

Runnymede Borough Council

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday 10 June 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Council Chamber, Runnymede Civic Centre, Addlestone

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**PART I**

**8. CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT OF INTENT - (CHIEF EXECUTIVES - Marcel Steward)**

**Synopsis of report:**

**To update Members on the Council's current position and direction of travel.**

**Recommendation:**

**None - for information only**

1. **Context of report**
  - 1.1 The Climate Change Strategy comprises one of the four themes encompassed by the Corporate Business Plan
  - 1.2 The Climate Change Strategy is a work in progress with target Draft availability to Members in October 2021
  - 1.3 The current report is for information to update Members on the RBC's current position and the direction of travel
2. **Report**
  - 2.1 The intention to adopt selected principles and targets of Surrey County Council's (SCC) Climate Change Strategy has been communicated previously. This will be the subject of a separate report which will be brought to Environment and Sustainability Committee
  - 2.2 SCC's Climate Change Strategy adopts the National Government requirements and timescales augmented with aspirational targets for the County. Surrey County Council is currently formulating its follow-on Delivery Strategy which RBC is fully engaged with and actively contributing to its development

2.3 In common with all bodies, the SCC Climate Change Strategy employs the classification for Carbon Emissions as defined by the Government Guidance 'Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR)

This classifies Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (transposed as 'Carbon') under three Scopes. For reference these are described in the SCC Climate Change Strategy as follows:

SCOPE	DEFINITION
Scope 1 emissions	Those emissions coming from the fuel (e.g. petrol, diesel, or gas) that is directly used within an area and from other sources such as landfill sites or industry within the area
Scope 2 emissions	Those emissions coming from the electricity that is used within the area even if it is generated somewhere else
Scope 3 emissions	Those emissions associated with the goods and services that are produced elsewhere but imported and consumed within the area

2.4 The Chairman, Cllr Marisa Heath reported at the Meeting of Council on 22 April 2021 that RBC have cut our Scope 1 & 2 carbon emissions by 62% compared to our 2009 baseline to 2019 / 2020. This work is ongoing.

2.5 Direct Climate Change avoidance actions encompassed under Scope 1 & 2 Carbon Emissions and currently under way are directly reported by the following business units:

- Housing:
  - Energy Efficiency / } - retrofit
  - Renewable Energy } - new build
- Planning - Local Plan
- Commercial Assets } - existing portfolio
- Renewable Energy } - new build

2.6 Scope 3 emissions are less amenable to quantification and management as these lie beyond the direct control of the reporting organisation/s. RBC are engaged with consultants to identify how this could be achieved and we are actively sharing our findings with SCC who are similarly engaged

2.7 SCC Climate Change Strategy identifies 'National Government Asks' in order to deliver on our ambitions.

These address aspects which are beyond the control of County or District and Borough Councils ability to deliver – including changes to policy, regulations and funding to achieve this.

In combination with this, the emerging picture is that Government is making funding available to Higher Authorities in order to achieve the necessary changes required to meet the National Targets.

To a significant extent, timing is significantly controlled by Central Government and SCC.

2.8 RBC is responding to SCC on numerous programs including:

- Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LSCWIPs)
- EV vehicle on street charging – pilot study
- SCC Treescapes Fund Bid
- Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LAD) Phase 2 – delivering energy efficient upgrades (including Public Housing Stock) administered via SCC
- Surrey Energy and Sustainability Partnership comprising 11 Borough and District Councils, Surrey Police and Action Surrey
- Surrey Environment Partnership (SEP) – waste management

Most of these programs are in formation or 'roll out' and not yet established.

These programs are directly relevant to RBC's Climate Change Strategy and an integral part of the Council's delivery.

2.9 RBC is currently actively engaged with 2 + 1 Development Consent Order (DCO's) which have direct impact on the Council's Climate Change Strategy and Sustainability:

PROJECT	CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS
Heathrow Expansion & Recovery	Climate Change Avoidance & Adaptation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economy</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Travel Infrastructure: including <u>Southern Access to Heathrow (formerly known as 'Southern Rail')</u></li> <li>• Congestion &amp; Modal Shift</li> <li>• Carbon Emissions</li> <li>• Ultralow Emission Zone</li> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Air Quality</li> </ul>
River Thames Scheme	Climate Change Avoidance & Adaptation and Sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood Relief</li> <li>• Potential (to be determined at DCO):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Biodiversity</li> <li>- Conservation</li> <li>- Carbon Sequestration (Trees + Carbon Char, etc.)</li> <li>- Renewable Energy</li> <li>- Suitable Alternative Green Space (SANG)</li> <li>- LSCWIP</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leisure</li> <li>- Education</li> </ul>
Esso Southampton to London Pipeline	Climate Change Avoidance & Adaptation and Sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congestion: keeping 100 tankers off the road every day (based on 2015)</li> <li>• Biodiversity &amp; Sustainability: Chertsey Meads</li> <li>• Flood resilience</li> </ul>

Separate reports on each of these three projects will be brought to Council in the near future.

### 3. **Policy framework implications**

- 3.1 Changes in existing policies will be necessary including but not limited to the following:
- Planning
  - Housing
  - Waste
  - Commercial Assets
  - Environment & Energy
  - Procurement

The RBC Corporate Strategy sets out our mission to *“To deliver excellent quality and cost-effective services, through prudent financial management, to enhance our environment and improve the economy by working with local people and partners for the greater good of the Runnymede community.”*

### 4. **Resource implications**

- 4.1 Further resource and support will be required post-delivery of the Climate Change Strategy in order to enable delivery. This is currently undetermined

### 5. **Legal implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal comments

### 6. **Equality implications**

- 6.1 There are no equality implications in respect of this matter. Any individual projects or policies arising from the final strategy may engage equality implications that may require an Equality Impact Assessment

### 7. **Environmental/Sustainability/Biodiversity implications**

- 7.1 Any relevant comments are contained within the body of the report

**(For information)**

**Background papers**

**Surrey's Greener Future**

**Surrey's Climate Change Strategy**

[Surrey's climate change strategy \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk)