

Medway Council
Update on actions from previous meeting
of Climate Change Member Advisory Group
Tuesday, 20 April 2021

- 5.19 The group asked about options for tree sponsorship as some Members have had requests from residents wishing to sponsor a tree in their street. The Chair confirmed that this was being looked into. (00:54:15)

Update: The existing Medway Tree Fund will be updated to include the option to request planting of trees at ward area level only. The intention of the emerging tree strategy is to provide a blueprint for planting the right tree in the right place and with this in mind trees will be planted in areas where a full assessment has been carried out. Sponsorship implies an exchange of a service (which could include selecting the location of the tree) bringing with it tax implications. It can become very emotive if, for example, vandalism or disease occurs and it is not possible to replace a tree in a specific location. Therefore at this time it is recommended that the donation process will continue as it is with ward selection option due to be added.

- 5.23 It was confirmed that aviation and shipping are now being included in emissions etc so we may have a bit of gap in terms of engaging and asked Members to share contact details with the Climate team to include in stakeholder engagement plan. (01:01:00) **Action: Members to forward list of aviation and shipping contacts.**

Update: Details received and contact will be made under engagement strategy work on formal appointment of Climate Response Engagement Officer.

- 5.24 Members asked Planning officers if they know the number of applications that have conditions around car clubs. (01:04:15) **Action: Planning to find out how many applications there are around car clubs and how many have been implemented.**

Update: Further work required to embed the collation of this information within monitoring processes. Update to be given at next meeting.

- 5.25 Members asked if going forward the group could meet more regularly but for the meetings to be shorter in length and only focus on only one of two of the actions instead of covering all 11 in one meeting. (01:06:20) **Action: Chair to discuss with Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive.**

Update: This was discussed and agreed that there is no need for additional meetings at this stage. Subject to agreement on the Communications and Engagement Strategy the requirement for special meetings will be revisited again.

- 5.26 The group asked officers to look into the “race to zero campaign” and consider signing up to it as a Council (01:08:30) **Action: *Climate team to look into and feedback to Chair.***

Update: Other local authorities have signed up to the Cities Race to Zero element of the programme although it is noted that Kent districts have not signed up to the programme. Further understanding is needed to establish how much additional work will be required as there is a requirement to commit to public reporting at least annually. This will be reviewed subject to the successful appointment of additional officers within the Climate Response team.

- 6.2 The Chair outlined that there will a draft plan available for the next meeting which will also show how to take the plans forward. The Chair noted that a stakeholder board will be required to embrace businesses, public bodies such as the NHS. The board should have a robust structure and ground in solid achievements. (01:11:45)

Update: to be discussed under item 5 on the agenda.

- 6.3 **Action: *Date of next meeting to be agreed and circulated.***

Update: Apologies that this date wasn't circulated to the group sooner.

- 6.4 The group were invited to submit comments on the plan by 7th May for consideration (01:16:15) **Action: *Members to share comments on the action plan.***

Update: Comments received and acknowledged.