

SURREY GREENER FUTURES PLAN

Head of Service:	Victoria Potts, Head of Place Development
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	N/A
Appendices (attached):	Response to Surrey Greener Futures Delivery Plan

Summary

This report provides an overview of the Surrey Greener Futures Delivery Plan and sets out the Council's response to the request from Surrey County Council to endorse the plan.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the content of the Greener Futures Delivery Plan and agree the Council's response at Appendix 1.**
- (2) Approve delegated authority to the Head of Place Development and Chair of Environment and Safe Communities Committee to finalise and submit the Council's response to Surrey County Council.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 The Surrey Greener Futures Delivery Plan has been developed by Surrey County Council following the publication of their Climate Change strategy in 2020. The Council, along with other Surrey Boroughs, have been asked to endorse the plan without having had sufficient opportunity to feed-in and help shape the plan.
- 1.2 The plan includes actions that are outside of the County's remit and responsibility, has a net zero carbon estates target that differs from Epsom & Ewell's own agreed target, and lacks clear detail on deliverables from actions.

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- 1.3 The Council has already demonstrated its own commitment to tackling climate change, having set a 2035 target for the Council's operations becoming net carbon neutral, developed a Climate Change Action Plan and set up a working group to support delivery.

2 Background

- 2.1 Surrey County Council published their Climate Change Strategy in 2020, committing the County Council to reaching net zero organisational carbon emissions by 2030, and the County as a whole to reaching net zero emissions by 2050.
- 2.2 Surrey have now produced a Greener Futures Delivery Plan which sets out the actions that need to happen over the next 5 years to be on a path to meeting the targets in the Strategy.
- 2.3 Over 70 actions have been identified within the plan split across 4 key programmes:
 - Greener Futures Communities;
 - One Net Zero Public Estate;
 - Build Back Greener;
 - Grow Back Greener.
- 2.4 The One Net Zero Public Estate programme has an aim focussed on local authority and public sector organisations reducing carbon emissions from their own buildings, vehicles and supply chains. This includes working towards a net zero target of 2030 (with a 40% reduction by 2025).
- 2.5 This target differs from Epsom & Ewells own target of reaching net zero organisational carbon emissions by 2030. It also underlines the limited opportunity Borough Councils had to feed-in to and help shape the plan which has no direct link with the Council's own Climate Change Action Plan.
- 2.6 The actions across all 4 programmes have a broad perspective and there is a lack of clarity on clear deliverables from each action.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Impact Assessment

- 3.1.1 None arising from this report

3.2 Crime & Disorder

- 3.2.1 There are no implications in terms of crime and disorder

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3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None arising from this report

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None arising from this report

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None arising from this report

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications for the purposes of this report.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None arising for the purposes of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** None arising for the purposes of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

6.1.1 Green & vibrant

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:**

6.3.1 Whilst not endorsing the Surrey Greener Futures Delivery Plan, tackling Climate Change is a key priority for the Council and will continue to be delivered through the Climate Change Action Plan. The Council will continue to work on areas that are within the Borough's influence and collaborate with Surrey where appropriate.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:**

6.4.1 No specific implications.

6.5 **Partnerships:**

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

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Previous reports:

- Full Council Climate Change Action Plan 20 January 2020.

Other papers:

- None