

EXECUTIVE 22 JANUARY 2014

REPORT OF ROB PARKINSON CHIEF OFFICER (ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH)

CLIMATE LOCAL

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The report seeks to advise Executive of the HBBC Climate Local commitments following the decision by Executive to become a signatory.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.2 That Executive approve the Climate Local Commitments Action Plan 2014-17

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

- 3.1 Climate Local is a refreshed version of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change which Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council signed in 2004. The Council reaffirmed its commitment on the 28 November 2006 by signing the Nottingham Declaration 2, requiring the Authority to prepare a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.
- 3.2 The Hinckley and Bosworth Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2008-11 was adopted on 29 April 2009. The refreshed 2011-14 version is now under review. An updated 2014 – 2017 Climate Change Action Plan is currently being developed. The attached Climate Local Commitments Action Plan 2014-17 takes these commitments and actions and aligns them to the Climate Local format.
- 3.3 Climate Local results from the Local Government Group (LGG) and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which acknowledges the pivotal role of local authorities in reducing carbon emissions. It sets out how DECC and the LG Group proposes to work together to help and encourage all local authorities to take firm actions to reduce their own carbon emissions, reduce emissions in their area and participate in national carbon reduction initiatives at the local level.
- 3.4 The purpose of Climate Local is to provide a framework that can reflect local priorities and opportunities for action addressing climate change including all HBBC's plans and activities. To this end, the commitments are a compilation of current and future commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change.
- 3.5 The commitments will be published on the Local Government Association Climate Local website with the Climate Local commitments of other signatories.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (SE)**

Any costs associated with this scheme are expected to be met within existing budgets.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (AB)

Like its predecessor the Nottingham Declaration, the Climate Local Declaration will not be a legally binding document and no legal liability will accrue against the Council for a failure to meet any of the commitments within it.

6. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This report supports the vision “a borough to be proud of” contained in the Corporate Plan 2010 to 2015 and contributes to all the priorities referred to in “Creating a Vibrant Place to Work and Live” by reducing carbon dioxide emissions and enhancing and protecting the natural environment, and sustaining economic growth by attracting new jobs and investment in “green” industries. It will also play a part in reducing fuel poverty by supporting more elements of the community through an emphasis on business and enterprise development and volunteering.

7. CONSULTATION

Consultation was carried out with Scrutiny Environment Group.

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is the Council’s policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer’s opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

| Management of significant (Net Red) Risks | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| Risk Description | Mitigating actions | Owner |
| There will be a risk to the authority’s reputation through a lack of commitment to climate change action. | As Climate Local replaces the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change, signing will support HBBC’s action on carbon reduction and climate resilience. | Jane Neachell |

9. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no further implications identified in conforming to the EIA carried out for the HBBC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

10. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning Implications
- Voluntary Sector

Background papers: Climate Change Action Plan 2011-14

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