

Climate Change Scrutiny Review in Action

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Overview & Scrutiny Officer



Outline

- Scope of the review
- The outcomes hoped to achieve
- Key stakeholders involved
- Key risks
- Development of recommendations
- Impacts of the work
- What worked well /didn't work well

- January 2019 – Full Council
 - Climate Emergency Declaration
 - Pledge to make Milton Keynes the ‘Greenest City in the World’ and carbon neutral by 2030
 - Adoption of ‘Sustainability Strategy’
 - To bring forward work on an Action Plan as quickly as possible
- July 2019 – T&FG established to review the work currently being undertaken by the Council and identify any further actions that could be taken to deliver the Council’s Resolutions
- Public ‘Call for Evidence’ and four evidence sessions (scene setting, Housing & Planning, Energy & Transport)

Scope of the Review

Outcomes

- Report to Cabinet
 - Review of the work currently being undertaken
 - Identify any further actions that could be taken.
- Prepare a comprehensive assessment of the work done to date to mitigate and adapt to climate change in Milton Keynes

Stakeholders

- All MKC Directors and Heads of Service
- Cabinet Members
- Academics (Cranfield University/Open University)
- Community Groups
- Campaign Groups
- Businesses
- SEMLEP
- Parks Trust
- RESIDENTS

Key Risks

- Limited councillor/officer availability
- Lack of co-operation or availability of external witnesses
- Resources available to develop the Action Plan and service the T&FG
- Ensuring the timetable to develop the Action Plan is not unduly delayed by the work of the T&FG
- Maintaining cross party support for the Sustainability Strategy

Development of Recommendations

- Strong lead from the Chair of the T&FG – draft of initial recommendations
- Private session to work through prioritising and reducing initial number
 - What did Council have most influence over?
 - Practical, Realistic, Pragmatic
- 28 Recommendations / 13 Themes

Impacts

- T&FG Report and Recommendations 'noted' by Cabinet – March 2020
- Sustainability Action Plan Adopted – March 2020
- Review of the Action Plan in 6 Months to incorporate any endorsed recommendations from the TFG
- Degree of delay due to Covid-19
- Update report to Scrutiny Management Committee October 2020/ Cabinet December 2020

What worked well...

'Call for evidence' – could hear views from a wider range of people then could be heard in evidence sessions

Involvement of the Senior Officer writing the Action Plan

Themes selected resonated and focused on what the Council could do

Public engagement



What didn't...

Restriction on number of meetings/
limited topic areas

Information did not flow both ways
(Action Plan/T&FG)

Would it have been more useful to have reviewed the Action Plan after it had been in place for 6-12 months?

Lack of ability to live stream limited public involvement





Thank you