


<p>London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p>LEADER'S URGENCY REPORT</p> <p>AUGUST 2019</p>		
<p>HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM'S RESPONSE TO THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY</p>		
<p>Report of the Leader – Councillor Stephen Cowan</p>		
<p>Open Report</p>		
<p>Classification - For Decision</p> <p>Key Decision: Yes</p>		
<p>Other services consulted:</p>		
<p>Wards Affected: None</p>		
<p>Accountable Director: Sharon Lea, Strategic Director for the Environment</p>		
<p>Report Author: Jim Cunningham, Chief Executive's Project Officer</p>	<p>Contact Details: Tel: 07468 365829 E-mail: jim.cunningham@lbhf.gov.uk</p>	
<p><u>Reasons for Urgency:</u></p> <p>An urgent decision is needed to expedite the council's expanding work to address climate change and biodiversity loss, as expressed in the 'climate emergency' special motion tabled for Full Council on 17th July 2019. Urgency is required in recognition of the need for swift action entailed in the declaration of this emergency.</p> <p><u>Date by which decision is required: ASAP</u></p>		

AUTHORISED BY THE LEADER

The Leader has signed this report

DATE: 14 August 2019

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 There is strong evidence that on current trends irreversible climate change is likely to occur within even shorter timescales than previous models had predicted. Hammersmith & Fulham (H&F) council recognises this as a 'climate

emergency' and proposes to expand and strengthen its existing policies and investments to address climate change and biodiversity loss.

- 1.2 This report proposes a rapid and resourced response to this emergency through three linked workstreams: the establishment of a dedicated Climate Change Unit; the development of a 'zero carbon strategy'; and the launch of an independent, resident-led commission into climate change.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the council adopt a target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2030 and undertakes a full carbon audit to inform our activities and strategy.
- 2.2 That the council establish a dedicated corporate Climate Change Unit tasked with developing and enacting policies to achieve this target including undertaking a full carbon audit.
- 2.3 That the council launch an independent commission on climate change, drawing on local and expert knowledge to develop boroughwide action to reduce net carbon emissions.
- 2.4 Following this that the council develop a 'zero carbon strategy' outlining its route to net zero emissions by 2030.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1 H&F recognises the current trends in global heating as a 'climate emergency'. The proposed recommendations allow the council to pursue a course to mitigate the causes and effects of this crisis with the requisite pace and vigour.

4. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 4.1 Human-induced climate change and the resulting destabilisation in our climate is the great challenge of this century. Climate change is already causing one disaster around the globe per week, according to the United Nations (UN) secretary-general's special representative on disaster risk reduction.
- 4.2 The UK has adopted binding legislation to cut its net emissions to zero by 2050, yet scientific consensus suggests this is not soon enough to avert catastrophic change. The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has recently assessed that the world has until 2030 to take radical action to keep global temperatures within 1.5°C of pre-industrial levels, beyond which catastrophic and irreversible change is expected.
- 4.3 H&F is committed to becoming 'the greenest borough in Britain'. Commitments already undertaken by the council in its 2018-22 Business Plan make strides towards reducing net emissions. These include increasing the numbers of electric vehicle charging points, already at the highest level of any

Council in the country, introducing state of the art technologies to absorb pollution, encouraging car free businesses, promoting cycling, planting living walls and trees to absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂) and pollution and continuing to oppose Heathrow airport expansion.

- 4.4 In line with its commitment to be the greenest borough, the council therefore wishes to set itself a stretching target in line with IPCC recommendations in order to be at the forefront of local government action on climate change.

5. OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 5.1 A 'do nothing' option is not considered viable given the nature of the climate emergency. Insufficient coordinated action to date at national and local levels has seen per capita carbon emissions in the UK gradually decrease in recent years, but at a rate that, if continued, would fall far short of H&F's 2030 net zero target and the level needed to avoid catastrophic climate change.
- 5.2 The council is already taking action to reduce carbon emissions, including facilitating the sustainable future of transport by installing the largest electric vehicle charging network in London.
- 5.3 A climate change strategy is needed to strengthen activity already underway, through identifying where the needs and opportunities are for further development and new initiatives. Development of a longlist of workstreams to be considered within the strategy is in progress, to be further developed and assessed against criteria for effectiveness in addressing climate change and biodiversity loss, value for money and alignment with H&F's priorities. We will do this with residents, with partners such as the Mayor of London, other local authorities, residents' associations and the voluntary sector.
- 5.4 The establishment of a dedicated Climate Change Unit, that will work across all departments, demonstrates the council's commitment to an ambitious agenda for reducing its net emissions to zero by 2030. While individual workstreams have been progressed in different departments to date, dedicated resource is needed to develop and coordinate a single strategy for the council, ensuring our activity is rationalised for the greatest impact.
- 5.5 H&F's five priorities include doing things with residents, not to them. An independent commission on climate change will allow residents to coproduce a borough-wide strategy that coordinates residents, businesses, organisations and the council in taking action, built around our unique local contexts, strengths and assets.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 This report sets an outline direction for H&F's workstreams to address climate change. This includes the establishment of a resident-led commission to take evidence and assess policy in this area, ensuring decisive resident involvement in these ongoing workstreams.

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no negative equality implications for protected groups under the Equalities Act 2010, by the adoption of the Recommendations.

7.2 *Implications completed by Fawad Bhatti, Social Inclusion Policy Manager, tel. 07500 103617.*

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no legal implications in respect of what is proposed.

Implications completed by Adesuwa Omoregie, Chief Solicitor (Planning and Property).

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The financial implications of the recommendations will need to be contained within existing revenue and capital budgets as agreed by Council for 19/20 and future budgets to be agreed by Council as part of budget setting. In addition, officers will need to explore the use any potential S106 and/or Public Health Budgets.

9.2 *Implications completed by Hitesh Jolapara, Director of Finance & Governance. Verified by Emily Hill, Assistant Director of Corporate Finance.*

10. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS

10.1 The target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2030 will require far-reaching changes to the council's procurement and operations, not all the effects of which can be known at this stage. Implications for businesses may depend on the climate impact of their individual operations. However, local businesses may benefit from sourcing goods and services more locally to reduce H&F's carbon footprint, and from investment in the 'green economy', such as the undertaking of works to improve energy efficiency.

10.2 The establishment of a climate change unit and development of a 'zero carbon strategy' have neutral implications in themselves, although onward implications from changes to council policy and operations will be as above.

10.3 The launch of a resident-led commission that seeks evidence and views from various local stakeholders including business will have a positive impact on these businesses, as it will provide a forum for their view to be heard in the development of council policy.

10.4 *Implications verified by Alben Karameros, Economic Development Team.*

11. COMMERCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no direct procurement implications resulting from this paper.

- 11.2 The procurement team is already working on the launch of a social value policy statement, which will be a step change in securing additional value from our contracts. It will enable us to focus on the wider societal benefit in those areas which the Council has identified as being of the greatest strategic importance, as defined in our core strategies and objectives.
- 11.3 The Social Value Policy is to be placed in the context of how bidders can play a key role when delivering a service, while addressing challenges we face in our communities. Social Value will be embedded into our commissioning, procurement and contract management approach. This will introduce greater innovation in the procurement process and achieve better outcomes for our residents.
- 11.4 In parallel with this, a social value matrix is being developed to define outcomes and measurement for strategic needs. In fact, outcomes such as: improve air quality, promote biodiversity, reduce traffic congestion and pollution, make our streets cleaner and greener will be included in the technical questions and bidders will be evaluated against them, which will then be part of the contract as key performance indicator(s).
- 11.5 In addition, following the establishment of the climate change resident-led commission, the procurement team will work with the commission to develop minimum standards requirements for all tenderers. These will be implemented into the tender documentation templates to ensure contractors' compliance with the Council's climate change commitments.
- 11.6 *Implications completed by Ilaria Agueci, Procurement Consultant, Contracts and Procurement.*

12. IT IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1. No IT implications are considered to arise from this report as it sets out H&F's strategy in response to climate change. Should this not be the case, for example, by requiring new systems to be procured or existing systems to be modified; or, should this change, for example, by considering how information technology (e.g. predictive analytics, IoT sensors) could be deployed to enable the implementation of this strategy (e.g. by monitoring carbon emissions); IT Services should be consulted.
- 12.2. IM implications: a Privacy Impact Assessment(s) should be carried out to ensure that all the potential data protection risks (e.g. in engaging with the resident-led commission) around implementing this strategy are properly assessed with mitigating actions agreed and implemented.
- 12.3. Any contracts arising from this report will need to include H&F's data protection and processing schedule if this is not yet the case. This is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) enacted from 25 May 2018.

- 12.4. Any suppliers engaged as a result of this report will be expected to have a GDPR policy in place and all staff will be expected to have received GDPR training.
- 12.5. *Implications verified/completed by: Tina Akpogheneta, Interim Head of Strategy and Strategic Relationship Manager, IT Services, tel 0208 753 5748.*

13. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 13.1 The report proposals seek to build on the work already being done by the Council in line with its Business Plan 2018-2022, and to contribute to our Council Priority, to Take pride in Hammersmith & Fulham by working hard to be the most environmentally positive borough in London and ensuring our public needs and expectations risk is well managed by delivering a place that is safe, clean and green.
- 13.2 The wider benefits to risk management include those to Public Health by moving away from traditional fossil fuels and activities which generate carbon emissions. The Commission will also need to consider the zero carbon strategy and proposals to enable the Council to meet the 2030 target in line with the Council objective of being Ruthlessly Financially Efficient.
- 13.3 *Implications completed by: David Hughes, Director of Audit, Fraud, Risk and Insurance on 0207 361 2389*

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

- 14.1 No additional papers.