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**REPORT FOR: CABINET**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2020
<b>Subject:</b>	The Climate and Ecological Emergency – Interim Strategy and Action Plan
<b>Key Decision:</b>	Yes  The impact is significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in all wards
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Paul Walker, Corporate Director - Community
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Graham Henson, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Partnerships, Devolution & Customer Services
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Decision subject to Call-in:</b>	Yes
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Appendix: Interim Strategy and Action Plan

## **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

This report sets out for approval the Council's Interim Strategy and Action Plan prepared in response to the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration, which was previously referred to Cabinet in September 2019.

## **Recommendations:**

Cabinet is requested to:

1. Approve the Interim Strategy and Action Plan appended to this report, noting that those projects requiring additional resources are subject to an approved business case prior to commencement.
2. Note the initial resourcing requirements set out at paragraph 4.10 of the report.
3. Note the wider ecological implications of the human-induced changes that are occurring to our climate.
4. Note the scale and pace of transformation needed across both the organisation and the borough as a whole in order to address the 2030 target date for carbon neutrality.
5. Note that whilst the Council will provide local leadership, moving towards carbon neutrality for the borough as a whole involves major systems change and requires the combined action of national, regional, and local government, together with widespread engagement and action from those living and working in our borough.
6. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Community, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree a process for priority allocation of Carbon Offset Funds to contribute towards carbon reduction initiatives.

## **Reason: (For recommendations):**

To enable further work to be progressed in response to the previously declared Climate Emergency.

## **Section 2 – Report**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 On 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at full Council debated a motion to declare a Climate Emergency and to resolve to '*Aim to make the London Borough of Harrow carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption of emissions*'. The motion was approved for referral to the Executive and subsequently agreed at the meeting of Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- 1.2 The terms of the agreed motion included a requirement to create officer and member working groups to urgently review and make

recommendations for actions that the council can take in order to achieve the 2030 target.

- 1.3 This report explains the work to date and sets out a proposed strategic framework and initial actions to begin to transition both the council as an organisation and the borough to a carbon neutral position.

## **2. Options considered**

- 2.1 Do nothing: the current approach to climate change and environmental sustainability will not be sufficient to address the commitment previously made by the council to aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.
- 2.2 Agree the Interim Strategy and Action Plan: this provides an initial framework in order to take forward this agenda and to undertake further work to establish pathways to carbon neutrality by 2030, both as an organisation and on a borough-wide basis.

## **3. Background**

### **The Carbon Cycle and Human-induced Climate Change**

- 3.1 Carbon is sometimes described as the backbone of life on earth. Every living organism has carbon atoms incorporated in their cells and, through a natural process known as the carbon cycle, those stores of carbon are recycled between living organisms and the environment.
- 3.2 The carbon cycle has both fast and slow elements, the latter operating over timescales of millions of years. In the fast carbon cycle that is most relevant for our purposes:
  - Carbon enters the atmosphere as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from aerobic respiration (the breathing of animals) and combustion (naturally occurring forest fires).
  - CO<sub>2</sub> is absorbed by land and marine plants to make glucose in photosynthesis, at the same time producing the oxygen that is required by animal life, including humans.
  - Animals feed on the plants passing the carbon compounds along the food chain. Most of the carbon they consume is exhaled as CO<sub>2</sub> as they respire. The animals and plants eventually die.
  - Decomposers break down the dead organisms and through respiration return most of the remaining carbon in their bodies to the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. However, in some conditions, decomposition is blocked. The plant and animal material is converted to carbon stores. This includes, over periods of millions of years, the creation of fossil reservoirs of oil, coal and gas.

- 3.3 In a healthy planetary system without undue human interference, and over shorter human-scale timespans, the process operates to maintain the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere at a broadly constant level.
- 3.4 However, the rapid burning of fossil fuels - the concentrated reserves of carbon laid down by the processes of life operating over long geological timespans - is resulting in a net increase in CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. In short, the carbon cycle is being thrown out of balance as a result of our current dependence upon fossil fuels. This imbalance is being exacerbated by deforestation and other land use practices that reduce the ability of the earth to absorb atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>.
- 3.5 CO<sub>2</sub> is one of a number of greenhouse gases (GHGs) that also include methane. Together these GHGs operate to trap heat in the atmosphere. This is an essential thermostatic function of our planetary system, for without this warming effect much of the sun's heat would radiate out into space leaving the earth too cold for life. Too great a concentration of greenhouse gases, though, has the opposite result, leading to global heating and potentially dramatic changes to the earth's climate and associated impacts upon ecosystems.
- 3.6 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is reporting that global atmospheric heating over pre-industrial levels currently stands at around 1°C. This relatively low figure is because over 90% of the additional heating effect caused by human activity has so far been absorbed by the world's oceans, along with a significant proportion of the additional CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This is however not without consequences. The IPCC has recently found (in the autumn of 2019) that the warming of the oceans and acidification (caused by excess CO<sub>2</sub> absorption), are already affecting the distribution and abundance of marine life in coastal areas, in the open ocean and at the sea floor.

### **The Climate & Ecological Emergency**

- 3.7 The Paris Agreement on Climate Change was adopted at a meeting of 195 nations in December 2015. This included the aim of 'holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.'
- 3.8 In October 2018 the IPCC published a special report, further to the Paris Agreement, finding that globally actions to limit global greenhouse gas emissions to meet the 1.5°C target were not happening fast enough and that 'rapid and far-reaching' transitions were required across land use, energy use, industry, buildings and cities. The IPCC report warned that failure to act could result in 'tipping points' being reached in our planet's natural systems. These were likely to result in a destabilisation of our climate and long lasting and irreversible changes including the loss of key ecosystems upon which millions of people depend. This included, for example, the estimated loss of over 99% of the world's coral reefs under a scenario of a 2°C or greater temperature rise.

- 3.9 Since then, the school strikes inspired by Greta Thunberg and a range of campaigns, including the activities of the group Extinction Rebellion and the high profile interventions of Sir David Attenborough, have served to push climate change and ecological issues further up the public agenda. The Mayor of London formally declared a climate emergency in December 2018, as did central government in May 2019. At the time of writing the majority of Britain's local authorities, estimated to represent over 80% of the country's population, have declared climate emergency. Many authorities like Harrow have declared an ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030, with some like Nottingham aiming for sooner dates (2028).
- 3.10 There is now an overwhelming scientific consensus regarding the need to take urgent action to address the climate and ecological emergency. In November 2019, 11,000 scientists from 153 nations warned in a joint statement in the journal *BioScience*, 'We declare clearly and unequivocally that planet earth is facing a climate emergency . . . An immense increase in scale of endeavours to conserve our biosphere is needed to avoid untold suffering due to the climate crisis . . . To secure a sustainable future, we must change how we live. [This] entails major transformations in the ways our global society functions and interacts with natural ecosystems'.
- 3.11 Most recently, in January 2020, the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report found that the top five risks facing the world's business leaders are now all linked to climate and environmental issues, including increases in extreme weather and natural disasters, and major irreversible biodiversity loss resulting in severely depleted resources for humankind.

### **The Benefits of a Low Carbon Transition**

- 3.12 The situation is serious and there is an urgent imperative to act in order to help mitigate worsening social, environmental and economic outcomes of climate change. However, it is increasingly clear that doing so also offers the opportunity for radical and positive change across a wide range of areas that matter most to people in their day to day lives, including cleaner air, greener spaces, warmer homes, healthier travel and a thriving economy. In Harrow, for example, moving away from combustion vehicles and encouraging active transport along healthy, liveable streets has the potential to significantly improve public health outcomes. This should reduce the current costs of NHS treatment and free up funding to be spent on additional low carbon measures including home energy efficiency measures and local renewable generation, in turn positively impacting issues such as fuel poverty. Similarly, reducing waste and growing a local green economy in repair and re-use of goods would result in more wealth being retained in the borough and create new local opportunities for skilled, meaningful work that directly benefits local communities and contributes to low carbon outcomes.

## Carbon Neutrality, Sequestration and Offsetting

- 3.13 Achieving **carbon neutrality** for an organisation or geographic area, refers to reducing the carbon emissions associated with the human activity taking place there (principally those arising from the burning of fossil fuels) and then taking actions to balance out the remaining carbon emissions that are attributable to the organisation or area. This balancing exercise is achieved by (i) absorbing, or **sequestering**, CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere and / or (ii) investing in initiatives which result in an equivalent reduction of carbon emissions elsewhere (typically this takes the form of funding additional renewable energy generation capacity).
- 3.14 Increased rates of sequestration can be achieved through an overall increase in tree cover and other plant life, and changes in land management and agricultural practice to preserve and enhance both the quantity and health of the earth's soils, which are themselves a major store of carbon.

If undertaken carefully using the correct mix of species, sequestration planting initiatives also have significant potential to prevent flood risks and enhance biodiversity, helping to restore the damaged and degraded ecosystems upon which we all depend for clean air, water and food. It is important to be clear that there is not enough land in Harrow, by some order of magnitude, to sequester all of the borough's current carbon emissions. Nevertheless given Harrow's good overall proportion of open space land, and its extensive network of private gardens, an assessment of sequestration and ecological benefits that can be achieved through well considered planting initiatives is proposed as a key future work stream.

- 3.15 Carbon neutrality can technically be achieved by an organisation continuing its business as usual but paying to **offset** its emissions by funding sequestration or carbon reduction initiatives elsewhere. However, such an approach on its own does not achieve the widespread, systems level social and economic change that is required to meet the challenge of the climate emergency. Instead, the first priority at an organisational level should be to reduce and remove fossil fuel based emissions at source, working towards ultimately transitioning to **zero carbon** emission solutions in relation to key areas such as its energy and transport requirements. Where the availability of technological solutions on an economic basis and / or the state national infrastructure at the time prevents further reductions in emissions, an organisation may then choose to adopt offsetting measures in order to achieve an overall carbon neutral position.

## Emissions Data

- 3.16 The internationally adopted Greenhouse Gas Protocol provides a high level framework of three 'scopes' for categorising the sources of an area's GHG emissions:

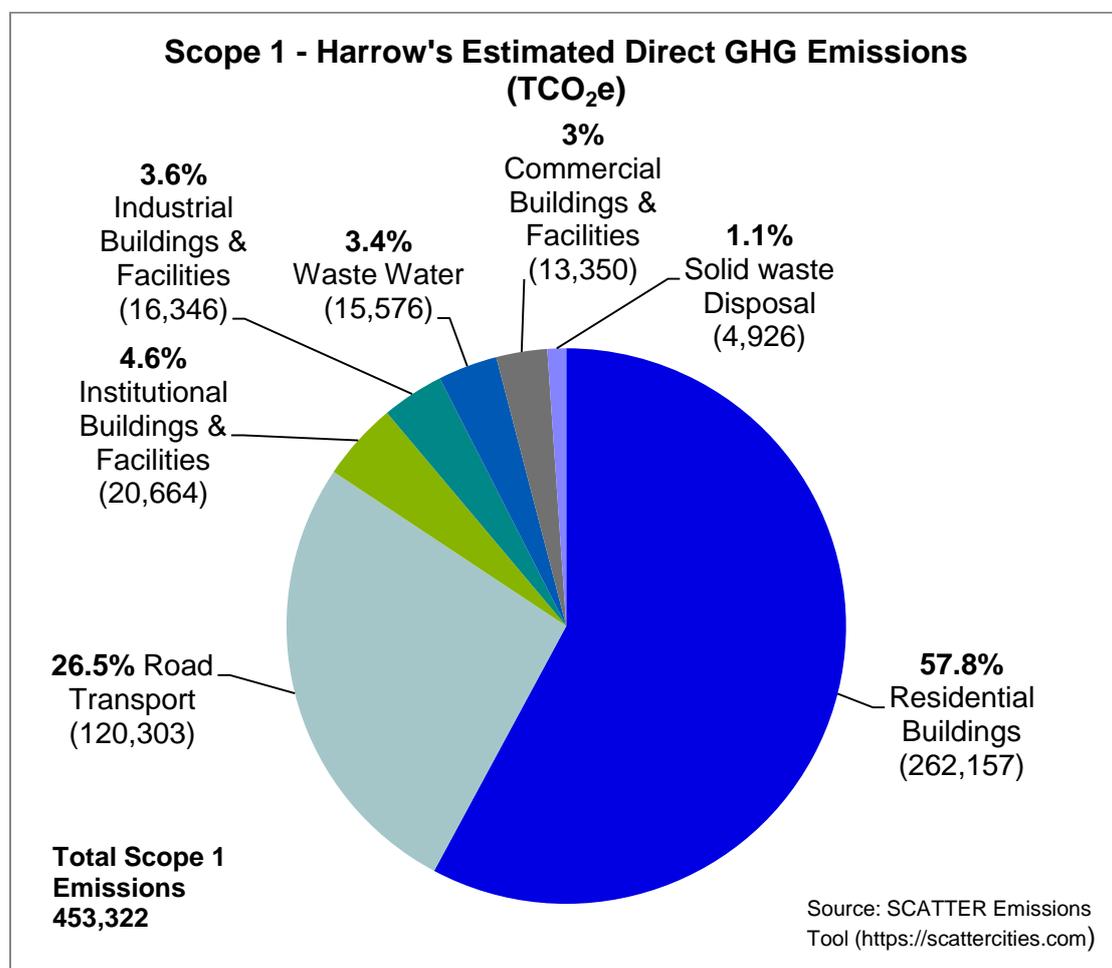
Scope 1: direct emissions produced by sources in the area (eg road transport and gas heating);

Scope 2: indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy used in the area (ie electricity);

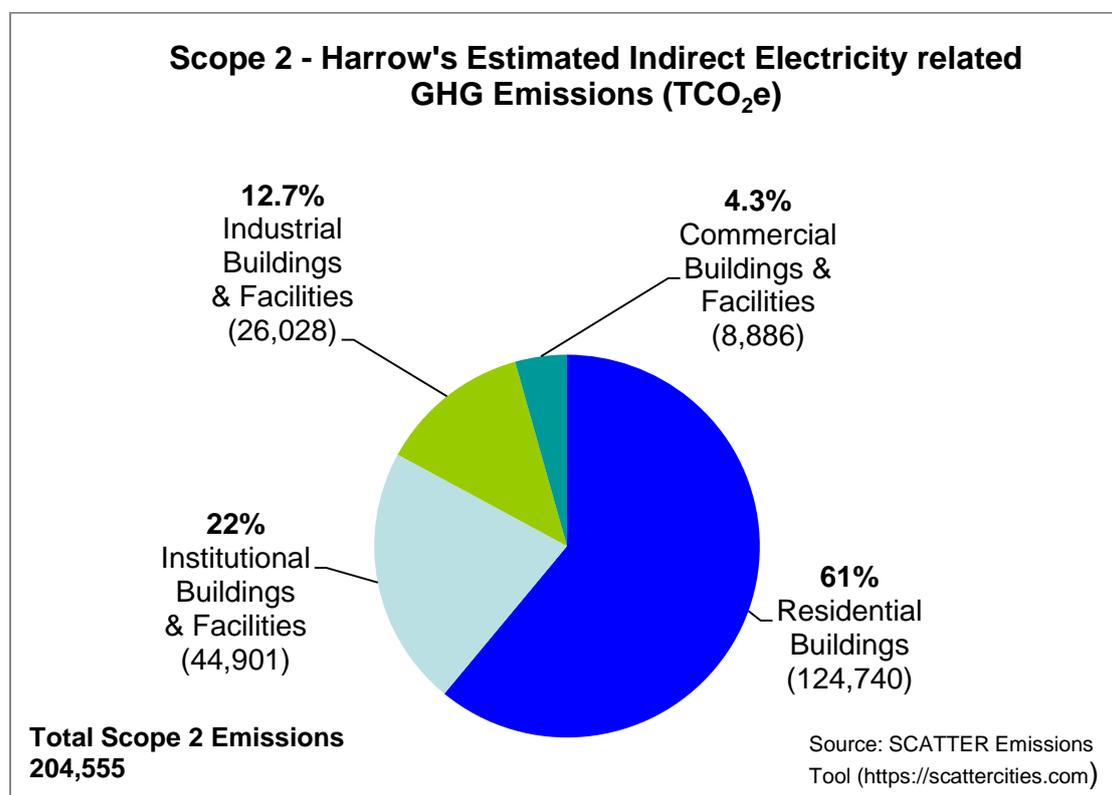
Scope 3: indirect emissions, not included in Scope 2, that are generated outside the area but as a result of activity taking place within the area (eg embedded carbon emissions in goods and services consumed and international transport. These are also commonly referred to as consumption emissions).

### The Borough's Scope 1 and Scope 2 Emissions

3.17 The following charts illustrate the borough's estimated Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. They are based upon the SCATTER assessment tool for local authority emissions, developed by Manchester and Nottingham in collaboration with research and consultancy partners, and use national data applied to Harrow according to its population and estimates of the different types of land use in the borough. As such the figures are approximations only, but they do nevertheless serve to highlight the main sources of emissions for planning purposes. Figures are given in T CO<sub>2</sub>e (tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per annum).



- 3.18 The Scope 1 data indicates that approaching 60% of the borough's direct emissions are attributable to residential buildings. This will be overwhelmingly comprised of their gas heating and cooking requirements. The other main source, over one quarter of total emissions, is road transport, caused by combustion vehicles operating in our borough. The figure for waste is relatively low because this measure does not take into account the embedded Scope 3 consumption related emissions of the goods being disposed of (ie the CO<sub>2</sub> produced in the making and transporting the items– please see further below). Figures for non-residential buildings, whilst significant in their own right and again primarily related to gas usage, are a lower proportion of the whole, reflecting the overall apportionment of building uses in Harrow.
- 3.19 Actions to address the borough's directly produced emissions include: installing heating efficiency measures such as roof and wall insulation, and connecting properties to district heating systems; investing in alternatives to gas heating, such as ground source and air source heat pump technologies; and reducing car journeys by prioritising active and public transport, combined with electrification of the remaining vehicles.



- 3.20 Scope 2 emissions reflect the fact that nationally our electricity is generated from a mix of sources. Whilst the share of renewable generation is increasing, principally as a result of large scale wind installations, the national grid is not yet decarbonised and still relies for a significant proportion of its generation capacity upon fossil fuels, now mainly produced by gas turbines. People in Harrow can nevertheless reduce their amount of electricity related emissions in a number of ways: firstly, by using electricity more efficiently, upgrading inefficient

equipment and adopting better energy usage habits; secondly, by switching to renewable energy suppliers that invest in new renewable generation capacity nationally; and thirdly by meeting more of our electricity demand locally from renewable sources such as solar.

- 3.21 Taken together, the scale of the borough's Scope 1 and Scope 2 current emissions (at over 650,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e), show the level and pace of change that will be required across the borough in order to transition to a carbon neutral position. The next phase of work will be to map carbon reduction pathways to 2030 for both the organisation and the borough as a whole, which will help determine any shortfall in achieving that position and inform future local decision making.

### **Scope 3 Consumption Emissions**

- 3.22 Whilst Scope 1 and 2 emissions pertaining to an organisation and, to a lesser degree of accuracy, an area can be calculated, there is currently no easy means of ascertaining all Scope 3 consumption emissions.
- 3.23 The SCATTER assessment tool estimates Harrow's aviation based consumption emissions at 132,000 t CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. This figure is based upon national data applied uniformly on a per capita basis and may underestimate the volume of air travel attributable to those living and working in our multi-cultural borough. However, the figure is in any event greater than the total estimated on road transport emissions in the borough (see above).
- 3.24 It is understood that the GLA has commissioned work to look further at London's consumption emissions, due to be published later this year, and this should help to provide a clearer overall position. In the meantime, it is highly likely that due to UK society's high levels of consumption and the volume of imported goods (including food) and services, the borough's Scope 3 emissions will exceed its combined Scope 1 and 2 emissions by some margin. This in turn indicates that taking meaningful and informed actions to change the way that we collectively consume goods and services (such as moving towards low meat diets and buying more locally grown and seasonal food), and limiting the amount of waste we produce, will have significant beneficial impacts on the overall emissions position.

### **Harrow Council's Emission Reductions and Work to Date**

- 3.25 Between 2012 and 2019 the Council has managed to decrease the core CO<sub>2</sub> emissions attributable to its direct gas, fleet transport and electricity usage from 26,446 t CO<sub>2</sub> pa (tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum) to 18,517 t CO<sub>2</sub> pa, a fall of around 30%.
- 3.26 Recent savings measures have included:
- A programme of large-scale solar installations in schools, including works in 2019 at Kenmore Park Primary School, Glebe Primary School, Shaftesbury High School and Park High School. The two high school systems each generate around 44,000 Kwh, enough

electricity to power the needs of around 12 average houses, and each save an estimated 24,000kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

- Improvements to the efficiency and performance of the borough's street lighting. The Council has invested up to £3m per annum over the last 4 years to support the upgrading of both lamps and lamp columns. Approximately 9200 street lights have so far been converted to energy efficient LEDs with an annual saving of up to 20% in electricity consumption.
- Renewal of the Council's vehicle fleet during 2019 at a cost of £14 million to include Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) compliant low emission vehicles meeting the latest EURO 6 efficiency standards. 16 vans and one car are also fully electric. At the time of renewal, the heavier refuse vehicles and minibuses were not available as fully proven electric versions, but it is anticipated that this position will have changed by the end of the existing contract period, enabling significant further decarbonisation of the fleet.

3.27 Since the previous referral to cabinet, the Council has formed officer and member working groups who have met through the autumn and winter period, in order to help shape an interim strategic framework and identify initial actions to address the challenge ahead. That framework and action plan is annexed to this report and explained further below. In February, a programme of staff engagement sessions was undertaken to raise awareness of the climate emergency and its implications within the organisation, along with a presentations and discussion at the Harrow Business and Voluntary Sector Forums. We have also convened a working group with other London boroughs who are members of the West London Waste Authority to begin to co-ordinate activity with neighbouring authorities, and have had a series of meetings with the GLA to explore opportunities for future collaboration on carbon reduction initiatives. For the spring, a meeting of key borough partners is proposed with a view to taking forward a new Harrow Climate & Sustainability Partnership, and a wider community event is also being planned.

3.28 The Council has an existing Climate Change Strategy, which was adopted in January 2019 for the period through to 2024. This is however predicated on a 2050 target for carbon reductions and will be revised and integrated into the emerging new strategic framework to address the Climate and Ecological Emergency (set out below) and the significantly more challenging 2030 target for carbon neutrality. The development of a new 2030 Climate Strategy, closely aligned to the proposed ten-year Borough Plan, is a priority action for the coming year.

### **Harrow's Proposed Strategic Framework**

3.29 Following discussions at the officer and member working groups, and having reviewed a range of different approaches taken by other authorities, a strategic framework for responding to the climate

emergency in Harrow is proposed organised around seven key thematic areas. Taken together these aim to provide a holistic approach that seeks to address the major causes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions whilst also taking action to move towards a more sustainable borough and improve wellbeing and equality outcomes:

### ***Clean Energy Used Efficiently***

This theme covers actions to begin transitioning to 100% low carbon and renewable energy solutions, whilst maximising energy efficiency and conservation measures. This includes helping to ensure the borough's long term access to secure and affordable energy supplies through an increase in local energy generation.

### ***Zero Emission Transport***

This theme aims to move towards decarbonisation of public and private transport, maximising the use of active and public transport options, and significantly improving air quality across the borough.

### ***A Waste-Free Borough***

Actions to ensure that all waste is minimised, recycled and re-used as part of a circular economy, transitioning away from traditional linear 'take-make-waste' economic approaches.

### ***Healthy Places for Us and the Rest of Nature***

Ensuring land use in the borough balances the needs of people and the rest of nature. This theme includes both sustainable development - particularly much needed new affordable housing designed to be carbon neutral in operation - whilst also restoring biodiversity and carefully managing other key natural resources such as water, increasing local food production and optimising land use for sequestration.

### ***Good Governance for Long Term Sustainability***

Taking steps to embed long-term environmental and community sustainability at the heart of local decision making, including in the financial planning process.

### ***Ecoliterate and Engaged Communities***

Ecoliteracy involves building an understanding of, and connection with, the natural systems of which we are part and upon which we all depend. This theme includes increasing levels of engagement across our borough and providing practical support and encouragement for our staff, members, partners and the public to take informed actions to address the climate and ecological challenges.

## ***A Socially Just Transition***

Ensuring a just transition to a sustainable and equitable low carbon future for all, particularly to ensure the vulnerable in our communities are supported and protected during this period of major social and economic transformation.

- 3.30 A range of initial actions have been identified across these themes which appear in the accompanying action plan. The plan focusses firstly on those actions which are directly within the council's own control or serve to reduce the organisation's own carbon footprint, and secondly on more borough-wide actions where the council can play a leadership role but which require the co-operation of others in order to effect change. There are of course also areas of cross over, such as waste management which is a significant operational area and residual cost for Harrow as an organisation, but where concerted action to reduce demand and minimise waste at source requires wide action and engagement from residents and business. Priorities for the coming year include establishing good data and carbon reduction pathways, a programme of awareness raising activities for both staff and the public, and ensuring that the council's own ongoing and proposed construction activities (a range of housing projects, a new depot and likely new civic centre) aim to contribute towards carbon neutrality.

## **4. Implications of the Recommendations**

### **Environmental Implications**

- 4.1 Environmental implications are integral to the subject matter of this report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

- 4.2 Risk included on Directorate risk register? No  
Separate risk register in place? No
- 4.3 A failure to act on climate change and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will lead to worsening environmental, social and economic outcomes in Harrow and more widely in the UK and beyond. A work stream to examine the specific risks and develop a Climate Adaptation Plan for Harrow is proposed for the coming year and will form part of the proposed 2030 Climate Strategy.

### **Procurement Implications**

- 4.4 Responsible and sustainable procurement is integral to the delivery of the recommendations of this report. The Council has a considerable procurement spend and a very large third party supply chain delivering works, goods and services.

Any procurement of works or services required pursuant to the action plan will be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Contract

Procedure Rules and, as applicable, The Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

## **Legal Implications**

- 4.5 The Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended) imposes a duty on the Secretary of State to ensure that by 2050 net carbon dioxide and other GHG emissions are reduced by at least 100% when compared to 1990 levels. In other words, the UK has committed to reach a net zero carbon position by 2050.
- 4.6 Although local authorities need to comply with a range of environmental and planning legislation, which together contribute to meeting the government's national target, there is no specific legal obligation placed upon them to set a local target for GHG reductions.

## **Financial & Resourcing Implications**

- 4.7 Whilst good progress has been made over recent months establishing officer and member working groups and beginning to develop relationships with key borough and London-wide partners, there is currently no dedicated co-ordination section for a climate emergency response in the Council, and limited delivery capacity in key operational areas beyond maintaining a business as usual approach.
- 4.8 In the medium term, as carbon reduction pathways are developed and resourcing needs identified, there will need to be a work stream to begin a process of long term budgeting over a 10 year period, to include in depth exploration of future funding strategies and opportunities.
- 4.9 In the shorter term, over the next 12 months, there is still a significant programme of work to be undertaken. To help co-ordinate this activity and bring forward a ten year plan it is proposed to second an officer at head of service level, to take on a Climate Strategy and Natural Resources co-ordination and partnership role. They would be supported by the existing energy team, recognising the central importance of energy to the borough's ambitions to achieve carbon neutrality. The remit would include developing this agenda with officers across other key operational service areas, to include Waste, Housing, Transport, Greenspace Management, Regeneration Delivery, Economic Development, Procurement, Schools, Public Health, Policy and Communications.
- 4.10 An operational revenue budget of £150,000 is required for 20/21, which will come from a one off capacity building reserve. This is to fund staff costs, necessary project support and professional consultancy advice in order to establish carbon reduction pathways and inform future decision making.
- 4.11 The initial actions to be brought forward can be undertaken within existing approved work programmes, using existing departmental resources or through the additional capacity building revenue funding

referred to above. As initial feasibility work identifies projects to take forward, a business case must be developed which identifies all resourcing implications (capital and revenue) which must be approved prior to commencement of the scheme.

### **Carbon Offset Fund**

- 4.12 Under the current London Plan, all major residential developments (i.e. 10 or more dwellings) are expected to achieve net zero carbon development. As a minimum there needs to be at least a 35% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (relative to the Building Regulations) achieved through on-site measures as part of the actual development (for example, energy efficient lights, triple glazing, low carbon heating systems, solar PV panels etc), and any remaining emissions must be offset either by the developer directly using other land or through a monetary contribution payable to the Council so as to achieve net zero carbon development. Contributions are secured by way of planning obligations contained in Section 106 Agreements.
- 4.13 At present receipts are modest (c £24,000) due to the time-lag in between the grant of planning permission and when payment of the contribution is due but are expected to grow as more developments are commenced / completed and thereby trigger contractual payments, to include at least an additional £90,000 during 20/21.
- 4.14 The Fund must be spent by the local authority on carbon emission reduction initiatives in the Borough. To facilitate delivery of some initial projects in 20/21, it is proposed that the Corporate Director – Community agrees a process for priority allocation of Carbon Offset Funds.

### **Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty**

- 4.15 Achieving good equality outcomes is explicitly acknowledged in the draft strategic framework presented with this report, through the theme committing to actions to ensure a socially just transition to a low carbon society. A full Equalities Impact Assessment will accompany the development of the renewed borough-wide 2030 Climate Strategy.

### **Council Priorities**

- 4.16 Improving the Environment and Addressing Climate Change is a key priority of the Council's proposed new Borough Plan for the period 2020-2030, which was approved for public consultation by Cabinet in February 2020. A co-ordinated and holistic response to the Climate & Ecological Emergency, as envisaged by the emerging strategic framework set out in this report, also has significant potential to drive positive change across the other priority areas in the Borough Plan. This includes better public health outcomes, a stronger green local economy and addressing inequality in Harrow.

### Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name:	Jessie Man	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the * Chief Financial Officer
Date:	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		
Name:	Jessica Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the * Monitoring Officer
Date:	6 <sup>th</sup> March 2020		
Name:	Nimesh Mehta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Head of Procurement
Date:	18 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		

Name:	Paul Walker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Director
Date:	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2020		

<b>Ward Councillors notified:</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>EqIA carried out:</b>	<b>NO</b>

### Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Matthew Adams, Principal Lawyer & Climate Emergency Co-ordinating Officer, 0208 424 1403, matthew.adams@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None

**Call-In Waived by the  
Chair of Overview and  
Scrutiny Committee**

**NO**