



**ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE – 28 JUNE 2018**

**ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY**

**MINUTE EXTRACT**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment and Transport concerning the Environment Strategy. A copy of the report, marked “Agenda Item 12” is filed with these minutes.

In response to comments and questions the Committee was advised as follows

- i) The Strategy sets out six broad themes with supporting aims and objectives. These have been written in such a way to allow for flexibility to respond to the nationally changing picture as and when the Government sets out its policy position on the environment and how it expects its policy position to be delivered.
- ii) Single use plastics was recently identified as a key issue in the public consciousness. Within the theme “Reduced Resource Use and Low/Zero Carbon Energy” the action plan includes an action to explore reducing the use of single use plastics. Whilst this was scheduled to start in October officers had already began looking at how plastic use could be reduced within the County Council.
- iii) The governance arrangements would enable the Council to look at its position across all departments allowing a more joined up approach than had previously been taken.
- iv) The Carbon Reduction Strategy would be subsumed within the new Environment Strategy to allow for a more joined up approach. It was however noted, that due to economic growth and the slow pace of moving to low emission vehicles nationally, that the challenges of traffic emissions were likely to increase.
- v) The County Council had come a long way with introduction of its biomass boiler, LED lighting and solar panels. The Environment Strategy would enable the Council to go further in minimising its environmental impact and improving the health and wellbeing of people whilst contributing to the sustainable economic development of the County.

The committee also suggested that the vision statement of the Strategy was considered too wordy and could be shortened.

RESOLVED: -

That the comments of the Committee be submitted to the Cabinet and the Cabinet be advised of its support for the Environment Strategy.