Climate Change and Environmental Emergency Council Motion

Eastleigh Borough Council has a long history of tackling climate change; throughout the life of its current Climate Change Strategy the Council has installed thousands of kWh of renewable energy, supported residents and community groups to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, lobbied Government and worked with partners to improve the resilience of the Borough.

Council reaffirms its existing commitment by joining other local authorities and institutions in declaring a Climate Change and Environmental Emergency. In doing so it agrees to:

a) put in place measures to ensure that the Council’s own operations and functions achieve carbon neutrality by 2025,

b) work with partners to aim for all projects and services delivered in the Borough to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030,

c) ensure that the Council’s procurement policy recognises carbon neutrality as one of the primary considerations,

d) recognise the urgency of action to mitigate and adapt to climate change in every decision taken by the Council,

e) establish a cross-party working group to develop a plan for how the Borough of Eastleigh could achieve carbon neutrality by 2030,

   i. to be Chaired by the Cabinet Lead for the Environment and to include representatives from within the local community and businesses,

   ii. to report to Council within six months with a new Climate Change Strategy alongside immediate actions the Council will take to address this emergency,

   iii. to be followed by a detailed Action Plan to be developed to include reporting requirements and assessment of the associated resource implications; and

f) include all of the recommendations above in a revised Climate Change Strategy to be completed and approved by Council in 2019/20.

This report sets out progress to date, baseline assessment and the strategy that the Council is taking to meet these targets.