

APPENDIX A: UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REVIEW 'CLIMATE EMERGENCY /CREATE/DESIGNATE HEDGEHOG AND WILDLIFE AREAS IN PUBLIC PARKS/GARDENS ACROSS THE BOROUGH'

RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONSE
Information regarding the Green Homes Grant has been sent to all residents who requested it, with links to the Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHIL) website, which provides further information, encourages householders to take up free energy efficiency measures in their homes and provides an online application form.	CHIL is promoted on the council website on both the energy efficiency and climate change pages.
An invite to the NW Energy Hub event in June was forwarded to all who expressed an interest, together with another similar event by Electricity Northwest (ENW) 'Powering our Communities' which launched a Fund to support community and local energy groups to develop and grow.	Complete. The Climate Change Team will look at the events publicised by both organisations and will share where relevant.
A 2nd bid has been submitted to the Office of Low Emissions Vehicles (OLEV) for their consideration. This includes 32 charge points at 16 locations, the majority of which are in communal parking areas on housing estates in Skelmersdale, to ensure those living in properties without off-street parking have access to a convenient charging network. Should the project go ahead, it would attract £374,709.01 investment, at nil cost to the council.	The council was successful in receiving OLEV funding for on-street charge points for 32 charge points at 16 locations. All are located on council car parks. The infrastructure is currently being installed and is expected to be completed by the end of March 2023.
That interested parties be contacted to inform about the Rural Community Energy Fund.	The Rural Community Energy Fund funded two phase one feasibility studies for Skelmersdale Community Energy Association, they are now complete. The fund has now closed. Complete.
That the Council continue to investigate a community/group purchasing project for Solar PV, noting that early conversations are underway with NW Energy Hub regarding an application to the Rural Community Energy Fund, with possible partners. The intention is to community fund a solar PV project on large scale building/s in Skelmersdale occupied by a high energy user to purchase the power (this could be a Council owned commercial building with a high user tenant). The Page 1643 4 income generated could then be reinvested to fund a further project or offered back to investors, depending on the community model used.	The council will continue to work with Skelmersdale Community Energy Association on this project. Lancashire County Council led investigations for Lancashire Councils to participate in a solar group buying scheme for able-to-pay households. Committee decided not to progress the project. The council will investigate other community/group purchasing schemes as they arise.
That representatives from North West Energy Hub and Electricity North West be	The fund has now closed. Complete.

<p>invited to attend a West Lancashire community energy event, following the outcome of a RCEF fund application in C above.</p>	
<p>That case studies, with performance and savings figures, from installed renewable technologies on Council housing, be developed and made available on the Council's website, including details of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much will it cost to install a 2kw 3kw or 4kw? 2. How much disruption will there be to install them? 3. What potential returns are there, if any, besides the positive impact on the environment? 	<p>The case study was published on the council website in September 2021 and can be viewed here: https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/environment/climate-change-and-green-living/solar-photovoltaic-panels.aspx Complete.</p>
<p>That working with the Lancashire Woodland Connect Project, continue to identify locations for tree planting and hedgehog and wildlife areas, noting that potential sites currently identified include 2-3 hectares at Fairy Glenn for the Queens 'Green Canopy Scheme'; 2-3 hectares at Tawd Valley Park with the assistance of the 'Friends of Tawd Valley Park'; a community orchard at Whittle Drive, Ormskirk, working with Westend School; hedgehog gardens at the Halsall Lane site, where the Schools will be getting involved, with potential funding being made available from the housing environmental improvement fund.</p>	<p>Planting took place at Fairy Glen and West End Playing Fields, in conjunction with the River Ribble Trust, during the winter of 2021-22. In Tawd Valley Park, the 'Friends of' group, working with The Ranger Service planted 3Ha of woodland, to increase connectivity of existing woodlands and have procured the trees for a similar scheme in the park during the winter of 2022-23. The scheme working with West End School has had to be put on hold due to staff changes but is set to restart during winter 2022-23. Hedgehog homes for Halsall Lane Park have been produced, but are yet to be installed (again, affected by staff changes and other priorities). The warm weather and delay in hibernation have allowed a period of grace this year and the push is on to install the hybernacula before the onset of cold weather.</p>
<p>That the potential to provide for an alternative/reduced mowing regime be investigated in order to manage areas specifically for wildlife and wildflower habitats.</p>	<p>Revised mowing regimes were trialled at Kiln Lane and on land in Tanhouse. The grass was left to grow, whilst the edges were maintained to improve aesthetics and grass paths were mown to transect the areas. A number of exciting plant species presented themselves (with no seed added by staff), including Southern Marsh/Early Purple Orchids, birdsfoot trefoil, mouse ear, various vetches, red and white clover and the usual buttercups and dandelions. The mini-meadow had signs installed around it to tell the public what we were doing and why, and very little negative feedback was received. The meadow was mown and baled by a local farmer, as removing the cut material is essential to reducing the soil</p>

	<p>nutrient levels, which reduces grass species taking over from wildflower species.</p> <p>Locations are to be identified by the Ranger Service and discuss possible changes with Clean and Green to devise a plan.</p> <p>Consideration needs to be given to the Public Realm Agreement for maintenance undertaken on behalf of Lancashire County Council managed by Clean and Green.</p>
<p>That consideration be given to climate change matters within the emerging Local Plan.</p>	<p>Mitigating and adapting to climate change is one of the key principles underlying the strategy and policies of the Local Plan. As set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and a fundamental part of this is mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>The current adopted West Lancashire Local Plan includes a number of objectives and a dedicated section on climate change including specific policies which seek to address climate change related issues, including those on low carbon development and renewable energy infrastructure, sustainable transport, flood risk, and protection, creation and enhancement of green infrastructure. The Council are currently preparing a new Local Plan which will review the existing policies and seek to strengthen measures to address climate change and its effects.</p>
<p>That officers investigate / explore how businesses in the Borough can be supported with recycling.</p>	<p>Commercial waste collected by the council is currently co-mingled. Separated commercial waste is a council goal and recycling will be promoted when a separate waste collection is available.</p>
<p>That 'Water Management Strategies' be considered as a future topic for consideration for inclusion in the Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny work programme for 2022/23.</p>	<p>Culverts and screens are cleared to reduce the potential of flooding. All watercourses in the borough are being identified and monitoring prioritised.</p> <p>Water was considered as part of the risk workshop in November 2022.</p>
<p>That Members receive via a Members Update, frequent updates in respect of the 'Action on Climate Emergency Strategy and Action plan'.</p>	
<p>That a Lead Member and senior officer be identified to drive forward the Council's agenda for Carbon Reduction/Environment and the importance of appointing an Environmental Strategy Manager to</p>	<p>The Environmental Sustainability Manager is in post and a new Climate Change Officer is expected to start in January 2023.</p>

facilitate the actions outlined in the Council's Climate Change Strategy, be expressed.	
That an update on progress of the recommendations be reviewed at Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee in September 2022.	

APPENDIX B: ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINTS

Location	No. of chargers	Type of charger	No. of outlets
Abbeywood, Skelmersdale, WN8 9LR	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Alderley, Skelmersdale, WN8 9NA	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Banksbarn, Skelmersdale, WN8 9EP	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Birkrig, Skelmersdale, WN8 9HY	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Cherrycroft, Skelmersdale, WN8 9EF	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Dearden Way, Skelmersdale, WN8 0HS	1	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	2
Egerton, Skelmersdale, WN8 6AE	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Ennerdale, Skelmersdale, WN8 6DE	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Field Street, Skelmersdale, WN8 8HZ	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Firbeck, Skelmersdale, WN8 6PW	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Inskip, Skelmersdale, WN8 6JT	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Irwell, Skelmersdale, WN8 6JZ	1	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	2
Moor Street, Ormskirk, L39 2AG	4	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	8
Thornton, Skelmersdale, WN8 8QP	1	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	2
Whitestocks, Skelmersdale, WN8 8AG	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Whittle Drive, Ormskirk, L39 1PU	2	7kW dual outlet fast chargers	4
Total	31		62