

Present: Councillor Ric Metcalfe (*in the Chair*),
Councillor Donald Nannestad, Councillor Chris Burke,
Councillor Sue Burke, Councillor Bob Bushell and
Councillor Neil Murray

Apologies for Absence: None.

35. Confirmation of Minutes - 25 August 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2021 be confirmed.

36. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

37. Corporate Consultation and Engagement Strategy 2021 - 2025

Purpose of Report

To propose the introduction of a revised Corporate Consultation and Engagement Strategy to replace the 2019 edition.

Decision

That the revised Consultation & Engagement Strategy be approved.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

Reasons for the Decision

This new five-year Strategy was designed to support officers and members involved in change of either a service or a policy, to understand when and where consultation was needed

The original Consultation Strategy was created in November 2014 and agreed in June 2015. Alongside the strategy sat a more detailed document for officers aimed at providing guidance on best practice aligned to the strategy. This would also be reviewed once the strategy had been approved.

Since then, the Strategy was reviewed in 2017 to reflect the introduction of Vision 2020 and then again in 2019 when a planned three-year review was conducted.

The current review was started in March 2021 with the aim of bringing it in line with Vision 2025. It incorporated feedback from Members who engaged in a workshop process to improve consultation earlier in 2021.

The strategy contained direction on why, how, and when we should be consulting and engaging.

38. City of Lincoln Council Environmental Policy

Purpose of Report

To consider the Council's Environmental Policy and to approve the recommended amendments.

Decision

That the revised City of Lincoln Council Environmental Policy be approved.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

Reasons for the Decision

On 6th January 2020 Executive approved the Lincoln Zero Carbon report, recommending that the Council adopt an environmental Policy by Spring 2020.

On 23rd July 2019 Full Council passed a Motion to declare a climate and environmental emergency. The Motion included a commitment from the Council to take action to deliver carbon reductions to reduce the Council's own carbon emissions.

On 24th September 2019 Full Council passed a Motion to support Lincoln to achieve plastic free community status and to eliminate, wherever possible, single use plastics from the Council's operations.

On 23 March 2020 the Leader of the Council approved the Council's Environmental Policy, and it was published on the Council's website.

To ensure the Council's Environmental Policy was communicated and implemented across the authority it was proposed to add additional requirements as detailed within the officer's report.

The purpose of an Environmental Policy was to set out our goals for protecting and improving the environment. The Policy covered all of our activities and estate, including our 'landlord' responsibilities for property and council homes.

Adopting an Environmental Policy would help to ensure that all Council employees applied the policy where it related to their role in the authority's corporate activities. In addition, the policy would enable the Council to encourage and support our partners to adopt their own policies, leading by example.