

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Environmental Policy.
Committee : Services Committee
Date : 14 October 2019
Author : Annie Child, City Clerk

1. Report Summary:

1.1. This report introduces the new Environmental Policy.

2. Background:

2.1. At Full Council on 17 June 2019, Salisbury City Council (SCC) declared an Climate Emergency. The [Full Council minutes](#) show the declaration in full.

2.2. This policy has been drafted to address the actions needed in response to that declaration. The policy will be updated and amended as circumstances change and this policy represents the beginning of SCC's response to the climate emergency.

2.3. This policy represents SCC's initial commitment to:

2.3.1. Working to make Salisbury as carbon neutral as possible by 2030,

2.3.2. working with partners to achieve "clean air" in Salisbury by 2022, in particular by taking action to reduce vehicle emissions, supporting public transport, cycling and walking;

2.3.3. replacing or converting all council-owned or operated vehicles to electric powered vehicles as soon as is practically possible;

2.3.4. encouraging the rapid phasing out of diesel-powered buses in the City by bus operators and their replacement by cleaner or non-polluting alternatives;

2.3.5. increasing wherever possible the extent of pedestrianised areas within the City centre;

2.3.6. undertaking a comprehensive programme of improvement of the insulation of all council-owned property,

2.3.7. and ensuring that such property shall be fitted with solar panels wherever possible;

2.3.8. and doing everything within its power to ensure that such standards should also apply to any new buildings which are permitted within the City

2.4. The policy has been agreed by ENWG on 7 Oct 2019.

2.5. The policy sets out 7 areas of activity – general environmental management, waste management, energy management, water management, sustainable procurement, transport/travel and biodiversity. It also includes an initial action plan which will be further developed and implemented if this Environmental Policy is agreed.

2.6. If this policy and its action plan is agreed, it is recommended that the ENWG should monitor the implementation of the Action Plan and report progress to this committee at regular intervals.

3. Budget:

- 3.1. There were no funds allocated towards climate emergency as a dedicated programme of work in 2019/2020. However, the ENWG consider that funding should be made available during 2019/2020 to allow work to fully begin on the implementation of the Environmental Policy.
- 3.2. Officers have identified budgets where an underspend is likely this year, and recommend that £56,000 can be dedicated towards climate emergency in 2019/2020.
- 3.3. Funding for further years can be considered as part of the budget setting process later this year.
- 3.4. If this committee approves the Environmental Policy, its draft Action Plan and its proposed budget, it is recommended that the approval for the budget be recommended to Finance and Governance Committee on Mon 28 Oct 2019.

4. Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 4.1. Approve the Environmental Policy.
- 4.2. Note the initial Action Plan.
- 4.3. Delegate approval to ENWG to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan.
- 4.4. Request the Chairman of the ENWG to provide regular progress reports to this committee on the Environmental Policy its implementation.
- 4.5. Recommend to Finance and Governance Committee that £56,000 be allocated towards the implementation of the Environmental Policy action plan in 2019/2020.

5. Wards Affected: All

6. Background papers:

- 6.1. The Environmental Policy – Doc 73704

7. Implications:

- 7.1. **Financial:** As shown in the report
- 7.2. **Legal:** Nil in relation to his report
- 7.3. **Personnel:** Nil in relation to his report
- 7.4. **Environmental Impact :** Nil in relation to this report
- 7.5. **Equalities Impact Statement:** Nil in relation to this report