

Vale Climate Emergency Advisory Committee 19 April 2021 Recommendations to Cabinet

Review of the effectiveness of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

The committee reviewed and noted the key findings from the recent review into the effectiveness of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee and agreed with the recommendations proposed within. These included the following recommendations to Cabinet.

Recommended to Cabinet:

- That the committee plays a formal role in the monitoring of the Corporate Plan 2020-24 and reviews the quarterly performance reports that are part of the council's performance management framework. (This will allow the committee to provide advice and guidance to Cabinet on the delivery of projects in relation to the tackling the climate emergency. The Corporate Plan 2020-24 has been designed to be agile, so projects within the plan will bend, flex and evolve, which further supports the need for the committee to play a key role in advising on its delivery. The committee's meetings calendar will align with the corporate plan's quarterly performance monitoring cycle.)
- That task and finish groups are established to work alongside officers on the Corporate Plan, communications and engagement, Zero Carbon definition, and relevant consultations. (They will report to the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee on a regular basis. They will provide opportunities to give a sense of focus and work in more detail on areas of interest for members. Each task and finish group should be led by a committee member to facilitate and manage input to the groups and feedback to the committee.)
- That the Chair of the committee be invited to attend the Cabinet meeting after each Climate Emergency Advisory Committee meeting to provide an update to Cabinet under the item "recommendations from other committees" to ensure there is an effective and open dialogue between the two meetings.

Other matters not requiring a Cabinet decision:

- The Chair of the committee and the Cabinet member for climate emergency and environment will review reports to Council, Cabinet and committees to ensure they consider climate and ecological implications.
- The Chair of the committee and Cabinet member for climate emergency and environment will receive monthly briefings from the Strategic Lead for Climate Action to ensure information is shared.
- The Cabinet member for climate emergency and environment is requested to flag any matters across other Cabinet portfolios where committee advice, input or guidance would be beneficial in advance of any formal decision-making, so these can be added to the committee's work programme.

Climate action and biodiversity work programmes 2021/22

The committee noted the progress to date on the climate action and biodiversity work programmes for 2021/22.

Recommended to Cabinet to approve the 2021/22 climate action and biodiversity work programmes.

Climate action plan development

The development of the Climate Action Plan will be informed by carbon emissions modelling to provide the council's roadmap to achieving their carbon reduction targets.

Recommended to Cabinet to adopt the proposed methodology/development process for the Climate Action Plan.

Biodiversity action working group

Recommended to Cabinet to establish a joint South and Vale member and officer Biodiversity Working Group to assist the council in scoping Corporate Plan 2020-24 biodiversity projects to tackle the climate emergency, which are currently subject to future discretionary growth.