

Public Document Pack

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To: Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson (Chair)
Members of the Climate Change Committee

17 May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING
CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 23RD MAY, 2023 at 2.00 PM

Yours faithfully

Steven Goodrum
Democratic Services Manager

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. The live streaming will stop when any confidential items are considered. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

A G E N D A

1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

Purpose: To appoint a Vice-Chair for the Committee.

2 APOLOGIES

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

4 MINUTES (Pages 3 - 8)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2023.

5 REACHING OUT TO WIDER COMMUNITY ON CLIMATE CHANGE (Pages 9 - 20)

Purpose: To discuss content of the draft Communication & Engagement plan for the Climate Change Programme and agree approach for Committee engagement with the public and young people.

6 THERMAL ENERGY UTILISING FORMER COAL MINES (Pages 21 - 22)

Purpose: Councillor Allan Marshall to lead discussion on thermal energy and potential within Flintshire.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE INQUIRIES PROGRESS

Purpose: To update the Committee on progress with the Inquiries.

8 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 23 - 28)

Purpose: To consider the Forward Work Programme and inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.

Please note that there may be a 10 minute adjournment of this meeting if it lasts longer than two hours

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE **28 MARCH 2023**

Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Change Committee of Flintshire County Council held as a remote meeting on Tuesday, 28 March 2023

PRESENT: Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson (Chairman)

Councillors: Gillian Brockley, Mared Eastwood, Chrissy Gee, Roz Mansell, Allan Marshall, Carolyn Preece, Dan Rose, Jason Shallcross and Sam Swash

SUBSTITUTIONS:

Councillor Marion Bateman for Councillor Steve Copple and Councillor Rob Davies for Councillor Ian Hodge

IN ATTENDANCE:

Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and the Regional Transport Strategy, Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy, Programme Manager (Climate Change and Carbon Reduction), Service Manager – Planning Strategy, Democratic Services Manager, and Democratic Services Officer

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mared Eastwood declared a personal interest in agenda item 7 as a member of the Clwyd Pension Fund.

RESOLVED:

That the declaration of interest be noted.

21. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25 January 2023 were submitted.

Accuracy

The Chair referred to page 15 of the agenda and said that Councillor Coggins-Cogan had spoken in support of holding an inquiry about potential divestment of the companies the Clwyd Pension Fund held investments in and asked that the minutes be amended to record this.

Subject to the above amendment the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2023 were approved as moved by Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson and seconded by Councillor Sam Swash.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the above amendment the minutes be approved as a correct record.

22. CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMME REVIEW

The Programme Manager (Climate Change and Carbon Reduction) presented the report. She provided background information and advised that following a recently published progress report for the Climate Change Programme, the report reviewed progress within the action plan and areas for action over 2023. It also considered the national updates since adoption of the Strategy that needed to be included within the strategy review in 2024. The Programme Manager reported on the main considerations as detailed in the report and referred to the 'Climate Change Action Plan Progress 2022/23 which was appended to the report.

Councillor Carolyn Preece asked what action was being taken to prevent water leakage. Officers responded to the concerns raised and the Service Manager – Planning Strategy advised that the issue of water leakage was a major objective in Welsh Water's Water Resource Management Plan.

Councillor Marion Bateman referred to reference CCM8 in the Action Plan which was appended to the report and commented on a previous scheme whereby bicycles were provided by the Council for employees to use to travel to work and asked for an update on the programme.

Councillor Chris Bithell referred to reference CCM3 in the Action Plan – to ensure vehicle charging points are available at key areas across the county - rural and urban. He raised questions and concerns around the progress and availability of establishing recharging points in local communities. The Chair suggested that he writes on behalf of the Committee to request that where possible council owned land be made available to local communities for use as allotment sites and the provision of charging points. This was moved by Councillor Chris Bithell and seconded by Councillor Dan Rose. Councillor Dan Rose also commented on a national project whereby residents with large gardens offered to share the land for others to use and suggested that this scheme also be looked into.

Officers responded to the further comments and questions raised by Members around the use of allotments, community land, open spaces, and 'unadopted' land.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the areas of focus for 2023 and the items that need to be included in the 2024 strategy review be agreed; and
- (b) That the Chair writes to the County Council to suggest the possibility of transfer of land to establish more allotment sites

23. HYDRO POWER AND MILWR TUNNEL

In response to a motion by Councillor Mared Eastwood, the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy and Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection, provided a verbal update on Milwr Tunnel and the provision of Hydro Power in Flintshire.

The Service Manager – Planning Strategy gave a verbal presentation on the Councils duty to make provision for renewable energy and the potential from various sources including hydro power, solar energy, and innovative technology. During discussion the Service Manager responded to the comments raised by Members around the amount of power to be generated, potential for tourism, and other options available. The Committee felt that the costs of the Milwr Tunnel project would be significant and that it could be explored if technology improved but the onus is on the owners of Milwr Tunnel. During discussion the Service Manager – Planning Strategy also provided an update in relation to consideration of the potential at the Greenfield Heritage Centre and Wepre Park sites

24. POLICY ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR OFF STREET PARKING

The Chair read out the recommendations that the Cabinet Member for Streetscene be asked to report to the Climate Change Committee and the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the feasibility of offering the installation of cable ducts between houses and the street to enable owners of electric vehicles without off street parking to safely run cables across pavements, with the cost of these to be met by the resident in the same way as dropped kerb installations; and to ask Cabinet to adopt a policy of enabling all council tenants to have installed, or have installed on request, electric vehicle charging points at home.

In moving the recommendations Councillor Carolyn Preece spoke in support of the proposal. This was seconded by Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson.

The Cabinet Member for Streetscene expressed concerns on the wider implications of the recommendations and suggested that further consideration be given to the matter.

The Programme Manager (Climate Change and Carbon Reduction) responded to the comments and points raised by Members around accessibility to charging points, suitability of off-street parking, and the difficulty experienced by some residents in being able to park near or outside their own home. She referred to a focus on 'Destination charging' where provision is made at key destinations across the county, and 'En-route charging' where EVs are topped up midway through a journey. The feasibility study for next phase of destination chargers is scheduled for 2023 subject to the successful securing of funding, and will identify the most strategic Council owned and private locations to further develop the EV charging network.

In summing up the Chair referred to the recommendations as follows:

- that the Cabinet Member for Streetscene be asked to report to the Climate Change Committee and the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the feasibility of offering the installation of cable ducts between houses and the street to enable owners of electric vehicles without off street parking to safely run cables across pavements,

- that residents in Flintshire be invited to take up the opportunity of the installation of the above with the cost to be met by the resident in the same way as dropped kerb installations; and
- that Cabinet be asked to adopt a policy of enabling all council tenants to have installed, or have installed on request, electric vehicle charging points at home.

The recommendations were moved by Councillor Carolyn Preece and seconded by Councillor Alasdair Ibbotson. When put to the vote the recommendations were carried.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Cabinet Member for Streetscene be asked to report to the Climate Change Committee and the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the feasibility of offering the installation of cable ducts between houses and the street to enable owners of electric vehicles without off street parking to safely run cables across pavements,
- (b) That residents in Flintshire be invited to take up the opportunity of the installation of the above with the cost to be met by the resident in the same way as dropped kerb installations; and
- (c) That Cabinet be asked to adopt a policy of enabling all council tenants to have installed, or have installed on request, electric vehicle charging points at home.

25. CLIMATE CHANGE INQUIRIES

The Chair provided background information and referred to the need to approve the Climate Change Inquiry questions, as detailed in the agenda, and discuss the timelines for inquiries in line with Officer capacity.

The Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy made a number of suggestions to assist with the administration of the questionnaire. The Chair commented that the question set sought qualitative not quantitative evidence and requested people's views on the Clwyd Pension Fund and its investments. The question set also sought the views of people external to the County Council and Clwyd Pension Fund. The questions and statements would be published on the Council's website. The aggravated responses would be provided to the Committee as evidence for the Committee to base its views on and published on the website in due course.

The recommendation was moved by Councillor Dan Rose and seconded by Councillor Sam Swash and when put to the vote was carried.

RESOLVED

That the Climate Change Inquiry questions, as detailed in the agenda, be approved.

26. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Chair referred to the Forward Work Programme which listed the items for the meetings on 23 May and 18 July 2023.

Councillor Dan Rose suggested that an item on car parks be included on the Forward Work Programme with a view to reviewing the facilities available and support consideration of use for generating energy, citing installation of solar panels as an example. Councillor Rose also referred to the item on Renewable energy generation which was to be considered at the meeting of the Committee on 23 May, and the possibility of exploring alternative renewable energy opportunities, including wind and solar power, on Council owned car parks. He suggested that consideration be given to this prior to the next meeting to avoid duplication of any work already being undertaken. It was agreed that the Programme Manager (Climate Change and Carbon Reduction) would liaise with the lead officer on the project.

Councillor Mared Eastwood moved that the Forward Work Programme be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Allan Marshall. When put to the vote this was carried.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the forward work programme be adopted; and
- (b) That the Programme Manager (Climate Change and Carbon Reduction) liaises with the lead officer on the review of Council car parks to explore the possibility of alternative renewable energy opportunities, including wind and solar power.

27. ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no Members of the press or public in attendance.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 3.45 pm

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Chairman

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Climate Change Programme

Communication and Engagement Plan 2023-2025

DRAFT

Contents

To be finalised upon completion of the draft.

This is a live document that will be revised periodically to outline communication and engagement activity, key messages and stakeholder analysis.

Revision No.	Date	Changes
0.1	15/05/2023	Draft document

Planned Additional/ Reviewed Content

Section No.	Section Title	Content Description
2	Key Messages	Climate Change Committee to be invited to review/ provide additional key messages
3	Objectives	Climate Change Committee to be invited to review/ provide additional objectives for the plan
4.2	Principles for Equality and Inclusion	Key principles listed for equality and inclusion – Fiona Mocko is supporting this section
10	Success to Date	A record of key communication and engagement successes briefly describing their impact and learning
11	Resources	Links to website and documents which have been referenced in the plan or provide supplementary reading

1. Introduction

This plan has been created to set a framework for how Flintshire County Council's Climate Change Programme will communicate and engage with both internal and external stakeholders, driving the reduction of its own and the wider county's greenhouse gas emissions while inspiring and supporting others to take action through behaviour change.

This Communication and Engagement Plan will be relevant for the 2023-2025 period aligning with the Climate Change Strategy's review date. At this point it will be reviewed for effectiveness and improved for the following years leading up to the Council's net zero target of 2030 (2025-2030).

This Communication and Engagement Plan will be supported by annual action plans which will record the following:

- Stakeholder analysis
- Key External Dates and Events
- Plan of Communication activities
- Plan of Engagement activities

1.1 Setting the scene

Flintshire County Council has set the 2018/19 period as its carbon footprint baseline year with emissions of 46.4 kt CO₂e (excluding land sequestration) and has a net zero carbon target of 2030 as required for the public sector under the Welsh Government.

In the same period (2018), Flintshire county's carbon footprint stood at 1,877.2 kt CO₂ meaning the Council is responsible for approximately 3% of the total county's greenhouse gas emissions.

Welsh Government have set a net zero carbon target of 2050 for Wales.

1.2 Why do we need a Communication and Engagement Plan?

Climate change's significance, broadness and basis in science presents many barriers to individuals, including complex and often mis-used terminology, fear and feelings of powerlessness. This plan will work to make climate change more accessible for more people, breaking down barriers for action.

Secondly, carbon reduction activities within the Council will only have limited affect without significant behavioural change from internal stakeholders. Motivation, knowledge and skills are all key to increasing participation, with leadership sustaining such activities which become routine and the norm.

Finally, "around a third of the UK's emissions are dependent on sectors that are directly shaped or influenced by local authority, practice, policy or partnerships" (CCC, 2020), putting the Council in a particularly unique position to support Welsh Government's net zero carbon target of 2050.

Through well-planned, thorough and appropriate communication and engagement activities, stakeholders will have the motivation, knowledge and tools to take ownership for climate action and collaborate with the council influencing its own programme.

1.3 Definitions

For the purpose of this plan, the following definitions have been given.

Communication

To inform others of activities and progress relating to the council's climate change programme and improve the knowledge base of stakeholders.

Engagement

Provision of activities for the Council to motivate, improve the knowledge of and upskill all stakeholders while providing opportunities for residents to influence and shape the Council's own Climate Change programme.

Consultation

A formal process prescribed to receive stakeholder feedback on planning and documentation.

2. Key Messages

The below points detail key items relating to the council's position on climate change and its Climate Change Strategy which are relevant for this communication and engagement plan.

- Behaviour change is key to the council and wider county meeting net zero targets of 2030 and 2050 respectively.
- All key emission sources across the council of buildings, fleet, business travel, staff commuting, waste and procurement are subjected to behaviour change improvements.
- Behaviour change applies to policy and decision makers as well as what individuals do on a day-to-day basis.
- In December 2019, the Council committed to the resource and support of a carbon reduction strategy to realise the ambition to become net zero carbon by 2030.
- The Council has recognised the gravity of the climate change challenge in the revised Council Plans from 2019 onwards
- Detail of the Council's journey to net zero carbon are within the Council's Climate Change Strategy which includes the key goals and commitments to lead to 2030 and beyond.
- To meet net zero carbon, the programme will require an increase in the amount of carbon absorbed by the Council's owned and operated land. This could include creation of new planting schemes as well as restoration and management of existing woodlands, peatlands and other habitats.
- Emissions in Wales reduced by 40% in 2020, exceeding the target of a 27% reduction on a 1990 baseline. This is an important step on our journey towards a cleaner, greener Wales. While we must continue shouldering our global responsibility to protect our precious planet for future generations, the Welsh Government cannot work in silo to confront the climate and nature emergencies. Everybody in Wales has started to realise the benefits of change, and now is not the time to rest.

The 2020s must be the decade of action. Reducing emissions more in this decade than in any previous ten-year period will be an uphill challenge and we may need to take difficult choices. But, if we are to see a cleaner, stronger and more prosperous Wales, it is a challenge we can only face together. (Julie James MS, June 2022)

3. Objectives

The following objectives have been set for this communication and engagement plan in order to achieve behaviour change from stakeholders.

- Establish the need for urgent climate action
- Identify and address barriers
- Outline communication and engagement activity for the purposes of ‘keeping informed’ so stakeholders understand why and how progress is being made
- Outline communication and engagement activity for the purposes of ‘behaviour change’ by influencing and encouraging carbon reduction behaviours while providing a platform for residents and other stakeholders to shape council strategy and action.

4. Guiding Principles

This section details the principles the plan will follow to ensure compliance and best practice to achieve the objectives set out in Section 3.

4.1 Core Principles

The core principles below show how the Council will take the lead in climate and carbon reduction action and inspire and support stakeholders to do the same. These effectively mirror the 4 E’s (Exemplify, Engage, Enable and Encourage) as introduced in the Welsh Government’s consultation document “Climate Change - A Strategy for Public Engagement & Action (2022-2026)”.



4.2 Equality and Inclusivity

To comply with the Equality Act, the Council must ensure communication and engagement opportunities are inclusive to all and that people with protected characteristics (age, disability, gender, reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) do not experience any barriers. This will involve using inclusive images and language as well as using different methods to reach and engage with people who are seldom heard.

Additionally, all engagement activities, including meetings, events and publicity should be available in Welsh and comply with the Welsh language standards. Links should be made with relevant Welsh medium organisations to ensure Welsh speakers are involved.

The Integrated Impact Assessment for Climate Change does not foresee any risks as a direct result of climate action, however, plans associated with climate change communication and engagement will be reviewed prior to actioning to ensure compliance.

4.3 Behaviour Change Principles (Kotter)

We aim to follow the Kotter principles within this plan to ensure the appropriate methods are followed to develop behaviour change effectively and efficiently.



<https://www.kotterinc.com/methodology/8-steps/>

4.4 Public Engagement Principles

Third Sector Support Wales has introduced “The National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales” which are a set of ten principles for engaging with the public and service users. The principles aim to guide the way engagement is carried out to make sure it is good quality, open and consistent and will be followed for all communication and engagement activities conducted by the climate change programme.

- Design your engagement to make a difference
- Invite people to get involved, if they choose to
- Plan and deliver your engagement in a timely and appropriate way
- Work with relevant partner organisations
- Provide jargon free, appropriate, and understandable information
- Make it easy for people to take part
- Ensure people benefit from the experience
- Ensure the right resources and time are in place for your engagement to be effective
- Let people know the impact of their contribution
- Learn and share to improve your engagement

5. Governance

5.1 Plan Ownership

The individuals and groups below have been involved in the development of the communication and engagement plan to ensure it is effective and compliant to the set guiding principles as described in Section 4.

Plan Role	Name	Council Position
Advocate at Cabinet Level	Cllr David Healey	Cabinet Member for Climate Change
Review Ownership and Plan Delivery	Climate Change Committee	Climate Change Committee
Plan Author and Delivery	Climate Change Team	Climate Change Team
Policy Compliance	Fiona Mocko	Policy and Partnerships
Communication Support	Gillian Watkins	Communications Officer

5.2 Role of the Climate Change Committee

- Advocate the Climate Change Programme
- Engage with internal and external stakeholders
- Add value to the communication and engagement plan

5.3 Action Plan Monitoring

Progress of the action plan will be continuously monitored during weekly Climate Change Team meetings, informing the team of activities ahead, success, feedback, proposed improvements and barriers.

5.4 Communication and Engagement Plan Review

Review of this communication and engagement plan will start in April 2025 at the earliest by the Climate Change Programme Team and Climate Change Committee.

5.5 Action Plan Review

At the end of each reporting year (March/ April), a review of completed activities will be conducted helping to build an action plan for the upcoming year, working in collaboration with schools, relevant Council teams and external partners.

6.0 Stakeholders

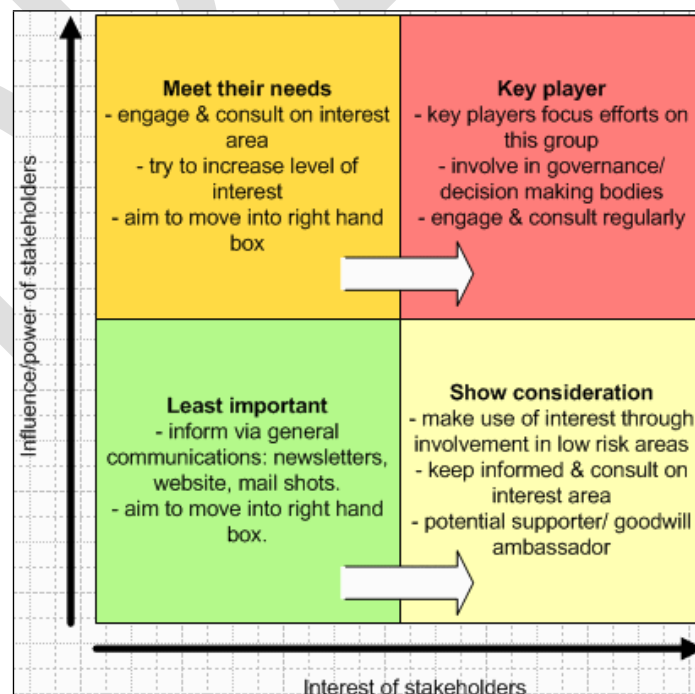
6.1 Key Stakeholders

- Elected Members
- the Council's Climate Change Committee
- Council Staff
- Schools, Colleges and Universities
- Flintshire Residents and Businesses
- Welsh Government and other enforcing authorities
- Joint PSB Partners
- Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Third Sector

6.2 Stakeholder Analysis

To enable the Council to be efficient and effective in its communication and engagement activities, a stakeholder analysis must be undertaken for each new annual action plan to understand ever-changing stakeholder interests, influences, motivators and barriers. This activity is recorded in the communication and engagement action plans.

The image below shows how stakeholders can be categorised based on their perceived Interest and Influence relating to climate change action, giving direction in how they should be addressed within this plan.



<https://www.stakeholdermap.com/images/stakeholder-analysis-strategy.gif>

Such considerations to take from this analysis are;

- Frequency of activities
- Methods of communication and engagement
- Level of current knowledge and involvement (those with greater interest may well already have a strong knowledge base)

7.0 Communication, Engagement and Consultation Tools and Resources

Communication Methods		
Type	Existing resource	Resource required
Web sources	Council news webpage Council Climate Change Webpage Dedicated programme email: climatechange@flintshire.gov.uk	Internal webpages for the Council employees
Electronic sources	Stock imagery on Pexels.com	Council Images Catalogue Cataloguing projects completed both within carbon reduction/renewable energy and biodiversity.
Email groups	Climate Change Committee group Themed Officer Working Groups Councillor email group Various SMT email groups All staff email group Local press Periodic electronic newsletter to circa. 1k readership	Promotion of subscription to e-newsletter to keep readership updated and informed on progress and events and opportunities to engage and shape the programme.
Social media / hashtags	the Council Twitter Nationally recognised hashtags - #spacefornature #saynomow #climatechange #togetherforourplanet #copXX #plantmoretrees #netzero	the Council Facebook Page Flintshire Hashtags - #greenerflintshire #decarbflints
Posters	Noticeboards Bathroom Cubicles School Noticeboards Community Centre Noticeboards	Recycling bins Computer Lock Screen
Collaborative / Regional	Welsh Government Energy Service Public Services Board Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) Regional and Pan-Wales decarb groups	Local Business Forums
Internal Teams and Forums	All internal team meetings including: Countryside & Access Regeneration Planning Streetscene Communications	the Youth Council, School Eco Committees / Pupil and Student representation

Engagement Methods		
Type	Existing Resource	Resource Required
Online Tools	WWF My Footprint iNaturalist Seek What3Words	
Existing Teams and Forums	Countryside & Access Events (Wepré & Greenfield Valley) Friends Group Events School Pupil Committees (requires identifying) Regeneration Team Local Business Forums	the Youth Council, School Eco Committees / Pupil and Student representation

Consultation Methods		
Type	Existing Resource	Resource Required
Online	Microsoft Forms (surveys and questionnaires) Survey applications Events Booking Microsoft Teams / Zoom	
In-person Climate Change Team	Dedicated Meetings Focus Groups	Tablets

9.0 Monitoring and Measuring Success

Measurement of the Council's greenhouse gas emissions can be used as an indicator to measure the success of communication and engagement; however, this requires significant time to pass to be realised. More immediate methods to measure success are as follows:

- Social Media Interaction: Likes, comments, sharing, how many accounts have seen our posts in their timeline
- Link clicks: More active engagement usually forms part of a call to action.
- Webpages: Number of visitors to the Climate Change webpages and time retained within the pages.
- Subscription: Number of subscribers to the e-newsletter and number of opens of the newsletter.
- Surveys and Questionnaires: Number or percentage of respondents
- Press coverage: Where the press release has been picked up by the local newspapers for coverage. Whether the press release has been adapted (if and the overall tone of the newspaper's coverage (negative, neutral, positive).
- Events and Webinars: Numbers of people attending and feeling or 'vibe' of the event (negative, neutral, positive).

Appendix 1 – Communication and Engagement Action Plan Workbook

Stakeholder Analysis							
Stakeholder	Internal or External	Level of interest	Level of influence	Do they support, oppose or are neutral to the project?	Reasons to support	Reasons to resist	Engagement Strategy - High influence, High interest - Manage closely - High influence, Low interest - Keep satisfied - Low influence, high interest - Keep informed - Low influence, low interest - monitor
Cabinet Members	Internal	High	High	Support	Political	Political	Manage Closely
Clubs of the Climate Change Programme	Internal	High	High	Support	Political	Political	Manage Closely
Climate Change Officer Group	Internal	High	High	Support			Manage Closely
Chief Officer Team	Internal	Low	High	Neutral			Keep satisfied
FCC Waste	Internal	High	High	Support			Manage Closely
FCC Active Travel	Internal	High	High	Support			Manage Closely
FCC Countryside	Internal	High	High	Support			Manage Closely
FCC Streetscene	Internal	Low	High	Neutral			Keep satisfied
FCC Streetlighting	Internal	Low	Low	Neutral			Monitor
FCC Housing & Assets	Internal	High	High	Neutral			Manage Closely
FCC Procurement	Internal	High	High	Neutral			Manage Closely
FCC Public Transport	Internal	High	Low	Neutral			Keep Informed
FCC Fleet	Internal	High	High	Support			Manage Closely
FCC Economic and Business Development	Internal	High	High	Neutral			Manage Closely
Schools Young	Internal	High	High	Neutral			Manage Closely

External stakeholders: The focus of communication will be predominantly internal, however, will be a need to broaden coverage externally to the following areas in some instances:

1. Stakeholder Analysis spreadsheet helping to prioritise and plan activities

Month	Date	Event	Link
April		Earth Day	www.earthday.org
May	1 May > 30 May	No Mow May	
		Plantlife Every Flower Counts Survey	https://www.plantlife.org.uk/everyflowercounts/
		International Compost Awareness Week	https://www.compostfoundation.org/ICAW/ICAW-Home
		Walk to School Week	https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/products-and-services/projects/walk-to-school-week
	20-May	World Bee Day	https://www.worldbeeday.org/en/
June	29 May - 6 June	National Children's Gardening Week	https://www.childrensgardeningweek.co.uk/
	30 May - 5 June	Bike Week	https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek
	05-Jun	World Environment Day	http://www.worldenvironmentday.global/
	17-Jun	Clean Air Day	https://www.cleanairday.org.uk/
		Let It Bloom	
		30 Days Wild - Wildlife Trusts	https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWildStayWild
July	03-Jul	International Plastic Bag Free Day	https://zerowasteurope.eu/products/plastic-bag-free-day/
	28-Jul	World Nature Conservation Day	
August	9 - 15 August	National Allotments Week	https://www.nsalg.org.uk/news-events-campaigns/national-allotments-week/
	9 - 13 August	Shop Local Week	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eight-reasons-to-shop-local-this-week-to-help-the-high-street-bounce-back
September	22-Sep	World Car Free Day	https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/about-us/our-work-in-action/world-car-free-day
	20 - 27 Sep	Recycle Week	https://www.recyclenow.com/recycle-week-2020
October		International Walk to School Month	https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/international-walk-to-school-month
November		Wales Climate Week	https://gov.wales/wales-climate-week
December			
January		RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch	https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/
February			

2. Notable dates for external events and campaigns to align activities to

No.	Title	Topic	Stakeholder	Owner/s	Objective	Engagement Details	
						Details, Targets & Monitoring	Review
Eng. 1	Introduction to Climate Change Programme		FCC Staff	BT	Raise awareness of the team across council portfolios/ teams	Attend team meetings across the council to introduce the Climate Programme, providing insight into the work done/planned and offering to crossover with their projects against the Climate Strategy All planned team meetings attended by a climate change team representative	
Eng. 2	Public Introduction		Flintshire residents	AE/ BT	Raise awareness of the team across to members of the public	2 x sessions (online) presenting FCC's position regarding climate change, progress to date and looking forward	
Eng. 3	E-learning Promotion		FCC Staff	AE	Inform FCC staff of the new e-learning material and request completion	No. staff completed by target date	
Eng. 4	Bee Day	Bees and Climate Change	Flintshire residents	MS	Raise awareness of climate risks to bees	Using Countryside and Access Bee Day event, engage the public with topics relating to how bees are impacted by climate change. Bee/ Insect Hotels, fixed species flowering plants for extended flowering season No. public individuals engaged	
Eng. 5	Carbon Literacy	Education	Elected members	AE / BT	Provide baseline education of carbon and climate change	Total % completed	
Eng. 6	Carbon Literacy	Education	Lead Members	AE / BT	Provide baseline education of carbon and climate change		
Eng. 7	Invited Speakers	Awareness	FCC Staff	BT	Introduce staff to leaders in the field of climate change (e.g. climate justices, eco anxiety, private sector, etc.)		

3. Example spreadsheet for planning and delivery of communication and engagement activities

Delivery Plan											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		15	30	5	12	15					
								21			

4. Delivery Plan for each planned activity, colour coded for planned (red) and completed (green), with dates shown and further details added as comments

DRAFT

Agenda Item 6

Climate Change Committee Meeting 23 May 2023

Presentation by Cllr Allan Marshall

During the last Climate Change Committee meeting, the potential use of the Milwr Tunnel water run-off for a hydro-electric scheme was discussed. The amount of water flowing was quoted as 24 million gallons (110 million litres) per day flowing into the Dee Estuary at Bagillt. The Milwr Tunnel is part of a quarry and mine drainage tunnel complex reaching as far as Loggerheads near Mold.

I referred to basic laws of physics and formulae for potential energy and kinetic energy and estimated that a 10-metre diameter wheel with a bucket size of 1 cubic metre, weighing 1 tonne, would generate around 5kW of power. Detailed calculations would be needed to establish the feasibility of such a scheme.

The Principle of Conservation of Energy means that “Energy cannot be created or destroyed; rather, it can only be transferred or transformed from one form to another”.

Current renewable energy capture strategies appear to be focussed on generation of electricity using wind and solar energy, with electrically powered air-sourced heat pumps being supported by UK Government grants. However, recent press reports suggest that Heat Pumps are not as effective as originally thought with installers needing to fit larger radiators and feeder pipes to compensate for the lower heating water flow temperature. They are also not effective when the outside air temperature is very cold, and the external units require heating to prevent freezing.

I once sat through a sales presentation by a Heat Pump Representative who told me how the system would work. The cost was around £15,000 and would need replacing all my (intentionally oversized) radiators and fitting 15mm pipes instead of the existing 10mm microbore pipes. I was advised that the operating ‘flow temperature’ of the central heating water would be around 45C so needed larger radiators and pipes to work. I declined the proposal and decided to see if my existing radiator and piping would work with a lower temperature.

I reduced the operating temperature from 70C to 50C and did not adjust the room thermostat or TRVs. There was no noticeable difference in comfort. However, the gas consumption had reduced by 29% over the following year. I did this around 18 months before the UK Government’s advertising campaign to reduce boiler flow temperatures to 60C recently. It took about 10 minutes to do the adjustment and I have been saving energy since then and will be doing so in the future. This was the most cost-effective energy saving change that I have ever made.

Flintshire is part of the North Wales coal field where fossil fuel was slowly created over millions of years and quickly mined and burnt over a few hundred years. The closed mine workings are now probably full of water that is permanently warmed from the earth’s core and offers a nearly unlimited source of geo-thermal energy.

The Specific Heat Capacity of liquid water is understood to be 3,600 times that of air which means that much more heat can be recovered from water than from air. Streams and rivers accumulate heat from the environment and through gravity as they progress downhill. Chilled water holds more oxygen than warm water so

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repeatedly extracting heat and cooling the water as it runs along the watercourses is beneficial to fish and aquatic species.

Coal mining areas are in all areas of Flintshire from Point of Air, Talacre in the North to Treuddyn/Coed Talon, Llanfynydd, and Leeswood in the South so access to this source of geothermal energy may be available to all Flintshire Wards.

Below are some hyperlinks relating to geothermal energy:

- [Interactive Map Viewer | Coal Authority \(bgs.ac.uk\)](#)
- [Geothermal in the UK | GeoScienceLtd](#)
- [BBC - Search results for geothermal](#)
- [North East using its mining heritage to create Geothermal Green energy | ITV News Tyne Tees](#)

Climate change is contributing to unpredictable weather with less sunshine and greater incidence of storms leading to crop failures. New techniques in 'Vertical Farming' whereby large, covered warehouses comprising vertical storage areas with computer-controlled lighting, watering and heating provide the conditions for continually growing crops on a conveyor belt basis. Geothermal energy and heat pumps could provide the heat. Solar PV, Wind Turbines, Hydroelectric waterwheels, and turbines could sustainably provide the electricity to provide the lighting to provide a sustainable, green, carbon-capture facility that provides a continuous food supply for local residents and food for animals. See [Vertical farming - Wikipedia](#) for further details.

Tidal energy capture relies on the gravitational energy forces associated with the moon's orbit. Perhaps consideration should be given to having lagoons along the Dee estuary that would provide electrical energy whilst filling up and emptying. Geothermal coils could be used to extract heat from the water.

Flintshire County Council Climate Change Committee resolves to recommend to Cabinet and the Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee take note of the above and widen their scope on what represents renewable energy capture systems in Flintshire.

Cllr Allan Marshall

17 May 2023.

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Item	Responsible / Contact	Actions
25 th Jan 2023	Climate Change Programme Overview and Progress	To receive an update from the Programme Manager – Climate Change & Carbon Reduction	Alex Ellis – Programme Manager	
Page 23	Motion – Carbon Footprint of Homeworking	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommend that Cabinet reviewed the Home Working Policy, establishing a coherent and climate-informed framework for the council. 2. To recommend to Cabinet that a study was commissioned in respect of total net emissions from homeworking, in the form of a survey of Flintshire staff as per Welsh Government guidance 3. To recommend that as an interim measure pending the completion of a review of the climate evidence, the council should allow anyone who wished to work from the office in Winter to do so, particularly considering rising heating costs, and 4. To instruct the Chair to write to the Welsh Government’s Climate Change Minister requesting that a mechanism that accurately reflected seasonal variation in net homeworking emissions was included in the guidance for assessing emissions, such that the council was not penalised for 	Cllr Ibbotson	Recommendations to be forwarded to Cabinet.

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Item	Responsible / Contact	Actions
		taking steps to reduce total emissions at the expense of those that show on its own figures.		
Page 24	Motion – Print free Council	The Committee recommended to Cabinet that a policy be implemented across all departments setting out that printing should only be considered where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a statutory requirement to provide information in printed form. • A disabled staff member or service user requires material in printed form because they are disabled. • A staff member or service user required material in printed form because they are digitally excluded. • The relevant Chief Officer had directed that a paper backup of the document was necessary for service resilience, or • For the purposes of advertising a service or change in service to the public; and • That all paper, toners, inks and consumables procured be made of recycled materials and recycled after use. 	Cllr Rose	Recommendations to be forwarded to Cabinet.

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Item	Responsible / Contact	Actions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee also called on the Cabinet to initiate an efficiency review of the current stock of printers owned or operated by the council with a view to rationalising these to the minimum strictly necessary. 		
Page 25	Motion – Columbaria in Flintshire Managed Cemeteries – Environmentally Friendly Bereavement Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To recommend to Cabinet and the Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee that Flintshire County Council offer Columbaria as an option for residents as part of its suite of bereavement and burial services. 2. To recommend to Cabinet and the Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee that Flintshire County Council explore the viability of offering other environmentally friendly burial options, such as Resomation, in the longer term 	Cllr Swash	Recommendations to be forwarded to Cabinet.
	Motion – Flood Resilience and Adaptation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the inquiry be established by the Committee on the basis set out as outlined in the motion 2. That provision is made for an oral evidence session, including a venue, in either April or May. 	Cllr Ibbotson	That the Chair of the Committee progress the recommendations above.

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Item	Responsible / Contact	Actions
	Motion – Clwyd Pension Fund Divestment - 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Committee commissions an inquiry into the climate performance and targets of the Clwyd Pension Fund. 2. That this inquiry shall take written and oral evidence as set out in section 3. 3. That the inquiry will report back to the committee at the July meeting. 	Cllr Ibbotson	That the Chair of the Committee progress the recommendations above.
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> Plenary Tues 28th March 2026 </p>	Climate Change Programme Review	To review and approve the areas of focus within the programme for the coming year.	Alex Ellis, Programme Manager	
	Policy on EV charging infrastructure for off street parking	That the Cabinet Member for Streetscene be asked to report to this Committee and the Environment & Economy Committee on the feasibility of offering the installation of cable ducts between houses and the street to enable owners of electric vehicles without off street parking to safely run cables across pavements, with the cost of these to be met by the resident in the same way as dropped kerb installations. To ask the Cabinet to adopt a policy of enabling all council tenants to have install, or have installed on request, electric vehicle charging points at home.	Cllr Ibbotson	Recommendations to be forwarded to Cabinet

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Item	Responsible / Contact	Actions
	Hydro power and Milwr Tunnel	Cllrs Healey & Bithell to lead discussion on Milwr tunnel and the potential of hydro power within Flintshire.	Cllr Eastwood	
Tues 23rd May	Thermal energy utilising former coal mines	Cllr Allan Marshall to lead discussion on thermal energy and potential within Flintshire.	Cllr Marshall	
	Reaching out to wider community on Climate Change	To discuss content of Communication & Engagement Plan for Programme and agree approach for Committee engagement with young people.	Cllr Healey	
Tues 18th July	Feasibility of bioreactors for grass arisings/food waste		Cllr Rose	
	Planning changes to incorporate requirements for Passivhaus/solar/EV charging		Cllr Rose & Cllr Mansell	
	Carbon offsetting – tree planting		Cllr Mansell & Cllr Ibbotson	
	Hydrogen provision and hydrogen fuelled vehicles	Update on where we are with accessing hydrogen and other fossil fuel alternatives, and development of Deeside Hydrogen Hub.	Cllr Eastwood	

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Item	Responsible / Contact	Actions
	Renewable energy generation, Alternative renewable energy generation opportunities including wind and solar on Council owned car parks		Cllr Rose	
Sept	Review of catering facilities – mandatory plant based meals		Cllr Rose & Cllr Preece	
Page 28	Review of data storage & cloud facilities and zero email standards		Cllr Rose	
	Use of local trades and local products to reduce carbon footprint		Cllr Preece	