

# **NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHADOW AUTHORITY**

## **SHADOW OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Climate Change Strategy</b>
<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Martin Hammond, Interim Monitoring Officer for North Northamptonshire Shadow Authority MartinHammond@kettering.gov.uk</b>

### **List of Appendices**

#### **Appendix A – Motion on climate change**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

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- 1.1. To agree how the Overview and Scrutiny Committee can progress, through a Task and Finish Group, the drafting of a Climate Change Strategy for consideration by the Shadow Executive, the Shadow Authority and the North Northamptonshire Unitary Council.

##### **2. Executive Summary**

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- 1.2. The report details the proposed establishment of a Climate Change Task & Finish Group following the decision of the Shadow Executive on 24 September 2020.

##### **3. Recommendations**

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- 3.1 It is recommended that the Shadow Overview & Scrutiny Committee:
- a) That a task and finish group on climate change be established on the lines set out in this report, with the terms of reference set out below and that this Task and Finish Group be asked to report back no later than the end of January 2021, in order to allow a proposed strategy to be considered by the Shadow Executive and Shadow Authority in February 2021.
- 3.2 *(Reason for Recommendations –Consistency with previous decisions of the Shadow Executive to convene a Task & Finish Group to formulate a Climate Change Strategy for the new Council.)*

## **4. Report Background**

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- 4.1 The Shadow Authority, at its last meeting, considered and referred to the Shadow Executive a motion on climate change (attached as appendix one) .
- 4.2 At its meeting on the 24th September, the Shadow Executive decided that the best route forward would be to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to convene a Task and Finish Group, whose role would be to formulate a draft strategy which could be adopted by the new Council early in its life. In doing so, the Executive recognised the cross party interest in this subject, the potentially wide ranging range of policy interventions that such a strategy could entail, and the importance of devoting sufficient time and energy to making a strategy comprehensive and adoptable by the new Council.
- 4.3 In order to progress this, it is proposed that a Task and Finish Group be established along the lines of the terms of reference set out below with a membership of seven drawn in political proportion from the wider membership of the shadow authority, but chaired by a member of this Committee.

## **5. Issues and Choices**

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### **5.1 Terms of Reference**

5.2 The following ToR are proposed:-

- Identify best practice in environmental enhancement within local authorities locally and nationally
- Identify areas in which the new authority can demonstrate environmental enhancement
- Develop an environmental framework which North Northamptonshire Unitary Authority (NNC) can use to guide its decision making, policy development and service delivery in relation to environmental enhancement and Climate Emergency commitments.

5.3 West Northamptonshire Shadow Authority are using the CFPS/LGA report <https://www.cfps.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/CfPS-Climate-Change-LINKS.pdf> to structure their discussions to arrive at a set of high level recommendations for the new Council.

5.4 At each meeting they are tackling two out of the ten questions, and getting feedback on how they would like this to look in the new council, with presentations from subject matter experts at each to help facilitate thinking.

5.5 The NNC Task and Finish Group will be able, if it wishes, to ask subject matter experts from the wider community and from within the local government family in Northamptonshire to contribute to its deliberations. Dedicated officer support will be provided by the democratic services team and by relevant offices from NCC and the Joint Planning Unit, amongst others.

## **6. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **6.1 Resources and Financial**

There are no resources or financial implications arising from this stage of the process of setting up a task and finish group.

### **6.2 Legal**

6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

### **6.3 Risk**

6.3.1 There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

### **6.4 Consultation**

6.4.1 None at this stage; for the task and finishh group to consider

### **6.5 Environmental Impact**

6.5.1 Clearly, this proposal could make a significant impact eventually on how the new Council approaches its functions and activities and the effect that could have on the wider environment and use of resources.

### **6.6 Community Impact**

6.6.1 Similarly, the proposal could make a significant impact eventually on how the community experiences service delivery, and their use of local assets and infrastructure

## **7. Background Papers**

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### **7.1 CFPS/LGA Report**

<https://www.cfps.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/CfPS-Climate-Change-LINKS.pdf>