

# Public Document Pack



# WELWYN HATFIELD

Please ask for:  
Jonah Anthony

30 November 2020

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a meeting of the WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-GROUP to be held on Tuesday 8 December 2020 virtually via Zoom (Meeting ID and Password to be circulated).

Yours faithfully

Corporate Director  
Public Protection, Planning and Governance

## **AGENDA** **PART 1**

1. **SUBSTITUTION OF MEMBERS**

To note any substitution of Members made in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

2. **APOLOGIES**

3. **MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2020 (circulated separately).

4. **NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER ITEM 12**

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS**

To note declarations of Members' disclosable pecuniary interests, non-disclosable pecuniary interests and non-pecuniary interests in respect of items on the Agenda.

6. HERTFORDSHIRE CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERSHIP (HCCSP)

Update from the Portfolio Holder.

7. GOVERNMENT 10 POINT CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN (Pages 5 - 8)

This report looks at what Welwyn Hatfield and Hertfordshire might be able to do locally within the context of the Government's recently published 10 point plan to tackle climate change.

8. PUBLIC SECTOR DECARBONISATION SCHEME

Update from Head of Planning

9. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Committee is asked to resolve:

That under Section 100(A)(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting for Item 11 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100(A)(3) and Paragraphs 2 (Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual), and 6 (Statutory notice or order) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act (as amended).

In resolving to exclude the public in respect of the exempt information, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

## **PART II**

11. ENE LOW CARBON BUSINESS GRANT SCHEME (Pages 9 - 14)

The council has signed a Service Level Agreement with the University Of East London (UEL) agreeing to be a delivery partner of the Eastern New Energy (ENE) ERDF project which is a large low carbon project building a stronger local energy and low carbon economy. The Climate Change Panel is asked to consider the proposed process and criteria for providing the grants ahead of consideration and approval by Cabinet.

12. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN, IS OF SUFFICIENT URGENCY TO WARRANT IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

Circulation:

Councillors E.Boulton  
M.Holloway  
F.Marsh  
H.Quenet

D.Richardson  
J.Weston  
S.Wrenn

Executive Member (Public Protection, Governance and Climate Change  
(F.Thomson)  
Chief Executive (K. Ng)  
Corporate Director (Public Protection, Planning and Governance) (N.Long)  
Head of Public Health and Protection (J.Harding)  
Head of Planning (C.Haigh)  
Head of Environment (D.Reyner)  
Tree Officer (O.Waring)  
Energy Efficiency Officer (V.Appasawmy)  
Principal Governance Officer (J.Anthony)

**If you require any further information about this Agenda please contact Jonah  
Anthony, Governance Services Unit on 01707 357467 or email –  
democracy@welhat.gov.uk**

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## Part I

Main author: Colin Haigh

Executive Member: Cllr Fiona Thomson

All wards

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
CLIMATE CHANGE PANEL – 8 DECEMBER 2020  
REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR (PUBLIC PROTECTION, PLANNING AND GOVERNANCE)

## GOVERNMENT 10 POINT CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

### 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Government has published a 10 point plan to tackle climate change and this report looks at what Welwyn Hatfield and Hertfordshire might be able to do locally.

### 2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That Members note the Government's 10 point climate change plan and the issues that can be taken forward locally.

### 3 Explanation

- 3.1 The Government has published an ambitious 10 point plan to tackle climate change and deliver a green industrial revolution. This will contribute to the national target to be carbon neutral by 2050. The plan mobilises £12 billion of investment to create and support up to 250,000 high-skilled green jobs and to spur much greater levels of private sector investment.
- 3.2 The 10 points are identified in the left-hand column of the table below and comments from officers on what Welwyn Hatfield and Hertfordshire might be able to do locally are set out in the right-hand column.

Government Points	Officer comments
Offshore wind: Producing enough offshore wind to power every home, quadrupling how much we produce to 40GW by 2030, supporting up to 60,000 jobs.	It has previously been found that Welwyn Hatfield has limited opportunities for wind power due to its topography, although new technologies may make this more feasible in future.  Scope to support this by changing to green electricity provider, which will utilise electricity produced from offshore wind.
Hydrogen: Working with industry aiming to generate 5GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030 for industry, transport, power and homes, and aiming to develop the first town heated entirely by hydrogen by the end of the decade.	Consider role for Welwyn Hatfield and its communities in terms of hydrogen power.  Consider future use of hydrogen for council vehicles.

Nuclear: Advancing nuclear as a clean energy source, across large scale nuclear and developing the next generation of small and advanced reactors, which could support 10,000 jobs.	No obvious local opportunities at this stage. Nuclear energy stations are usually near the coast as they need large volumes of cold water to cool their reactors.
Electric vehicles: Backing our world-leading car manufacturing bases including in the West Midlands, North East and North Wales to accelerate the transition to electric vehicles, and transforming our national infrastructure to better support electric vehicles.	<p>Planning policies support electric charge points within new development.</p> <p>Charging points for electric vehicles with <a href="https://www.electricblueuk.com/">https://www.electricblueuk.com/</a></p> <p>Increase public charging point throughout the borough.</p>
Public transport, cycling and walking: Making cycling and walking more attractive ways to travel and investing in zero-emission public transport of the future.	<p>To continue to work with partners on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Herts Local Transport Plan</li> <li>▪ South Central Growth &amp; Transport Plan</li> <li>▪ A414 Corridor and mass rapid transit</li> <li>▪ Intalink Transport partnership</li> <li>▪ Hatfield Transport Strategy</li> <li>▪ Sustainable Travel Town programme</li> <li>▪ Walking &amp; Cycling Improvement Plans</li> <li>▪ Bike to Work scheme</li> <li>▪ Welwyn Hatfield Green Corridor</li> </ul>
Jet Zero and greener maritime: Supporting difficult-to-decarbonise industries to become greener through research projects for zero-emission planes and ships.	Potential opportunities to work with local businesses and universities on R&D, building on local aviation heritage and expertise.
Homes and public buildings: Making our homes, schools and hospitals greener, warmer and more energy efficient, whilst creating 50,000 jobs by 2030, and a target to install 600,000 heat pumps every year by 2028.	<p>Local Plan policies</p> <p>Hertfordshire Building Futures</p> <p>Continue to work with BRE to incorporate the Home Quality Mark standard and BREEAM standard for council buildings</p> <p>Scope for future planning policies to require heat pumps.</p> <p>Scope for Housing Services to install heat pumps on council homes.</p>
Carbon capture: Becoming a world-leader in technology to capture and store harmful emissions away from the atmosphere, with a target to remove 10MT of carbon dioxide	Potential opportunities to work with local businesses and universities on R&D.

by 2030, equivalent to all emissions of the industrial Humber today.	
Nature: Protecting and restoring our natural environment, planting 30,000 hectares of trees every year, whilst creating and retaining thousands of jobs.	<p>Protect and enhance nature through the planning system, biodiversity net gain requirements, landscape conditions, etc.</p> <p>Continue to work with Natural England (with the aid of grants) to manage SSSI woodlands.</p> <p>Continue to plant at least 300 urban trees a year. Look for grant opportunities to increase this number if possible.</p> <p>Monitor success of Tree and Woodland Strategy and update where appropriate.</p> <p>Look at ways to encourage landowners to manage and improve landscape and woodland.</p> <p>Scope for Council to purchase suitable land to plant more trees.</p>
Innovation and finance: Developing the cutting-edge technologies needed to reach these new energy ambitions and make the City of London the global centre of green finance.	<p>Eastern New Energy project to improve carbon efficiency of local businesses.</p> <p>Scope for businesses to access share of £50,000 decarbonisation grant.</p> <p>Scope for Council to make green investments.</p>

#### **4 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 The Government has committed the UK to being carbon neutral by 2050.
- 4.2 The Council has committed its buildings and functions to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- 4.3 The 10 point plan may result in changes to national legislation, policies and best practice guidance that affects the delivery of public services.

#### **5 Financial Implications**

- 5.1 The financial implications of the 10 point plan is it may require the Council and its partners to invest in climate change changes, such as electric vehicles and public transport.

#### **6 Risk Management Implications**

- 6.1 The risk management implications of the 10 point plan is it may require the Council and its partners to change the way it delivers public services.

## **7 Security and Terrorism Implications**

- 7.1 There are no security or terrorism implications associated with this report.

## **8 Procurement Implications**

- 8.1 There are no procurement implications associated with this report.

## **9 Climate Change Implications**

- 9.1 The Council has declared a climate change emergency and set ambitious objectives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It is considered that the recommendations of this report will have positive climate change implications.

## **10 Human Resources Implications**

- 10.1 There are no human resources implications associated with this report. It should be noted however that the Council does not have a dedicated Climate Change Officer.

## **11 Health and Wellbeing Implications**

- 11.1 The wider implications of tackling the climate change agenda is that it will improve the health and wellbeing of residents and the environment.

## **12 Communications and Engagement Implications**

- 12.1 There are no communication and engagement implications associated with this report. The Draft Climate Change Strategy is currently available for consultation on our website until 29 January 2021. The Council will continue to engage with the community via press and social media on climate change actions that it is taking.

## **13 Link to Corporate Priorities**

- 13.1 The subject of this report is linked to the Council's Business Plan 2018-2021 and particularly Priority 2 Our Environment, Priority 3 Our Housing to improve housing quality, Priority 4 Our Economy to support sustainable economic growth and Priority 5 Our Council to achieve value for money.

## **14 Equalities and Diversity**

- 14.1 An EqIA was not completed because this report does not propose changes to existing service-related policies or the development of new service-related policies.

Name of author	Colin Haigh
Title	Head of Planning
Date	November 2020



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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