

Appendix A

BABERGH & MID SUFFOLK CABINETS' RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSALS OF THE ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE AND ACTIONS THAT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THEIR FIRST CARBON REDUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Introduction

At full Council meetings on 23rd July 2019 and 25th July 2019 respectively Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils recognised the existence of a climate emergency and committed to investigating ways in which they could reduce their own emissions and to supporting the Suffolk-wide aim to become carbon neutral by 2030. Both Councils also agreed to establish a joint council, cross-party Environment and Climate Change Task Force to examine ways in which they could respond to the climate change challenge on a spend to save basis. The Task Force was established and its full findings are attached at Appendix F. The Task Force prioritised a number of proposals from the full list of possible actions and table two below shows:

- (a) The prioritised proposals from the Task Force;
- (b) Additional comments from Assistant Directors on viability, indicative costs and timescales; and
- (c) Comments from the Cabinets and whether each proposal from the Task Force is agreed or amended.

The agreed actions, with noted amendments, in Table Two form the Councils' first Carbon Reduction Management Plan.

NOTE: The proposals specified in this plan are based predominantly on a 'business as usual' scenario. However, at the time of drafting, the UK is in 'lockdown' in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The implications of possible future restrictions to combat the disease are not known and could impact on some of the proposals detailed below.

Many of the proposals require scoping and/or feasibility studies to determine viability, need, cost, timing or the extent of work required. Table One defines the criteria used for estimating the costs and carbon savings or impact of such actions.

Table One Definitions of costs and carbon impacts/savings

Costs	Carbon Impact/Savings
Existing – to be met from existing and already identified resource	Enabling – action will not save carbon directly but will help create an environment where other actions can take place to save carbon or create climate resilience
Low – <£50k required for the project or approach	Low – reduce carbon emissions in this area by <10%
Medium – >£50k and <£200k required for the project or approach	Medium – reduce carbon emissions in this area by between >10% and <25%
High – >£200k required for the project or approach	High – reduce carbon emissions in this area by >25%
	Offset – action will create an offset
	Adaptation – action will help adapt to current and/or future impacts of climate change

Table Two Carbon Management Action Plan

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
1	Low Carbon Energy						
1.1	We will explore opportunities for low carbon energy generation, with a view to minimising our reliance on the grid e.g. solar farms, solar car ports, battery storage. This will include options for Council-owned land/buildings and other investment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Oct 19) AD for Economy Greater South East Energy Hub Groundwork Suffolk 	Medium/High (depending on scale)	Medium/High (depending on scale)	Feasibility completed for solar car park by Qtr 3 of 2020/21	AD Economy: Key feasibility work for Solar car ports will include a number of sites across Babergh and Mid Suffolk and be completed by Qtr 3 of 2020/21. This will also include assessment of battery storage at leisure sites.	Use ‘low carbon’ instead of ‘renewable’ because this then includes nuclear energy. Nuclear energy is considered ‘low carbon’ because an operating plant emits virtually no CO2e but is not technically considered ‘renewable’ like wind or solar because the raw material (usually uranium-235) has a finite supply.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
					<p>Initial feasibility for Gateway 14 by Qtr 3 2020/21</p> <p>Exploration only - Qtr 3 2020/21 with further timescales to be developed thereafter.</p> <p>Qtr 2 of 2021/22 for wind turbine exploration</p>	<p>MSDC is working with Gateway 14 Ltd and the Greater South East Energy Hub to carry out heat and power mapping across the Gateway 14 site to establish options for creating a low carbon exemplar commercial development on this significant site. Initial feasibility by Qtr 3 2020/21.</p> <p>AD Housing: We potentially have some land e.g. garage sites where we could feasibly consider solar car parks. These sites need to be identified and feasibility studies completed. We envisage this initial work to identify sites and complete high-level feasibility studies be completed in Qtr 3 2020/21. We can also explore other low</p>	<p>‘Removing our reliance on the grid’ has been replaced with ‘minimising our reliance on the grid’. This is because there are likely to be circumstances where use of the grid is unavoidable.</p>

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
						carbon offerings e.g. wind turbines etc on other land deemed as suitable. We envisage exploration of this second strand of work taking up to be completed by Qtr 2 of 2021/22.	
1.2	We will investigate with our partners, the potential for gas and electricity usage at the Councils' four leisure centres to be moved to certified low carbon tariffs (energy currently purchased by Abbeycroft Leisure and Everyone Active). Make this a prerequisite of any future tender for the service. Any renewable energy supplier should confirm that their sources do not generate energy using live timber imports such as pelletised wood used by Drax.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Task Force (Oct 19) • Greater South East Energy Hub • Groundwork Suffolk • AD for Economy 	Medium	High (less if low carbon energy generation is installed)	Dependant on Contracts	AD Environment: Both leisure providers purchase their own energy. We will work with them to ensure that at the earliest opportunity they can move to a green tariff. This is almost certainly going to cost more. Given their current financial situation as a result of Covid-19, it is likely that the cost of this transition will need to be met, for some time, by the Council. This in itself should not discourage this action, as this is the largest emitter and one that it is suggested	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
						the Councils need to focus on as early as possible.	
2	Housing						
2.1	We will review policy and regulation for energy conservation reduction and efficiency to understand how this can be standardised for the Councils' new builds and retrofits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Oct 19) Greater South East Energy Hub Groundwork Suffolk AD for Economy 	High	Enabling	Qtr 3 2020/21	AD Housing: We will refresh the asset management strategy for HRA with a view to it being ready to start going through the internal governance/consultation process e.g. SLT, Portfolio Holders, and Cabinet by Qtr 3 in 2020/21	Agreed.
2.2	Proposed Housing Strategy revised action: Seek the resources to assess the environmental performance of our housing stock and determine what additional prioritised actions we are going to take to reduce carbon emissions and contribute to our climate emergency objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) AD for Housing 	Existing	Enabling	Qtr 3 2020/21 (linked to 2.1)	AD Housing: As above.	Agreed.
2.3	Proposed Housing Strategy revised action: Implement a programme of upgrades to heating systems in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) 	Existing	High	Starting Qtr 1 2021/22	AD Housing: Implement and mobilise the programme after the	Agreed. Noted here that the budget used to support Housing actions will be from the Housing Revenue

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	council stock, replacing oil systems wherever possible and prioritising heat pumps where appropriate. This should be done on a case by case basis, rather than applying to the whole of the council stock as different solutions will be needed. Specific budget will need to be established. Ensure joint working across Suffolk to make use of external funding opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Housing 				policy etc has been agreed (2.1) and it has been built into 2021/22 budget setting, therefore starting from Qtr 1 2021/22.	Account. <i>See section 9 of the Cabinet report.</i>
2.4	Proposed Housing Strategy revised action: Prepare a broad specification for new build Council stock, to include consideration of passive technologies and measures to increase accessibility, by quarter 2 of 2020/21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) AD for Housing 	Low/Medium	Medium	Qtr 2 2020/21	AD Housing: Design guide out for consultation and a final version is due in Qtr 2 2020/21.	Agreed. Original timescale changed from March 2020 due to AD viability comment.
3	Planning						
3.1	Embed the Suffolk Design Charter to deliver its aspirations for high quality, sustainable design. Adopt its principles and become an exemplar through the Councils own build programme. Agreed that this should be an influencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) AD for Planning & Sustainable Communities 	High	Enabling/Adaption	Qtr 4 2020/21	AD Sustainable Communities: The Suffolk Design project has been funded by MHCLG. It is currently at a well-developed draft stage following more than a year of	Agreed.

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	document rather than an SPD. Further, that early developer engagement should become an action of the team. It should also be committed to across the whole organisation.					engagement and co-creation. It will not become a formal part of the Local Development Plan but will be a material consideration. It will also provide a clear articulation of a change in emphasis, of higher expectations around design quality.	
3.2	We will investigate the feasibility of requiring developers to pay into a Carbon Offset Fund for the carbon emissions of all new homes built. We will research best practice from Offset Funds operated by other local authorities. Measures to reduce carbon emissions must take priority over offsetting, whilst not reducing overall viability of the development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) • AD for Planning & Sustainable Communities 	High	Enabling/Adaption	Qtr 4 2020/21	AD Sustainable Communities: Aside from the technicalities of implementing such a fund there would inevitably be implications for development viability. These will be explored as part of the viability work being undertaken to support the Joint Local Plan. The Covid-19 pandemic will clearly have economic impacts for some time to come which creates a layer of uncertainty	Agreed, but with Increased emphasis required on this action to ensure that offset is not used as the only measure for developers. This revised action considers the AD's viability comment as the Councils still have to ensure an adequate number of new homes can be built.

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						over the assumptions that underpin the economic modelling.	
3.3	We will include policies in the Local Plan that require new development to achieve high levels of energy efficiency and minimise carbon emissions (subject to the outcomes of the Future Homes Standard consultation and implementation of any changes to the Building Regulations).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) AD for Planning & Sustainable Communities 	Existing	Enabling	Qtr 4 2020/21 for next formal stage	AD Sustainable Communities: The Joint Local Plan is currently being prepared and over the next few months we expect to receive a range of evidence base reports on the policies developed so far. We will bring an updated timetable (the Local Development Scheme) to Council in Qtr 2 2020/21. As above, the impacts of Covid-19 are difficult to forecast with confidence but will inevitably impact on viability.	Agreed, but must ensure this action does not cause delay to the current Joint Local Plan timetable. If it will then this should be rolled into the next round of revisions.
3.4	We will ensure a sustainable pattern of development supported by low carbon transport infrastructure by ensuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All development proposals that are expected to, or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) AD for Planning & Sustainable Communities 	Existing	Enabling	As above.	As above.	Agreed except the numerical indicator of 100% removed on the bullet points as it is not meaningful in this context. It has been replaced with 'All'.

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	likely to have a major impact on the highway infrastructure, incorporate a travel plan, in accordance with County/National Guidance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All development proposals incorporate provision for walking, cycling (including storage) and public transport, linkages to networks and electric vehicle charging. 						
3.5	We will seek to ensure the Local Plan includes a clear strategy and policies for climate change adaptation, including measures to address flood risk and management of flood zones, sustainable drainage systems, and green infrastructure as part of new developments. Subject to feasibility, viability, consultation and examination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) AD for Planning & Sustainable Communities 	Low	Enabling/Adaptation	As above	As above	Agreed, but ensure this action does not cause delay to the current Joint Local Plan timetable. If it will, then this should be rolled into the next round of revisions.
4	Waste & Fleet						
4.1	We will work with Suffolk Waste Partnership order to minimise waste and support recycling. Waste reduction initiatives such as Community Composting will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) 	Low	Enabling	Starting in Qtr 3 2021/22	AD Environment: The Suffolk Waste Partnership is an established group who have a track record for	This action has been reworded as it is the role of the Suffolk Waste Partnership to lead on this work. Two further actions

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	be promoted, to encourage local people to reduce their organic waste and to compost at home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk Waste Partnership • AD for Environment 				carrying out successful initiatives. All initiatives are agreed by the Member group in order to set priorities for the year ahead. Working with this group on this action will provide a solid basis to launch such initiatives.	from the full list of possible proposals from the Task Force have been integrated. These were 4.4 and 4.5 shown in Appendix E. The Councils will actively work with Suffolk Waste Partnership when the final Environment Bill has gone through the full parliamentary process.
4.2	We will develop and implement a plan for replacing the vehicle fleet (Waste Services, Public Realm and BMBS) with electric or other zero carbon fuelled vehicles when they reach end of life. Proposal to cover the investment need for both infrastructure and vehicles, as well as the associated carbon emission saving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) • Dennis Eagle • AD for Environment & AD Housing • Groundwork Suffolk 	High	High	Proposal to be developed by Qtr 1 2021/22	<p>This action in relation to the long-term goal of fleet replacement. This does not take away from the short-term action around alternative fuels. See 4.6.</p> <p>AD Environment: 2030 will be the next key change to these vehicles. It is unlikely that appropriate technology, or infrastructure will be available at this point. There will be the opportunity to trial</p>	Agreed.

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					Qtr 1 2021/22 (as Current Housing fleet contracted until that date).	<p>vehicles and this will be worked into service plans and budget setting. Vehicles will be costly and so a phased procurement programme will be needed to spread the cost.</p> <p>AD Housing: Initial meeting to scope fleet renewal project for Building Services and how we achieve our carbon reduction aspirations due mid-June, at which a project team will be agreed. Viability is in question due to availability of vehicles i.e. transit vans that offer an electric solution. There is more viability in reduction of mileage through increased efficiency and productivity by exploring and implementing digital</p>	

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						solutions that reduce the need to visit and reduce repeat visits etc. A digital video diagnostic tool is currently being explored and could be deployed by QTR 2 2020/21 subject to approval. This will achieve reduction in mileage through increased efficiency and productivity.	
4.3	We will secure the transition of appropriate Council fleet vehicles to electric or other zero carbon fuel sources such as HVO. Produce a feasibility study including a costed proposal, for using low carbon fuel in the Refuse Collection fleet in place of diesel (as an interim measure prior to full replacement with electric or renewable fuel vehicles). All Euro 6 standard vehicles have the ability to use alternative fuel without the need to retrofit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing waste strategy • Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) • Dennis Eagle • AD for Environment & AD Housing 	High	High	Qtr 4 2020/21	<p>AD Environment: The business case is being undertaken currently. There will be an annual cost increase in addition to year 1 set up fees. The exact amount will be known upon completion of the business case. An estimate is in the region of 10-15% additional cost for fuel per annum.</p> <p>AD Housing: Covered above.</p>	Agreed.

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4.4	<p>We will develop a Grey Fleet (grey fleet is a fleet of drivers who use their own cars for business purpose) mileage reduction plan for staff and councillors' vehicles used for business, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review pool vehicle provision, options to increase both the number of vehicles (electric/zero emission models) and base locations. Establish a culture of phone, video and web conferencing whenever practicable. Actively encourage working from home and to reduce staff commuting. Alternative operating models e.g. offering car salary sacrifice, business lease schemes or collective purchase/leasing of electric vehicles. Review staff travel plan to consider vehicle emissions and encourage public transport and car sharing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) AD for Corporate Resources AD for Environment AD for Customer Services AD for Housing 	Low/Medium (depending on scale of ambition)	Medium/High (depending on scale of ambition)	<p>Pool provision: 2025-30</p> <p>Housing – linked to a digital transformation plan which is in development and planned to be with SLT by Qtr 2 2020/21</p>	<p>AD Environment: We currently utilise the pool car provision through Suffolk County Council. They have committed to moving this to an electric fleet prior to 2030. We will further develop opportunities around pool provision in other locations.</p> <p>AD Housing: Recommend removal of term 'grey fleet' and just replace with fleet. We are already looking at several solutions that will help reduce our mileage and carbon footprint through procuring and developing more digital solutions reducing repair and housing management visits. This is viable subject to cost and investment. More</p>	<p>Bullet four is not agreed based on the viability comments. The suggested change by the Assistant Director for Corporate Resources is agreed. All other points agreed.</p>

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
					<p>Qtr 4 2020/21</p> <p>Qtr 4 2021/22</p>	<p>incentives to share more widely pool cars and disincentivise the attraction to travel in private vehicles and claim mileage.</p> <p>AD Customer Services: Bullets point two and three will now be undertaken as part of the recovery process for Covid-19.</p> <p>AD Corporate Resources: Bullet point 4 is not viable. We do have a significant number of our staff who are deemed as essential car users for which they receive an allowance, however the amount of the allowance would not make the car salary sacrifice scheme a viable option nor would the purchase / leasing schemes be</p>	

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						<p>practical as we would need to have a pool fleet which would be based in a central location. Staff would then need to travel to and from this central location to collect a pool car which would erode the benefit from this alternative operating model. The essential car user policy can be reviewed to ensure that there is reference to emissions.</p> <p>The current staff travel plan can be reviewed but would need to take into consideration the work that is being undertaken as part of the Covid-19 recovery plan, in particular the review of our Assets and Accommodation. The plan will only be effective if the options available to our</p>	

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
						employees are feasible from where they live and where they work.	
5	Transport & Travel (inc alternatives)						
5.1	We will review the Councils' existing parking policies to encourage a modal shift in transport from cars to other sustainable transport options including cycling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) • AD for Environment • AD for Economy • AD for Housing 	Existing	Enabling	Qtr 3 2020/21 Ongoing.	<p>AD Environment: Work has been started. There is a commitment in the Corporate Outputs regarding parking provision. Work will join up with the visioning work for town centres, as it cannot be done in isolation.</p> <p>AD Economy: We are working with Suffolk County council to create new areas in town centres for walking and cycling building upon the behaviour change demonstrated during Covid 19. This will be</p>	Agreed. We will encourage modal shift by seeking opportunities to increase cycle path and foot-way connectivity, as well as reviewing the parking policies.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
					Housing neighbourhood improvement plan due to be drafted by Qtr 2 2020/21	linked into a new car parking strategy in our town centres. AD Housing: This needs to link and be reflected within the development of our neighbourhood improvement plan, as we are always being asked to provide additional parking. We will explore old garage sites being replaced with new solar panel car parks.	
5.2	Undertake an assessment with relevant partners to understand the ability of the grid to take on EV charging points in our districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) AD for Environment 	The cost would not fall within the LA's remit.	Adaption	Qtr 4 2021/22	AD Environment: The Councils will not be able to directly affect the ability to increase the availability of the grid to support EV charging. However, understand where installing charging points is possible is the first step towards understanding the Council's strategy for	This is an additional action added in. It is essential that we understand the capability of the grid in relation to EV charging points, in order to inform our EV Strategy.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
						EV Charging. It is acknowledged that the electric solution is the most developed, but that hydrogen is likely to be the long-term solution.	
5.3	We will develop a district-wide plan for providing electric vehicle charging infrastructure on Council-owned land for public use. Plan will be developed based on the demand metrics from the recent installations and developments in the market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Feb 20) AD for Environment 	<p>Development of plan: Low</p> <p>Implementing a plan: High</p>	<p>Development of plan: Enabling</p> <p>Implementing a plan: High</p>	Qtr 1 2021/22	<p>AD Environment:</p> <p>Work is underway to work in partnership with local companies as well as other local authorities. This is a viable and important piece of work to undertake in this financial year.</p>	Agreed. This is an existing corporate output. It is recognised that our strategy will need to change depending on advances in technology.
6	Council & Commercial Estate						
6.1	We will undertake an assessment for how to improve energy efficiency across the Councils' commercial estate (CIFCO) beyond that required by the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) regulations (which stipulate that all properties should have a minimum Energy Performance Certificate rating of E). Utilise the findings of the assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Assets & Investments Groundwork Suffolk 	High	Enabling	To be included in current Asset Management Strategy to go to Council in Qtr 3 2020/21	<p>AD Assets & Investments: Audit itself a is reasonable cost to get EPC certificates and recommendation reports. Cost benefit analysis will be needed to assess recommendations to shift EPC ratings above the minimum. Existing</p>	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
	to develop and adopt an Energy Action Plan setting out in detail the Councils' approach to reducing corporate energy use and carbon emissions and a target performance rating to be achieved.					EPC data can be re-run in the software to provide indicative rating savings in the SAP test without producing a new certificate (I.e. sensitivity analysis on the recommendations). Overall – this should be a relatively quick piece of work to audit let properties. The potential action on what you do next would need to be considered and planned.	
6.2	We will review and revise the Councils' standard commercial rental lease agreement to incorporate appropriate "green clauses" (a green lease is a standard lease with additional clauses included which provide for the management and improvement of the environmental performance of a building by both owner and occupier). Develop a plan to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Assets & Investments 	Existing	Enabling	Dependant on approach and cost commitment.	AD Assets & Investments: Take up of a new green lease will depend on lease expiry dates and new lease negotiations. Therefore, this could take several years to fully move over to a new format. Alternatively, a proactive approach of	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
	transition new and existing leases to the revised agreement.					seeking early re-gearing of leases across the estate could see early adoption of green leases. If we pursue this proactively, we may have to bear the tenants legal costs to secure their agreement.	
6.3	We will carry out detailed energy audits of all Council buildings (depots, offices and leisure centres) to establish their performance, and improvement measures that are required to achieve optimum performance. Produce recommendations for each building/facility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwork Suffolk • AD for Assets & Investments 	Low	Enabling	Qtr 4 2020/21	AD Assets & Investments: This is linked to the emerging Accommodation Strategy for the Councils' occupied estate. As per 6.1 the audit itself is reasonable cost and it is what comes next that will have to be assessed, planned and budgeted for. This work should form part of proactive asset review under the Accommodation Strategy and Asset Management Plan.	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
6.4	We will develop and deliver a long-term Carbon Management Plan for all Council-owned (non-domestic) buildings and infrastructure, based on the findings of the audits, to reduce energy use and bring them to as close to zero emission as possible. The plan will identify potential energy and carbon savings, with associated costs, estimated payback and timeframes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwork Suffolk • AD for Environment • AD for Assets & Investments 	High (but will result in significant reductions in energy costs)	High	Qtr 4 2021/22	<p>AD Environment: Once energy audits are undertaken the carbon management plan can be created. This is essential to ensuring buildings are low emitters and that any offsetting can be accounted for.</p> <p>AD Assets & Investments: We will need to ensure that the Accommodation Strategy and Asset Management Strategy aligns to the principles of the long-term Carbon Management Plan and that proactive asset reviews include reviewing and assessing audit results in options appraisals as to future use.</p>	Agreed.
6.5	We will ensure that new Council facilities are designed and built to the highest standards of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD for Environment 	Existing	High	Asset Management Plan to council	AD Assets & Investments: This is linked to the emerging	Agreed.

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	energy efficiency following the Net Zero Operational Carbon approach to deliver zero carbon buildings. We will also aspire to the highest standards when refurbishing our existing stock.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Assets & Investments 			<p>in November – Qtr 3 2020/21.</p> <p>18 – 24 months of action resulting in implementation plans by 2023</p>	<p>Accommodation Strategy for the councils' occupied estate. We will need to undertake assessment of all buildings and implementation plans as part of proactive asset review under the Accommodation Strategy and Asset Management Plan</p> <p>This should also include contracts/suppliers to ensure that they are also meeting that standard such as Vertas / Norse (HBS) etc</p>	
6.6	<p>We will develop a plan to significantly increase tree and hedgerow planting in the districts including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A target for planting on Council land. Investigating alternative funding options e.g. Woodland Trust funding; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Nov 19) AD for Environment Suffolk Wildlife Trust 	Medium (potentially low if alternative funding / model possible)	Offset/Enabling	Qtr 3 2020/21	<p>AD Environment: The Biodiversity working group will be reporting back to Cabinet within this financial year.</p> <p>AD Assets & Investments: We will need to ensure that</p>	Agreed.

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	<p>facilitating community groups to plant on Council land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and facilitate community groups and individuals to increase tree and hedgerow planting on communal land and in private gardens. <p>A management approach to secure long-term survival of trees and reduces need to cut down mature trees.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woodland Trust 				disposal, development site appraisal and asset review practices align to this, especially if we are looking to our own estate as a target. This should be part of a disposal/community asset transfer policy decision tree to ensure that no site is overlooked. The Asset Management Strategy will include a framework for property decisions so that best use/value can be obtained whilst considering the appropriateness against strategic objective.	
6.7	We will develop and implement a plan for replacing fossil-fuelled horticultural and street scene equipment (such as mowers and strimmers) with electric appliances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Environment 	Existing	Medium	Qtr 4 2020/21	AD Environment: Most technology is already available for the change to take place. Where possible this will be done at end of life and within current budgets.	Agreed.

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	e.g. IT equipment and phones. Further, that this be built into future contracts where goods are purchased.	Force (May 20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICT Corporate Manager 				can investigate opportunities and build into future contracts where possible. Recognition that this is particularly challenging within the IT sector as it requires significant culture change to design out items that can't be recyclable, as well as find facilities that can re-introduce items into the 'cyclical economy'.	
8	Business & Communities						
8.1	We will work with partnership agencies to help businesses to develop low carbon business models and to secure investment to enable them to reduce their own carbon footprints and build climate resilience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Oct 19) AD for Economy 	Existing/Low	Enabling	Qtr 3 2020/21 Ongoing	AD for Economy – Conversations will be undertaken with SCC and the Local Enterprise Partnership once immediate response to Covid 19 moves into recovery phase. Clean growth is a key strand of the LEP Local Industrial Strategy	Agreed.
8.2	We will continue to support and promote the Suffolk LAs' 'BEE Anglia' programme offering free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task 	Existing/Low	Enabling	Qtr 3 2020/21 Ongoing	AD Environment: We continue to work with the Local Enterprise to	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
	energy and environmental audits and consultancy to SMEs, together with a grants scheme for implementing energy efficiency and renewable generation measures.	Force (Oct 19) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Economy AD for Environment 				promote the BEE Anglia scheme.	
8.3	We will, through our procurement process for energy/carbon works to our buildings, require contractors to positively impact the local green economy or use local sources which have a beneficial effect on the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Corporate Resources AD for Environment 	Existing/Low	Enabling	See 9.3	AD Corporate Resources: This is a viable proposal. Though this action is linked to the Social Value work being undertaken within Sustainable Communities. See 9.3.	Agreed.
8.4	We will work with local businesses to build resilience to climate impacts. We will assess the risks that climatic events pose and the opportunities available to prepare and respond, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the Local Enterprise Partnership to put adaptation at the centre of local plans for local economic development. Working with the business community to raise awareness of the risks and opportunities to local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Environment AD for Economy 	Low	Enabling/Adaptation	Qtr 3 2020/21 ongoing	AD Economy: We continue to work alongside Suffolk partners and the LEP to engage with local businesses, providing support to access funding for climate change innovation and to develop joint plans to deliver stronger more resilient supply chains, more skills and training within the sector and raise awareness of risks and	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
	<p>businesses of projected climate impacts, including extreme weather events and impacts on resource availability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing support to businesses on developing business continuity plans and adaptation measures. <p>Undertaking a review of the risk and opportunities to our local tourist and hospitality industry of projected climate changes.</p>					<p>climate change impacts</p> <p>The Councils have also developed a grant funding scheme available for businesses wanting to adapt their premises to make them more carbon efficient.</p> <p>This scheme will launch in Summer/Autumn 2020.</p>	
8.5	<p>We will work with local communities and support them to develop local 'place-specific' solutions and build resilience to climate impacts. We will assess the risks that climatic events pose and the opportunities available to prepare and respond, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying communities at greatest risk from climate change (particularly flooding) and co-creating appropriate actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) • AD for Environment • AD for Sustainable Communities 	Low	Enabling/Adaptation	Qtr 3 2021/22 ongoing	<p>AD Environment: This is an important piece of work that communities are likely to require support with. The Council will not be able to fulfil this action alone and so will need to seek support from other external organisations who are best placed to support communities.</p>	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying stakeholders with greatest contact with communities and working with partners to build their capacity to provide the right information on community resilience to severe weather. Producing overarching plans and processes to support and empower communities to build resilience to future climate impacts and severe weather through community-led resilience plans. Producing plans and processes to support community resilience projects and signposting to sources of support and funding. Monitor involvement of community level groups in resilience. 					AD Sustainable Communities: Our communities have demonstrated their creativity, commitment and resilience during the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Building on this, recognising that the Council does not hold all the answers, trusting our communities and avoiding paternalism and unnecessary bureaucracy are key to this being a viable proposal. This activity will be built into the emerging Communities Strategy Action Plan.	
8.6	We will support communities to secure investment for energy improvement measures and infrastructure to improve local community resilience through the Councils Community Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force (Dec 19) 	Existing	Enabling/Adaptation	Qtr 3 2020/21 ongoing	AD Sustainable Communities: This is a viable proposal and will be embedded through both the Community Grants	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
	schemes, external funding opportunities and through the planning system by using S106 or Community Infrastructure Levy funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Sustainable Communities 				Review and Communities Strategy Action Plan.	
8.7	We will continue the Councils' membership of the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership and actively participate in and promote its work and remit, including the production and implementation of the wider-Suffolk Climate Emergency Action Plan. Cabinet membership will continue to be a priority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD for Environment 	Existing	Enabling	Current	AD Environment: This group allows us to work in partnership on the Suffolk-wide aspiration to become a carbon neutral county. Membership is essential if this aspiration is to be reached.	Agreed.
9	Culture Change & Governance						
9.1	We will incorporate an environmental impact assessment in the Councils' reporting process for key Cabinet decisions including carbon emissions, climate adaptation and resilience and biodiversity and ensure that negative impacts are avoided or mitigated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force AD for Environment 	Existing	Enabling	Qtr 2 2020/21	AD Environment: This section is already part of the Councils' decision-making papers, though often the comment is recorded as 'no environmental impact'. This section should hold key implications, in line with the Finance and Legal implications, for Cabinet or Council to	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
						take informed decisions. An internal process will be implemented to have the Environment Teams one of the key consultees before a paper is distributed. Initially the Environment Team will lead on writing this section. The long-term aim is to enable teams to be able to communicate the implications directly (see 9.2).	
9.2	We will develop and implement an environmental behavioural change and training programme for Council employees. The programme will focus on enabling staff to reduce energy costs and their carbon impact while at work and to assess carbon impacts where required for their roles. Teams will be encouraged to showcase positive changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Task Force AD for Environment 	Low	Enabling/Low	Qtr 4 2020/21	AD Environment: This work will take place within the Environment Team along with colleagues in Organisation Development and HR. Support from both teams has been committed in relation to this proposal.	Agreed.

	Proposal	Originator	Cost	Carbon Impact/Saving	Timescale	Viability	Cabinet Comment and / or Amendment
9.3	<p>We will review existing procurement arrangements to ensure the Councils' supply chain is minimising carbon emissions and avoiding single use plastics. Revised guidance will be produced that incorporates sustainability and social value approaches and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defines and adopts 'whole life' costing of projects so that carbon and utility costs are considered together (not just initial capital cost). • Encourages low energy use, more sustainable options and promotes local purchasing where possible. • Includes a sustainability/environmental statement within tender documents, which will be provided to suppliers to ensure they prioritise sustainability within their proposals. • Sets a percentage weighting of supplier environmental performance in our selection process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD for Corporate Resources • AD for Environment 	Existing	Medium	TBC	<p>AD Corporate Resources: Policy development and then implementation will take some time. We must ensure we build in everything we need to and get buy in and support across the entire organisation. We will build this into the social value work being led by Sustainable Communities. At this point, no timescale has been set.</p> <p>In the meantime, we can do work with our current contractors. However, this will be encouragement rather than enforcement.</p>	Agreed.

Summary

These proposals set the foundations for how Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils will conduct its work going forward, in terms of its own responsibilities as well as its wider responsibility as an influencer. The plan has key actions that will take place in the short term, with the ability to start work immediately on longer term aspirations so that they can be timetabled into later versions of this action plan. There are clear actions around, energy, fuel and working remotely that will see the Councils working very differently within a year. Some actions require a change in culture, such as removing paper and working more virtually, which have already been key to continuing our work through the Covid-19 lockdown and so now more than ever we know that we can do this.