Report Author

Councillor M Couchman
Chair of Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny

This page is intentionally left blank