Climate Change Member Advisory Group 10 November 2022 Item 8. Update on Action Plan

The refreshed Climate Change Action Plan was endorsed by Cabinet in July. It has been published to the Council website and sits alongside the 2021 version and an updated simplified version, here. 15 priority actions are highlighted within the plan and a lead officer identified as being responsible for the delivery of each action. The Climate Response team has been working with officers to improve internal reporting processes since the last Member Advisory Group (MAG) meeting.\ There has also been a focus on engagement activities, more details of which are available under Priority Area 10: Communications.

Priority 1: Emission Reduction Pathways to 2050

The Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy (KMELES) annual report (2021) has been published by Kent County Council (KCC). A number of Medway case studies feature within the report. The Climate Response team will be attending the annual Kent Environment Strategy Conference, the theme of which is "Sustainable and Resilient", on 10 November. Officers have continued to work alongside the Kent Climate Change Network and the Procurement subgroup. Key outputs have been:

• the development of key indicators which can be used by all Kent districts to monitor progress against the KMELES. The Climate Response intern at Medway has mapped these against the actions in the climate change action plan to see where they can be used to support future reporting. An intern has also looked at wider data sets which compliment this work and can inform the development of a Medway area Climate Change Business Intelligence Scorecard.

Roll out of the Kent and Medway wide Market Position Statement, mentioned in the previous MAG update, is on hold until it has been progressed through KCC's formal governance process.

The collection and validation of energy usage data for 2021/22 has started during this quarter and will continue into Q3. This information will be used to carry out carbon emissions calculations which will be formalised into a report for publishing on the Council's website in 2023. On completion, it should be possible to report on the efficiencies made this time in terms of data collection.

The Climate Response team has contacted other local authorities about how they have formulated and produced a system for assessing the carbon/financial impact of all measures within the Action Plan to assist with prioritisation and are waiting on responses. The Climate Response team have undertaken a review of high-performing local authority action plans to identify case studies which could inform the Council's developing approach to tackling climate change.

Mileage and user allowance data from 2016-2022 has been collected so analysis can begin on the impact of rolling out the use of fuel cards. This will inform an options appraisal which is expected to be completed by the end of December.

An industry placement is due to commence in November (through to May 2023). The student, from the University of Kent, will be tasked with undertaking an assessment of the Council's Scope 3 emissions.

Priority 2: Public Sector Decision Making

The following service areas have reported incorporating climate change into strategies, policies and plans:

- HR are focusing on introducing new employee benefits that have a climate focus.
 Work is underway to implement the increase in the pence per mile claim rate for those using an electric vehicle for business purposes.
- Climate change agenda incorporated into the School Place Planning Strategy (May 2022), the annual review (October 2022) and revised Home to School Transport Policy (refresh due Spring 2023).
- Standard report template and associated report writing guidance reviewed and updated by Democratic Services with regards to report authors including "climate change implications" in their reports to Cabinet, Council, O&S Committees and Regulatory Committees.
- The new Highway Strategy and Policy aligns with numerous council policies and the climate change agenda; including utilising low carbon maintenance techniques and reducing congestion to improve the environment.
- Emerging Neighbourhood Plans are being reviewed to ensure inclusion of climate change considerations.

The following services have reported incorporating climate change as a consideration within internal service plans from 2022/23:

- School Services Service Plan and by extension into the Education and SEND division's plan.
- HIF and Regeneration Service Plan
- Adult Partnership Commissioning Service Plan
- Valuation and Asset Management Service Plan
- Culture and Libraries Management Plan.

The polling district review has been completed and approved by Council in July. As far as possible polling places are within walking distance of the majority of voters to minimise the use of vehicles.

All training provided by the Council's Corporate Trainer now includes a slide, at the beginning of all council created corporate training, outlining the carbon management message and how delegates are contributing to climate change. A cohort of 27 people completed Carbon Literacy Training, delivered by the Centre for Alternative Technology's Zero Carbon Britain (ZCB) team. A short one-hour bespoke training session was also delivered by ZCB to 13 members of staff. This one-hour training session will help to inform decisions on how to progress the development of training material/programmes.

The Climate Response Officer attended their first Equalities Board meeting and is looking forward to attending future board meetings.

13 carriageway resurfacing sites have been completed this financial year (April-August) with a total area of 24,000m2. The asphalt which was planned out as part of these schemes is managed by a third party who recycle the stone.

The Medway Food Partnership Climate Change subgroup has focused on encouraging businesses to sign up to the Refill scheme. The scheme encourages businesses and organisations to provide people with access to free drinking water. Anyone can either download an app to tell them where the closest business or organisation offering the scheme

is or look for a sticker in the business' window. Currently 66 Medway businesses are signed up to the scheme. A new Medway toolkit to explain the benefits of the scheme is almost complete and will be used to encourage additional businesses to sign up. The subgroup are currently working on setting new priorities for the year ahead which will support the recently refreshed Climate Change Action Plan.

An initial exploration of various British Standards Institution (BSI) accreditations has taken place, but a further review is needed to understand the difference between these and to make recommendations about how they could support the delivery and development of the Climate Change Action Plan. Recommendations, based on a review of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, informed new actions within the refreshed action plan.

Community Hubs and Libraries have an ongoing partnership with the Climate Response Team with their 16 venues, social media channels and Outreach and Partnership Team, providing regular support to any climate change related campaigns. The Medway Culture newsletter regularly highlights opportunities for Medway's creative sector to engage in conversations and training around climate change and sustainability. A free event management training session is provided which includes an environmental sustainability section. This Summer, environmental charities and groups have been invited to have stalls at Medway's Cultural events programme. Commissioned works, which include the theme of sustainability, include Electric Medway's augmented river themed festival (August 2022) and the Icon Theatre production "The Ballad of St John's Car Park", a local theatre show (October 2022). See Create partnered with the Living River Foundation to offer a Litter Boat art activity for deaf families at The Festival of Chatham Reach. In October, the Medway Fun Palace programme also included a number of environmental themed art activities including the opportunity to craft bugs and butterflies and decorate a tree with leaves.

Two interns from the University of Kent Employability Points scheme have completed 12 week posts this Summer. All work has been completed to a very high standard, supporting actions within the Climate Change Action Plan. Two interns have also been appointed by Medway Norse and Public Health, additionally completing work to support the action plan. An offer to host an intern from the Greenwich University was also made but no applications were received on this occasion.

Priority 3: Planning and Development

Several updates to policies in the new Local Plan, which will support actions in the Climate Change Action Plan, are dependent on the wider Local Plan adoption timetable. Validation requirements have been changed so that all planning applications for new development are required to include information on climate change and energy efficiency.

Funding has been awarded to introduce sustainable drainage schemes in schools. Works will start at the Robert Napier School this year. Funding has been awarded to produce a design code for Chatham Town Centre, which will include actions relating to climate change in consultation with the Climate Response team.

The Climate Response team has commented on the Hoo Development Framework consultation and a draft has been issued for <u>public consultation</u> (ends on 25 November). The development framework includes guiding principles for future development to help deliver sustainable growth on the Hoo Peninsula.

The <u>Housing Infrastructure Fund Environmental Impact Assessment</u> remains on programme and is 70% complete for the Road EIA and 55% complete for the Rail EIA.

Priority 4: Climate Emergency Funding

See separate update against Agenda Item 5.

Priority 5: Building Retrofit Programme

The Social Housing Decarbonation Fund bid window has now opened. The Housing team are putting together the list of properties that will be included in the bid, based on previously completed Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) surveys and outputs from energy modelling software, as well as several reserve properties if some are deemed not suitable. If the bid is successful it is anticipated that works will be undertaken to an estimated 500 properties, with the aim of bringing all of the Council's housing stock up to an EPC C rating. The type of works will include loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, LED lighting and draft proofing. The object is to make the properties airtight and as energy efficient as possible while taking into account the need for the property to breath to ensure condensation does not become a problem. Through conducting these works properties will become more energy efficient and require less to heat them and therefore reduce both bills and carbon emissions. If successful, it is anticipated that works will commence in early 2023 and complete by the end of 2024. The closing date to submit the bid is 18 November 2022.

Phase One of Re:fit (the Council's energy efficiency and low carbon programme) is 80% complete. Phase 2 will focus on the delivery of low carbon heating across 20 Council owned buildings as per the successful Phase 3a Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding bid.

Letting agents are being provided with advice and guidance in terms of complying with all areas of legislation in relation to letting properties, including energy performance. Where the advice hasn't been followed action is currently being considered in line with the Council's enforcement policy.

LED lighting is included in the scope for any new school builds and is currently included in the scope for three school projects. There is insufficient funding to include LED lighting within maintenance project budgets for existing schools but if funding is available in the future this can be looked into. Schools are also encouraged to upgrade to LED lighting. Non fossil fuelled heating systems are being considered for new schools but are not practical in the majority of existing schools due to the age of the buildings and the requirement for replacement or re-routing of additional pipework which would cause additional expense along with other issues that could impact the schools.

The LED street lighting programme is virtually complete and on track for completion for the end of November 2022.

No building retrofit schemes have been forwarded to the Trading Standards team to check for legitimacy, in this quarter.

Priority 6: Transport, Travel and Digital Connectivity

To date, 34 EV charge points have been installed within three of our public car parks. We would like to see more EV charge points installed in our car parks over time; however, it is important that we monitor and promote the ones we have already put in, as we want them to be used and not sit empty for long periods of time while others may struggle to park. We also need to monitor the energy price situation and the cost-of-living increases to see if this has an impact on people's decisions about electric vehicles. We have therefore paused our work to install further EV charge points in Council-owned car parks. Notwithstanding this, we are open to considering options for on-street charging. The Council's funding is limited so we

would be looking for a commercial provider to lead on this; conversations with Ubitricity, regarding a potential EV on-street charging pilot project, are ongoing. Officers are also involved in discussions with the Transport for the South East (TfSE) to ensure alignment with the development of a regional EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy.

The EV charging point survey remains live on the Council website, with 429 responses received from the public between June 2020 and August 2022. Results and feedback continue to be collated via the Business Intelligence Team and monitored via an online Power BI dashboard. EV webpages continue to be updated where necessary.

EV charging points have been installed at each of our new or expanded schools in line with guidance/conditions set by Planning. To date, two points have been installed at two schools (Danecourt satellite provision at Featherby Infant school in Gillingham and Bradfields Academy in Chatham).

The draft Air Quality Action Plan for Four Elms Hill was approved for adoption by Cabinet on 23rd August 2022. Updates on the implementation will be provided through the yearly Annual Status Report (ASR) which is due for submission to DEFRA each July. The first update on the Four Elms Hill Air Quality Action Plan will be included in the 2023 Annual Status Report.

The Kent and Medway Journey Share and the Medway Council closed car share community group will be promoted as part of Liftshare week in October.

The tendering process for the ULEV feasibility study (for taxi and private hire trade) has started.

Online application processes now exist for all public facing parking permits and season tickets, including daily visitor parking vouchers, thus reducing the need for printing and travel. This accompanies the pre-existing online services for the Medway Youth Pass, older persons, and disabled persons bus passes. The focus now shifts toward other school bus passes that the Council offer, alongside a review of those longer standing online services, to identify improvements that would increase uptake from citizens and businesses.

Plans are underway to review how committees are administered to minimise the printing of report packs by taking advantage of digital devices / additional screens.

Phase 2 of the rollout of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Parking Management Solution in car parks has started in Rochester. Rochester Multi Storey Car Park will become totally cashless in October 2022 based on usage data showing that less than 1% of customers used cash. This will reduce carbon emissions as the car park can be removed from the cash collection rounds.

Officers are continuing to review emission reduction options for the Council's RCV fleet.

Priority 7: Renewable Energy Generation

There have been some supply chain issues for the Solar Together Kent installer allocated to Medway and as a result customers were invited to switch supplier this summer before surveys commenced. 126 of the 147 residents that accepted the original offer have made the switch to the new installer, Homesmart. 98 onsite surveys have been completed, with 17 installs complete and a further 34 confirmed bookings. Officers continue to attend regular meetings with iChoosr, the administrators of the scheme, to monitor progress.

Funding bid submitted for Detailed Planning and Development Study for Chatham River Source Heat Network and the outcome is awaited from BEIS.

Council owned sites have been fully investigated as potential sites for large scale solar PV generation. One suitable site has been identified and is currently being explored further.

Priority 8: Green and Blue Infrastructure

Trees and/or hedges have been planted at each of our new or expanded schools in line with guidance/conditions set by Planning. To date, planting has been completed at two schools (Danecourt satellite provision at Featherby Infant school in Gillingham and Bradfields Academy in Chatham) with a further two schools in the pipeline.

Medway's Organic Waste contract is due to expire in September 2025. Work will begin this year to explore options for the next contract, to consider the requirements of the Environment Act alongside the feasibility of making soil improver readily available for customers.

As per the update under priority area 4, £115,668.00 has been awarded from the Local Authority Treescapes Fund (LATF) for 150 trees to be planted, across the 2022/23 and 2023/24 planting seasons, as replacements for trees lost on the highway.

Priority 9: Supporting Low Carbon Business

Providing advice and guidance to ensure that the Essential Packaging and Waste Directive is being followed by Medway mail order and online businesses is an ongoing area of work for Trading Standards. Both reactionary and pro-active action is taken where necessary. No complaints regarding this area of work have been received in Q2.

Climate change pledges, under the Kent and Medway Workplace Wellbeing Award, have been updated following feedback received at the Climate Members Advisory Group in July. During Q2, an increased number of businesses have made environmental pledges, with 3 businesses making a total of 7 pledges on environmental issues as part of their award.

Adult Partnership Commissioning now ensure that providers of new contracts are evidencing how they are reducing their carbon footprint. A dedicated climate change page is included on the <u>Medway Care Portal</u>. More work will take place to increase the content and improve the look.

Priority 10: Communications

Surveys

• The results of the public survey on Climate Change have been collated and reviewed. 71 responses were received of which a positive 84% agree that their actions can help tackle climate change and 90% agree that reducing the impact on the environment is a personal priority. Over half of respondents are aware that Medway Council has a Climate Change Action Plan and what it includes (59%). Only 29% of respondents agree that they know climate change related campaigns and events are taking place in Medway and 24% agree that they know they can get involved in climate change action in Medway. The Climate Response team shared the results of the survey at a recent Service Managers meeting and asked the group to consider existing links with under-represented groups that could be progressed as part of future engagement activities. A response to the suggestions raised in the survey will be published on the Climate Change webpages in Q3. It is intended that the responses to the survey will inform future engagement activities in 2023.

 Planning is underway for the Q3 Citizen's Panel. The Council's first Digital, Data, and Technology Strategy will be presented to Transformation Board on 20 September, so the Q3 Citizen Panel will include questions on accessing the Council's current, and future, digital services.

Events

A programme of events was developed to support Great Big Green Week between 24 September - 2 October. This included a variety of activities focussed at young people including a webinar for schools to ensure that they know how to support young people's mental health when engaging them in climate change. Other activities throughout the week included:

- Workshops with groups under-represented in climate action, to find out what barriers
 they face and how we can alleviate them to ensure inclusive engagement in future
 and improve our action plan. Two workshops were planned in partnership with the
 Disability Medway Network. A workshop was also planned with the Medway Deaf
 Club.
- Ranger walks at Riverside Country Park for families to learn about the ecosystem and why it is important. This included worksheets for young people and their parents/guardians to work on.
- Birdwise walk to teach people about migrating birds in Medway, and how to responsibly walk dogs nearby.
- An Energy Cafe, to help people in Medway find support for their rising energy bills, find out about opportunities to make their homes more efficient, and sign up for grants. This took place on 1 October, and British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters were present to ensure that it was accessible to the deaf community. A feedback survey was created to support the future planning of similar events. The Energy Cafe allowed all attendees to find advice and support in person and sign up to discount schemes that may have found inaccessible to complete alone at home. The Sustainable Warmth Scheme was promoted, and Citizens Advice Bureau and Southern Water were also present.

Two members of the Environmental Engagement Team have completed an 8-week BSL course, to allow them to communicate with the deaf community while out promoting recycling at events. The Climate Response Engagement Officer has attended a full-day Deaf Awareness Course, to learn about how events and activities can be made more inclusive.

The Climate Response team attended a variety of events this summer, to promote the Climate Change Action Plan, and engage the wider community to hear their thoughts on the recent refresh. It is estimated that 1,275 people were spoken to across all of the events. These events included:

- Love Chatham Carnival, Saturday 9 July, estimated 130 people spoken to
- Medway Gaming Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July, estimated 200 people spoken to. Young people were provided with an opportunity to use virtual reality headsets to engage with the natural world and to write down how they could take action on a large pledge board.
- Rainham Community Day, Thursday 4 August, estimated 70 people spoken to
- Chatham Family Fun Day, Friday 12 August, estimated 75 people spoken to. Young
 people and their families were encouraged to play a matching game to learn about
 the carbon footprints of actions, ask questions about the Council's climate actions
 and give feedback

- Medway Pride, Saturday 20 August, estimated 500 people spoken to
- Wild About Capstone, Sunday 25 September, estimated 300 people spoken to. 112 new subscribers to the newsletter post event.

The Environmental Engagement Team attended the following events, speaking to a total of 1,824 people:

- Christ The King Church Princes Park 02.07.22, 17 people spoken to
- High Halstow summer fayre 02.07.22, 60 people spoken to
- Cozenton Park pop up with Animal Wardens 05.07.22, 22 people spoken to
- Greenvale School Fayre 06.07.22, 34 people spoken to
- Grain Coastal Park pop up with Animal Wardens 08.07.22, 22 people spoken to
- St Augustine's Church 13.07.22, 15 people spoken to
- IOG carnival 16/07/22, 45 people spoken to
- Esplanade Summer Fete 23.07.22, 30 people spoken to
- Safety in Action Dockyard 24.07.22, 962 people spoken to
- Beechings Way pop with Animal Wardens 26.07.22, 23 people spoken to
- Crestway Community Centre Fair 30.07.22, 54 people spoken to
- Chestnut Field pop up with Animal Wardens 03.08.22, 23 people spoken to
- Rainham Community Day Rainham Precinct 04.08.22, 136 people spoken to
- The Net Recycling Surgery 15.08.22, 10 people spoken to
- Rainham Rec pop up with Animal Wardens 24.08.22, 9 people spoken to
- Christ Church Luton Rd 06.09.22, 10 people spoken to
- St Augustin Church 14.09.22, 34 people spoken to
- Mid Kent College 14.09.22, 15.09.22, 16.09.22, 305 people spoken to
- Riverside Country Park pop up with Animal Wardens 16.09.22 13 people spoken to

In October, the Walk to School challenge is taking place, which will challenge young people to walk to school. This challenge has been organised with Public Health and Child Friendly Medway. All classes that take part and support their school in completing the 200mile challenge will be entered into a prize draw. There is also an anti-idling school competition being planned for launch in January, and more details will be worked out in Q3.

A #SmallChanges campaign is currently being organised to coincide with COP27 in Q3, to deliver messages of what is happening globally, and what small changes we can all do to support this global action at a local level.

National Awareness Days promoted in Q2:

- Plastic Free July
- National Marine Week
- National Allotments Week
- Organic September
- Zero Waste Week

Social Media - Facebook and Instagram

- The Environmental Team Facebook page reached 65,735 accounts from 1 July-20 September, a 14.6% increase from 10 April-1 June. The page received 1029 visits, up 36.5%. It received 44 new page likes, down 13.7%.
- Instagram reached 560 people during this period, an increase of 12%. It had 74 profile visits, down 24.5%. It received 38 new followers, down 25.5% from the

- previous period. Instagram stories had a reach of 169, down 13.6% from the last period.
- During this period, there was a total of 157 posts to Facebook and Instagram (including Instagram stories).

Social Media - Twitter

- On the Medway Climate Change Twitter page, in September (up to 20 September) there were 14 tweets (down 17.6% due to mourning period), 2,652 impressions (down 38%), 919 profile visits (up 53.9%) and followers increased by 8. In August, there were 16 tweets, 4,300 impressions, 553 profile visits, 2 mentions and 12 new followers. In July, there was 34 tweets, 8,431 impressions, 987 profile visits, 4 mentions and 13 new followers.
- The Medway Recycles Twitter posted 23 tweets in July, and had 8200 impressions. In August, there were 16 tweets, and 4045 impressions.

Webpage

- The climate webpage content continues to be reviewed and updated. In July, the climate change action plan pages were refreshed to reflect the refreshed action plan, and further updates on progress have been added.
- Content continues to be added to the case studies page. See additional paper on Case Studies.

Newsletter

- The Climate Change Newsletter now has 1,639 subscribers.
- The July newsletter contained articles on Plastic Free July, the Medway Gaming and Creative Festival, Sustainable Warmth Grant, National Allotments Week, and a variety of citizen science surveys the public can support, and a list of upcoming national days. The newsletter had a 44% open rate, with 527 unique opens and 829 total opens. There were 72 unique clicks on links, with the Sustainable Warmth grant receiving 24 unique clicks.
- The August Newsletter contained an article on the Climate Change Action Plan Refresh, outlining examples of new actions and priority actions. It introduced the Great Big Green Week and the Medway Schools Climate Network and included a call out for people to tell us what they are doing to respond to climate change and a list of upcoming national days. The newsletter had a 40% open rate, with 529 unique opens and 836 total opens. There were 73 unique clicks on the links within the newsletter, with the Great Big Green Week having 19 unique clicks, and the Climate Change Action Plan having 17.
- The September newsletter had to be delayed due to honouring the mourning period after HRH Queen Elizabeth passed away. This newsletter was sent on 27 September and featured the Great Big Green Week, Walk to School Challenge and Freegle. It had a 45% open rate, with 705 unique opens, and 1,149 total opens. There were 41 unique clicks on links in the newsletter, Freegle having 15 clicks, and the Energy Café having 8.

Engagement with wider audiences

The Medway Environmental Action Group (MEAN) is still in the process of being set up. They have written and submitted a Terms of Reference for review. It has been agreed that MEAN will have a meeting prior to the November 2022 Members Advisory Group (MAG) to discuss topics with a member of the Climate Response Team and through that meeting,

updates will be shared with MAG and likewise the outcome of discussions at MAG will be fed back to MEAN by officers.

A Climate Response Intern contacted all Parish Councils during Q2 to offer to work with Parish councils on climate change, but currently no responses have been received. The Climate Response Engagement Officer attended the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) to further offer to work with Parish Councils on climate action.

Public Health are carrying out external stakeholder mapping of commissioned and additional support for our communities in managing climate anxiety.

The KM Green Schools Award nominations have been extended until the end of September. Several Medway schools have been nominated for their work in the area of climate change action, including active travel and air quality. The Council's Sustainable Transport Team continue to promote active travel initiatives to schools in Medway throughout the academic year, including National Walk to School Week, Walk Once a Week (WOW) and The Big Walk and Wheel campaign.

The outcome from the school survey was to support schools by setting up a Schools Network to share best practice between schools. The network has now meet twice and will meet each term.

Internal Communications

Conversations are still ongoing about the best format and content to include in a Medway Champions training module. This has been guided by the content within the Carbon Literacy and a shorter bespoke training delivered by Zero Carbon Britain to staff in Q2. In Q3 a decision will be made for the best format for training for council staff, and this will be used to develop further training such as the Medway Champions training to ensure consistency.

The Communications team are developing a programme of seminars which will include short sessions on behaviour change and options for a Member's briefing session are being explored.

The Climate Response team attended the Service Manager's meeting and introduced the idea of an informal staff network and asked for feedback about whether managers would support it and ideas for how the network could run. The team also raised awareness of the Climate Change volunteering days for staff, sustainable travel and staff incentives, the wider engagement programme including with businesses and the climate change webpages for sharing with service users and partners.

The LADS 2 (Local Authority Delivery System Phase 2) and Sustainable Warmth schemes have been advertised using a combination of Social Media, voluntary and community sector partners and via internal teams. The new Sustainable Warmth Officer also attended local events, such as the Gaming Festival, with the Climate Response Team to promote these schemes in a wider environmental context. This has been very successful in getting Medway residents signed up. The Housing team are in the process of rolling out an additional scheme under the ECO4 (Energy Company Obligation Phase 4). They are currently awaiting confirmation from Category Management on using a framework for procurement and appropriate suppliers.

See also, the notes on the Energy Café as part of Great Big Green Week (above).

The Housing team are taking part in a consortium with the LGA, KCC and other Kent authorities on a Behavioural Insights Programme. The consortium is working with The

Behaviouralist on designing a pilot on changing behaviours and energy efficiency activities. The consortium has decided on an intervention called "Share the warmth" and conversations have started with Communications and Marketing to promote this. The pilot is aimed to start in mid to late October.

Priority 11: Climate Adaptation and Resilience

No further work undertaken this quarter on the Kent and Medway Climate Change Adaptation Programme and Implementation Plan while we await the latest version of the programme document from KCC.

The Environmental Protection team have continued to raise awareness of the Kent forecast services at events in Q2.

Areas for additional gully cleansing have been identified for 2022/23 and include an annual regime of the A&B network, the Resilient Network and known flood sites. This is identified within the new Drainage Policy and Plan which was adopted in August 2022.