

CABINET

Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group Terms of Reference

Report of Head of Community Engagement

PURPOSE OF REPORT				
To seek approval of the suggested Terms of Reference for the Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group				
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referral from Cabinet Member
Date Included in Forward Plan	N/A			
This report is public				

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COUNCILLOR HAMILTON COX

- (1) That the Terms of Reference attached at Appendix 1 be approved.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Terms of Reference are required in order to re-establish the Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group with a new Chair and membership following the 2011 elections.
- 1.2 It is necessary to amend the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the new Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group as the previous terms were developed in 2007. They related to developing and establishing a Climate Change Strategy and detailed the priorities laid out in the Corporate Plan at that time. The Strategy has now been established for several years and has been refreshed on a number of occasions. The Council's Corporate Plan current priorities are now very different from 2007 and the TOR need to reflect this.
- 1.3 The Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group will provide a forum through which Service representatives and Members can work together to develop and have oversight of projects contained in the Climate Change Policy and Action Plan.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 Details of the proposed Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1

3.0 Details of Consultation

3.1 None.

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	Option 1: Approve the TOR	Option 2: Amend the TOR	Option 3: reject the TOR
Advantages	The Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group will be able to meet and begin delivering positive contributions to the area of climate change without further delay	Further input can be made by Members	None
Disadvantages	None	A delay to the meeting of the group	The group will not be able to form
Risks	None	None	A successful forum of discussion and Member leadership in relation to climate change activity will be lost

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 Establishing the Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group will contribute toward effective implementation of the long-term climate change vision and development of the Climate Change Policy and Action Plan for Lancaster City Council. Member input and consultation, anticipated to be through the group, is a positive contribution and the Terms of Reference are required to formally establish the group.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

Establishing the Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group supports the effective delivery of the corporate priority on climate change.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

This group will become an important forum to discuss climate change and sustainability issues at a Member and senior officer level.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None. Any recommendations by the Liaison Group would need to be referred to Cabinet for consideration

OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**Human Resources:**

None other than officer attendance at meetings of the Group

Information Services:

None

Property:

None

Open Spaces:

None

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has nothing further to add

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has nothing further to add

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact Officer: Jill Wesolowski
Telephone: 01524 582061
E-mail: jwesolowski@lancaster.gov.uk
Ref:

Appendix 1

Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group – Terms of Reference

Background

Lancaster City Council is committed to action on climate change through its Corporate Plan (2011-2014), which prioritises tackling the challenges of climate change through saving energy in our buildings and fleet and generating income in the form of tariffs and other related opportunities.

To ensure effective implementation of the long-term climate change vision and development of the Climate Change Policy and Action Plan for Lancaster City Council, Member input and consultation is essential. The Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group will provide a forum through which Service representatives and Members can work together to develop the Policy and determine or enhance projects contained in the rolling Action Plan.

Terms of Reference

The Climate Change Cabinet Liaison Group will:

1. Consider and make recommendations for the ongoing development of the Council's Climate Change Policy – Vision for 2020
2. Provide a forum for Member consultation on the development and delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan
3. Consider the delivery of outcomes and recommend any revised actions to achieve targets, which mitigate and adapt to climate change within the framework of the Corporate Plan
4. Consider and recommend effective links to external and internal policies relevant to delivery of the Corporate Plan priority on climate change and the Climate Change Policy
5. Request and consider reports from relevant Officers and Officer groups on the delivery of climate change objectives and the opportunities to secure external funding
6. Promote and raise awareness of the Council's approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change
7. To advise the Portfolio holder on budget proposals in relation to climate change projects
8. The Group will be Chaired by the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Climate Change and Property Services – Councillor Tim Hamilton-Cox
9. The Group will meet as required but in any event, no less than quarterly