

NON-EXEMPT

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet (Draft Report)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY INITIAL ACTION PLAN 2021-2022

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FOR NOTING

Cabinet Lead for the climate and environment: Cllr Lulu Bowerman

Key Decision: No

Report Number: HBC/452/2022

Author- Jane Devlin

1. Purpose

To prepare a detailed draft action plan for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 12.4.22

Before being submitted to Cabinet Briefing for information (Full Council) Recommendation

2. Recommendation

Members of Cabinet Briefing will be requested:

- a. **To note** the governance structure to shape and steer the Action Plan. A Panel of 6 elected members with the ability to co-opt experts, to be chaired by the Cabinet Lead (Cllr Lulu Bowerman) with Terms of Reference approved by the Leader and Cabinet Lead.
- b. **To note** The Havant Borough Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan and 2022 -2023 **AND** *priorities as agreed by the Cabinet Liaison Climate Change and Environment Panel CCEP (3.6 below)*

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1. Havant Borough Council adopted a Climate Change and Environment Strategy for the period 2020 one to 2026 in September 2021.
- 3.2. The Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan appended to this document, is a working document which takes the priorities listed in the adopted strategy and identifies initiatives to kickstart the programme.
- 3.3. The Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan highlights the relevant service and indicates where a business case or additional resources at the margin are needed.
- 3.4. A governance structure for a task and finish group has been formed to steer and shape the development of the Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan for the remaining period of the current climate change strategy.
- 3.5. It is envisaged that a governance structure or a task and finish group will steer and shape the development of the Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan for the remaining period of the current climate change strategy.
- 3.6. The following priorities have been identified by the CCEP: (Reference in the Strategy)
 - a. Incorporating policies within Havant Borough Council's revised Local Plan to ensure energy hierarchies and energy efficiencies are delivered for development in new housing in the borough. (HC2)
 - b. Reducing carbon emissions from transport and travel is a priority. Therefore the inclusion of a priority to work with Hampshire County Council (and Transport for the South East, as appropriate) to add specific actions for Active Travel. (HB1i)
 - c. Internally it is important that the impact of decisions in relation to the climate and environment are considered properly, so a Climate Awareness Programme – Training for staff and Cllrs will be rolled out in the next quarter.(HA1 iii)
 - d. Templates for business cases and decision papers should include a heading and guidance for evaluating climate and environment impacts, and their mitigation as appropriate. (HA1iv)
 - e. The panel discussed pension investments made by Hampshire County Council on behalf of employees. It was agreed that it should be a priority to

understand direct and indirect investments in pension funds are being managed to divest from high carbon options eg. fossil fuels. (HA2iii)

4. Additional Budgetary Implications

4.1. None. Initiatives identified in climate change and environment Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan funds or resources a business case/ approval.

5. Background and relationship to Corporate Strategy, Climate & Environment Strategy and/or Business Plans

5.1. Havant Borough Council adopted a Climate Change and Environment Strategy 2021 to 2026 in September 2021. <https://www.havant.gov.uk/climate-change-and-environment>.

5.2. The attached Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan offers a framework to mobilise action under each priority identified in the strategy. In future years it is anticipated that a governance structure to shape and stimulate action will be convened. The Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan is a working document, with made available from time to time as part of the council's commitment to accountability in addressing the climate crisis.

6. Options considered

6.1. Options

Option 0	Do Nothing
Option1	Wait until a governance structure is agreed and convened.
Option 2 - Recommended.	Create an initial Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan to kickstart embedding initiatives to deliver 'quick wins' and enabling culture change.

6.2. The Overview and Scrutiny committee and full council (September 2021) recommended that an initial Action Plan should be brought forward in advance of

a governance structure to shape and steer initiatives under each priority heading in the Climate Change and Environment Strategy 2021-2026.

- 6.3. The advantages of having an initial Climate Change and Environment Action Plan is so that quick wins, and foundation initiatives can be implemented without delay, and lay the foundation for the culture change which is needed to include climate change and environment criteria in all decisions and embed principles in all business plans.
- 6.4. Proposals for a governance structure to shape and steer the action plan are emerging: a panel chaired by the Cabinet Lead comprising 6 elected members, with the ability to co-opt experts from time to time will shape and steer projects in each priority area. It is anticipated that the Leader and the Cabinet lead for the climate and environment will firm the proposals to be debated and implemented in the near future.

7. Resource Implications

- 7.1. Financial Implications: there are no financial indications for delivering the initial Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan. Initiatives identified in climate change and environment Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan that require a business case/ approval will be routed to S151 and Monitoring officer individually with a business case.
- 7.2. Human Resources Implications: there are no HR implications for delivery of the initial Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan. Delivery of individual

Section 151 Officer comments

Date: [insert date]

[Section 151 Officer to insert comments here]

initiatives will be linked to a service and embedded in business plans. All business cases are required to indicate options for climate change mitigation and environmental improvement. Therefore each business case will be drafted with implications in mind. A *climate awareness programme* is planned to ensure colleagues and elected members have basic understanding of the implications of decisions and their potential for mitigating climate change and protecting the natural environment.

7.3. Information Governance Implications: None.

7.4. Organisational change:

It is envisaged that embedding climate change and environment objectives in all services areas and business plans will be delivered through the new performance management framework.

Additional resource implications: None – the intention is to embed actions in all service areas.

8. Legal Implications

8.1. Initiatives identified in climate change and environment Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan that require a business case/ approval will be routed to S151 and Monitoring officer individually with a business case.

Monitoring Officer comments

Date: [insert date]

[Monitoring Officer to insert comments here]

9. Risks

By adopting the Climate Change and Environment Strategy in September 2021, Havant Borough Council has major commitment to mitigating climate change and

to avoid damaging the natural environment through biodiversity loss. The risk therefore, is that the organisation fails to adopt an Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan these elements into the delivery of all services.

10. Communication

- 10.1. Councillor Julie Thain-Smith the Cabinet lead for climate change and environment (until late 2021) hosted two publicly accessible events branded '*Havant Borough Council climate conversations*' in March and December 2020. Lulu Bowerman in taking on the portfolio hosted a third one in February.
- 10.2. Havant Climate Conversation events were well attended by members of the public and elected members. This consultation helped to shape the Climate Change and Environment Strategy adopted in September 2021.
- 10.3. These events helped to build a network of climate and environment activists and to build positive partnerships for the implementation and support of future initiatives with our communities
- 10.4. One specific campaign relating to domestic retrofit initiatives on social media during November and December 2021 will be followed by suitable similar activities, led by the action plan and its priorities.

11. Appendices

The Action Plan appendix is non-exempt. The Climate Change and Environment initial Action Plan provides a first version of the working document to identify initiatives and projects relating to each of the priority headings in the strategy.

12. Background papers

- 12.1. Links to the initial motion by the council relating to a climate emergency, and the climate and environment strategy:
 - a. <https://havant.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=212&MID=10584#A114876>.

- b. <https://cdn.havant.gov.uk/public/documents/Havant%20Borough%20Council%20Climate%20Change%20and%20Environment%20Strategy%202021-2026.pdf>

AGREED AND SIGNED OFF BY:

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Lulu Bowerman

Director:

Monitoring Officer: ...

Section 151 Officer: ...

Contact Officer

Name: Jane Devlin

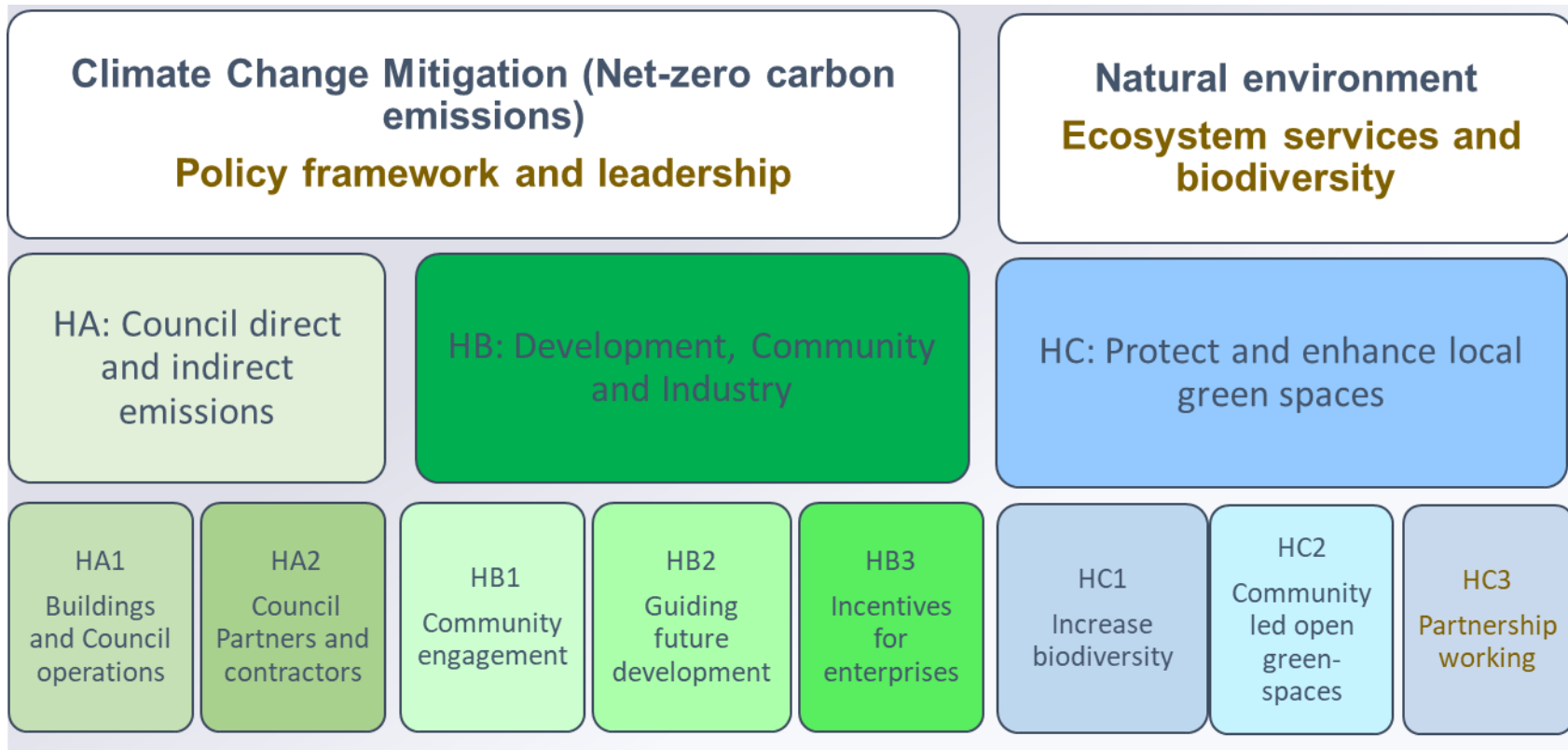
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APPENDIX 1 (NON EXEMPT)

Havant Borough Council Climate Change and Environment Action Plan (Initial version)



PRIORITIES

HA1i	Reduce emissions from Council buildings and vehicles to zero by or before 2050 by switching to renewable energy and EVs
HA1ii	Harness new technology for a transition to innovative low-carbon on-line and cloud-based working practices. Reduce office space requirements and move to hybrid in-person and virtual meeting arrangements.
HA1iii	Amend the Constitution, procurement processes and investment appraisal tools to mandate inclusion of criteria to mitigate the climate crisis.
HA1iv	Change the culture of the organisation with carbon literacy awareness at all levels
HA2i	All new or reviewed contracts and procurement will embrace the net-zero by or before 2050 target from 2021
HA2ii	Strategic long-term partners' emissions will be managed to net-zero by or before 2050 within existing contracts e.g., in leisure centres and from refuse collection.
HA2iii	Lobby staff pension providers to eliminate fossil fuel investments.
HB1i	Promote climate messages to raise awareness and stimulate public engagement to foster change, including active travel, improving recycling rates, reducing energy demand, and looking after the natural environment.

HB1ii	Promote retrofitting for existing homes to reduce energy demand and save money on heating. Tackle fuel poverty and identify funding for schemes offering installation of energy-efficiency measures, including insulation and smart thermostats.
HB1iii	Engage and facilitate a network of 'Green Groups' to enable effective sharing of successful initiatives for behaviour change. Initiate climate conversations and consult with residents and enterprises for lifting and accelerating ambition for net-zero carbon.
HB2i	Minimise the climate impact of new development through our Local Plan policies and development management decisions. Embrace and enforce policies to reduce energy demand in dwellings such as the Future Homes Standard, Living with Beauty, and others as appropriate. Leading by example, minimise the climate and environmental impacts of Havant Borough Council's own projects.
HB2ii	Adopt approaches for delivery of new homes that meet or exceed energy standards. Seek better protection for households through engagement with housebuilders, social landlords, and through effective, resourced enforcement.
HB2iii	Reinforce and implement policy and initiatives for low-carbon transport. Prioritise compelling options for active travel, walking and cycling, and insist on best practice for infrastructure design and paths. Ensure alternatives to fossil fuels through promoting investments in infrastructure for electric-vehicles, and green hydrogen hubs for HGVs
HB3i	Encourage the switch away from internal combustion engines (ICE).

HB3ii	Mandate that Climate Change and Environment criteria and impacts are material considerations when awarding or supporting grants and funding
HB3iii	Celebrate best practice amongst our local businesses and shops, for instance to improve energy efficiency, or innovation to address climate issues
HB3iv	Embrace Build Back Better and promote jobs in 'low-carbon' sector
HC1	In line with Havant Borough Council's Biodiversity Strategy (Jan 2019), support and promote initiatives that halt biodiversity loss, conserve the biodiversity value of trees, support healthy, well-functioning ecosystems, and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better spaces for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.
HC2	Enhance and extend the process for residents and community groups to adopt under licence land owned by Havant Borough Council for planting wildflowers, trees and improving local biodiversity.
HC3i	Work with our partners and Hampshire County Council to eliminate routine use of herbicides in public open spaces
HC3ii	Work with Hampshire County Council to develop and promote active travel. Seek funding to connect cycling and walking infrastructure across and within the Borough to connect neighbouring settlements and employment hubs.
HC3iii	Work with the Environment Agency, Southern Water and Portsmouth Water and other agencies to deliver schemes to improve provision of water supply*, freshwater quality, coastal (seawater) quality,

	and mitigate nitrate pollution. * including addressing use of freshwater springs to protect aquifer function.
HC3iv	Collaborate with the Coastal Partnership on adaptation. Support proposals to minimize carbon emissions from implementation of the shoreline management plan.
various priorities	More than one (see note)
Z metrics and accountability	To include metrics in annual report, and or cabinet lead reports to full council for Climate and environmental accountability.

NB – *Italics* indicate where a review is needed in the light of organisational change

* Indicates Priority identified by the Climate Change & Environment panel CCEP

	Initiatives	First Step	Exec/Democratic	Success Metric	Likely Start date
HA1i	Switch to EVs for operational vehicles such as car parking, neighbourhood quality, environmental services and grounds maintenance	Business Case	<i>Elected members/ Cabinet Lead</i>	The adoption of a plan to switch to electric vehicles as each car or van becomes due for replacement. How many Electric vehicles as a proportion of the total.	2022
HA1i	Switch to 100% renewable electricity tariff	Instruct staff/alter working procedure	<i>Chief Exec as Head of Paid Service</i>	DEC & carbon saving	2021
HA1ii	<i>Various - as part of shaping the Future</i>	Instruct staff/alter working procedure	<i>Chief Exec as Head of Paid Service</i>	Impacts on Carbon emissions	2022
HA1iii	Updating procedures, advice from climate & environment Lead officer	Delegate action (£0 budget or already allocated)	<i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	A commitment to including climate criteria as every strategy adopted by the council is reviewed. This can commence immediately but is an ongoing activity	2021
HA1iv	Climate awareness programme and induction	Identify budget	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	All staff and members booked and attend a virtual training course - all sessions. Induction programme amended.	2021
HA2i	All officers specifying or procuring goods and services	Instruct staff/alter working procedure	<i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	Updated procedure notes, amendments to Constitution if necessary.	2022

HA2ii	link officers to draw up timetable	Instruct staff/alter working procedure	<i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	Inclusion in the annual report of carbon emissions from strategic partners. Initially this will form a baseline, subsequently a coherent plan for reducing emissions to be in place, preferably published by the partner	2022
HA2iii	Members request details from HCC	(Committee/Cabinet/Council recommendation)	<i>Panel (for Climate)</i>	1st to establish the proportion of fossil fuel investments are included in the pension portfolio and 2nd to lobby for this to be reduced to 0 in favour of environmentally and low carbon friendly alternatives.	2022
HB1i	Havant Climate Conversation topics - programme	Adopt Mandate (Committee/Cabinet/Council recommendation)	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	To be led by the Cabinet lead for the climate and environment lead officer with support from the communities team. The success measure is to publish a programme of events, and report on positive outcomes from the conversations.	2021
HB1ii	ECO3 GHG LAD1 & 2 - increase staff capacity for delivery; marketing campaign	Business Case	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Led by the climate and environment lead officer with assistance from the service support team stop	2021
HB1i	Havant Climate Conversation topics - programme	Identify budget	<i>Elected members/ Cabinet Lead</i>	Be led by the Cabinet lead in the climate and environment lead officer	2021

HB1iii	Havant Climate Conversation topics - programme	Delegate action (£0 budget or already allocated)	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	To be led by the climate and environment lead officer	2021
HB2i	<i>Use the preparation of a new local plan for the Borough to explore and consult on what the future carbon emissions of new housing should be and then embed that in a robust policy which can be implemented along with any necessary guidance, training and resourcing.</i>	Adopt Mandate (Committee/Cabinet/Council recommendation)	<i>Head of Planning</i>	The number of zero carbon homes being granted planning permission, and being built in the borough	2022
HB2ii	Incorporating policies within Havant Borough Council's revised Local Plan to ensure energy hierarchies and energy efficiencies are delivered for development in new housing in the borough.	Adopt Mandate (Committee/Cabinet/Council recommendation)	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Various metrics in the energy hierarchy improving	2024
HB2iii	LCWIP implementation plan and publicity	Business Case	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Funds invested in cycling and walking infrastructure reported in annual report.	
HB3i	(example) Develop hydrogen hub to dovetail and benefit from surplus renewable electricity (off-shore wind farm)	Business Case	<i>Chief Exec as Head of Paid Service</i>	ONS statistics moving in the right direction. Miles of new cycle paths.	2022

HB3ii	Discretionary funding only: amend procedures and publicise	Delegate action (£0 budget or already allocated)	<i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	Climate criteria highlighted in reporting of grants	
HB3iii	Economic development support, and partners involved in local business support e.g. FSB. Host a Havant Borough Council low-carbon enterprise event: engage with companies demonstrating good practice and publicise	Business Case	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Delivery of an event, to be repeated periodically. Number of businesses attending, number of businesses benefiting from low carbon advice.	2022
HB3iv	Identify and secure funding for local businesses for build back better in low carbon.	Instruct staff/alter working procedure	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Document businesses assisted, funding secured, low carbon initiatives undertaken by local businesses	2022

HC1	<p><i>Through the requirements of the Environment Act and the emerging Local Plan explore the potential opportunities for Biodiversity Net Gain to be provided on HBC owned land as well as third-party mitigation within the Borough.</i></p> <p><i>Embed Biodiversity Net Gain within a robust policy to ensure it is implemented through new development and provide guidance, training and resourcing.</i></p>	Delegate action (£0 budget or already allocated)	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Develop a process for open greenspaces licences	2022
HC2	<p>Initiate and publicise open greenspaces opportunities. Support applications for pocket parks. Additional money was announced in the November 2021 budget. Promote installation of bat boxes, bird boxes, insect hotels et cetera</p>	Instruct staff/alter working procedure	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	1st to establish a baseline for pesticides and herbicides being used in 2nd to agree a plan to reduce this to 0 except in exceptional circumstances	2021
HC3i	<p>Negotiate and document herbicide exceptions will be implemented</p>	Delegate action (£0 budget or already allocated)	<i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	1st to establish a baseline for pesticides and herbicides being used 2nd to agree a plan to reduce this to zero (& define exceptional circumstances	2022

HC3ii	Identify local action groups and help them to promote active travel. Ensure that funding from section 106 agreements are diverted to high quality and well-placed infrastructure investments	Adopt Mandate (Committee/Cabinet/Council recommendation)	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Update the Biodiversity Strategy in line with the Environment Act and an assessment of sites within the Borough to achieve net-gain objectives.	2022
HC3iii	<i>Produce a statement setting out the role of the Council's, Environment Agency's and Southern Water's role in relation to waste water treatment work capacity.</i> <i>To provide guidance in relation to new development achieving nutrient neutrality.</i> <i>Continuing to work with PfSH to find strategic mitigation solutions for water quality.</i>	Planning Policy Committee. Full Council Recommendation team	<i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	Publication of relevant documents to address wastewater treatment work capacity, and new development achieving nutrient neutrality.	
HC3iv	(Mitigation) ! To request that the coastal partnership team provide forward plans for decarbonising coastal protection and adaptation initiatives for our coastline	Business Case	<i>Director of Regeneration & Place</i>	Receipt of low carbon action plan from the coastal partnership	2022
various priorities	Some initiatives span more than one of the priorities!	Various To be identified	<i>Chief Exec as Head of Paid Service</i>	Various	
Z metrics and accountability	Agree and publish metrics for each approved initiative	Plan	<i>Exec Board</i>	Develop Plan with relevant colleagues	2021

ENDS