



North Devon Council

Report Date: 6th July 2022

Topic: Feedback from Councillor Climate Working Groups

Report by: Donna Sibley, Sustainability & Climate Officer

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Climate leads at North Devon and Torridge District Councils, Cllrs Lofthouse and Hames respectively, have been appointed to the Joint Planning Policy Committee to provide a link between the Local Plan Review and the Councillor Climate Working Groups.

1.2. This report provides the Committee with a summary of discussions on the Local Plan Review at the North Devon Climate Action Team meeting on 28th June and Torridge Councillor Climate Change Working Group on 30th June.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. It is recommended that the Committee notes the current feedback from CAT and CCCWG.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To provide the Committee with confidence that Councillors are working collaboratively with relevant groups to ensure the Local Plan Review will incorporate actions to support delivery of the UK's environmental targets, including the commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2050, to protect 30% of UK land by 2030 etc

4. REPORT

4.1. As the new Local Plan will cover a period up to about 2045, it will need to contain strong policies to protect and enhance our environment if we are to achieve the targets set by Government.

4.2. Discussions:

- The Local Plan should be environment-led;
- Local Plan will need to contain policies to achieve net zero development, above current Building Regulations;
- Presumption that Biodiversity Net Gain will be delivered on site in most instances, in line with current guidance from numerous bodies eg TCPA etc;
- No toleration of developers who remove biodiversity from site to make it easier to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1. None identified at present.



6. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

6.1. No equalities implications anticipated at present.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

7.1 An environment-led Local Plan that takes into account government targets will have a positive effect on the Council's objectives and on the District.

8. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

8.1. What impact, positive or negative, does the subject of this report have on:

8.1.1. The commercialisation agenda:

8.1.2. Improving customer focus and/or

8.1.3. Regeneration or economic development

The North Devon Council and Torridge District Council Corporate Priorities have been considered in the drafting of the report.

9. CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

9.1. Schedule 2, paragraph 1.1.1-1.1.3 of the North Devon Council and Torridge District Council Joint Planning Policy Agreement:

9.2. Delegated power

10. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

n/a

12. STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers: Donna Sibley, Sustainability and Climate Officer