

COUNCIL – 24TH JUNE 2019

ITEM 9 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

9.1 Climate Change

The following Motion on Notice has been submitted by Councillor Vardy in accordance with Full Council Procedure Rule 9.11(a):

That this Council notes:

- (i) The International Panel on Climate Change published a report in October 2018 which concluded that we have less than 12 years to act to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. The report describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise in global temperatures is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise. It told us that limiting global warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action across all national governments that signed the Paris Agreement.
- (ii) On 12th June 2019, the UK government amended its target under the 2008 Climate Change Act, to reach net-zero greenhouse gases by 2050 – the first major nation to agree to this target, and which accords with the Paris Agreement’s aim to limit warming to 1.5°C.
- (iii) Charnwood Borough Council adopted its Climate Change Strategy in 2018, which sets out how the Council will address the issue. The Climate Change Strategy contributes to the Council’s Corporate Plan aim to ‘take action to protect the environment for future generations. A Carbon Management Plan was approved by the Cabinet in December 2015 to reduce the Council’s impact on climate change. The Council’s progress so far represents a 32% decrease in its own emissions since 2012/13.
- (iv) Charnwood Borough Council works through its existing Climate Change Strategy to enhance its existing Carbon Management Plan and green impact policies and support new ones, such as to get 100,000 trees planted over the next 4 years.

That this Council also notes that:

- (v) it can only operate within its own scope of control and influence;
- (vi) there is a need to balance the competing demands on its decreasing resources and finances;
- (vii) not all the technological solutions nor the required powers and resources are currently in place.
- (viii) that this Council will aim to achieve carbon neutrality from its own operations by 2030 and accordingly requests officers to undertake a detailed plan of action and report back to the Carbon Management Board;

- (ix) that this Council, as a key place leader, also commits to work with residents, businesses and other public bodies across the borough and region to deliver this ambitious goal through all relevant technologies, strategies and plans.