

**CABINET – 28 APRIL 2020****ITEM 5 – LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S REVISED  
STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 - 2022**

Page 21 Revised Strategic Plan

This report was presented to the Environment & Scrutiny Committee on March 5<sup>th</sup> when we resolved to support the recommended amendments designed to acknowledge the need to combat climate change. By the time we next saw the report which was at the Scrutiny Commission on April 8<sup>th</sup> it is fair to say that the whole world had changed and it was agreed by everyone present that the ambitions of the County Council would have to take account of the Covid 19 crisis which threatens all of us and everything we do.

Our concerns are referred to in passing in the appendix to the report but the main recommendations are still to note what was said and press on regardless.

I made a careful note of what I said at the meeting which of course took place remotely. I believe that everyone else who spoke agreed with the sentiments.

I pointed out “ The impact of the crisis is going to be deeper and longer lasting than anyone envisaged at the start. This report was written over a month ago and our world has since changed out of all recognition. The County Council has a recovery plan and I know that everyone will want to support it but in the meantime I suggest that we ask the County Cabinet how this report is to be revised in the light of all that has happened. With so many people suffering in so many different ways it cannot be business as usual.”

It is recommended that on July 8<sup>th</sup> the County Council agrees the original plan, taking account of the need to tackle climate change. Can I suggest that the plan needs further revision now in order to recognise the challenges we all face. It is no good pretending that it will all go back to how it was.

Regards

David Bill,

Environment Spokesman, Liberal Democrat Group.

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