



## **11. MANAGEMENT TEAM/STAFF SURVEY**

Following a request made at the last meeting staff were invited to complete a staff survey to identify potential actions/areas to prioritise for the Council's Climate Emergency Plan. Management Team were also requested to submit their ideas and individual submissions were also made. It was reported that 38 responses had been received from the survey and the following themes had been identified:

- Reduce paper use and printing and improve IT
- 'Green' the fleet
- Staff travel – pool of electric cars/bikes for staff use, lift sharing and promotion of cycling
- Improve opportunities to recycle internally
- Single use plastic (SUP) free organisation
- Sustainable procurement
- Improved heating and lighting systems and increase renewables
- Tree planting
- Public campaign

Of these four priority areas for action were identified:

- Improving transport fleet
- Waste and recycling
- Procurement
- Staff travel/building stock/single use plastics

It was noted that the lease for the grey fleet had recently been renewed but it was suggested that consideration be given to trialling an electric fleet vehicle to see what it could do and also identify any advantages and disadvantages of using this type of vehicle. The Environmental Services Manager had already been asked to investigate this.

Other suggestions made at the meeting included possibly changing the Mayor's car to an electric car and introducing I-pads for Councillors to reduce printing and paper costs.

## **AGREED**

- (1) That the results of the staff survey and additional suggestions submitted be noted.
- (2) That a report be submitted to a future meeting on the possible introduction of I-pads for Councillors following the May 2020 elections.

## **12. BASE LINING GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which outlined the findings for Pendle's carbon dioxide emissions. This information had been collated by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. The statistics provided nationally available data sets going back to 2005.

The Council had also secured support from One Carbon World to calculate and produce a One Carbon World Footprint Report for the Council on generated emissions, validating and building on the Council's in-house Annual Emissions Report. This Report would also include recommendations for reducing emissions and for further emissions activities that may be included in subsequent carbon footprint calculations. It would also identify Carbon Credit off setting for up to 300 tonnes.

It was noted that since 2005 the Council had reduced its CO2 emissions from 7 tonnes per head to 4.5 tonnes in 2017. This was still below the national average of 5.3 tonnes per head.

It was acknowledged that with the Borough's current infrastructure and its poor housing stock and transport system there were significant challenges for carbon reduction. Domestic gas appeared to be the largest source of CO2 emissions in the Borough generating almost 25% of all emissions. There was a discussion around the problems faced with hard to heat housing stock and it was acknowledged that there was 6% of properties without gas central heating compared to 3% nationally. Insulation of the properties was also a concern.

There was also a discussion around the problems associated with transport such as the low usage of public transport, cycling and walking which was a reflection of Pendle's connectivity infrastructure and its limited train and bus services. The introduction of docking stations for electric vehicles on the terraced streets in the Borough was also considered to be a concern.

It was acknowledged that the information provided in the report was a starting point and it would be interesting to see the results of the One Carbon World Footprint Report that was to be produced.

## **AGREED**

That the report be noted.

### **13. TREE PLANTING**

The Working Group considered a report from the Planning, Economic Development and Licensing Services Manager on the Urban Tree Challenge Fund. The Fund had been developed in response to HM Treasury releasing £10m for the planting of at least 20,000 large trees and 110,000 small trees in urban areas of England.

Unfortunately the Council did not fit the criteria to bid for the first round of funding (2019/20) but was looking to submit a bid for the second round in 2020/21 which was for smaller schemes. Expressions of interest were currently being asked for by the Forestry Commission. The Fund would provide up to 50% funding based on standard costs for planting and their establishment for 3 years.

Officers had been asked to look at options available to the Council and identify Council owned sites where planting could take place.

During discussion the need for ongoing maintenance of trees was mentioned and the possible involvement of local schools planting trees within their schools. It was acknowledged that some schools were already engaged with tree planting.

## **AGREED**

That the report be noted.

### **14. NEXT STEPS**

The Group discussed what they wanted to happen next and it was –

**AGREED**

- (1) That Gill Dickson prepare a list of the issues (long term and short term) raised at the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November and any subsequent suggestions submitted by email and that these lists be submitted to the next meeting.
- (2) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be invited to a future meeting to discuss the Planning System and the impact of climate change.
- (3) That information on sites where trees could be planted for loved ones be submitted to a future meeting.
- (4) That up to 4 co-optees be invited to attend the next meeting and that the names be agreed by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillor J. Nixon.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**AGREED**

That the next meeting of the Working Group be held at 6.00 p.m. on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 at Nelson Town Hall.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_