



Transport, Environment & Climate Change Select Committee Agenda Supplement

Date: Thursday 16 September 2021

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: The Oculus, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury
HP19 8FF

Agenda Item	Time	Page No
4 Public Questions Public questions is an opportunity for people who live, work or study in Buckinghamshire to put a question to a Select Committee. The Committee will hear from members of the public who have submitted questions in advance relating to items on the agenda. The Cabinet Member, relevant key partners and responsible officers will be invited to respond.	10:05	3 - 4

Further information on how to register can be found here:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/get-involved-with-council-decisions/select-committees/>

Two public questions have been received as attached.

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact: Chris Ward on 01296 585807, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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Public Questions

1. In February, Buckinghamshire Council agreed its Climate Change Strategy, containing 60 Actions with varying degrees of detail. The Executive Summary cited as a key communication activity “to report regularly on our progress”, with specific Actions within the Strategy to “Monitor and report quarterly on emissions savings across Council operations” [Action 6], and “Report annually on progress made against actions and reducing emissions” [Action 9].

Over 6 months have now passed since the Strategy was agreed, a period in which events in Europe and around the world have starkly illustrated the consequences of climate change and the growing urgency of addressing it. Given the self-identified importance of reporting on progress, would the Cabinet Members please provide a brief interim update to the Committee and the wider public on progress on Actions, perhaps on a red / amber / green “on track” rating, with accompanying commentary where relevant.

2. Buckinghamshire Council currently operates a fleet of 185 vehicles, of which it owns 101, and the latest Fleet Management report states that 'due regard will be taken of commitments in the Council's climate change strategy in the management of fleet vehicles'.

When the climate change strategy was written, the council operated 'two electric vans and some electric pool cars', so there is clearly vast room for improvement.

Unfortunately, the strategy sets no firm targets, merely committing to a review of the fleet and to explore and implement emissions reductions where practical. Given the urgent need to decarbonise and the fact that electric vehicles are already more cost effective in terms of cost of ownership, can the relevant Cabinet Members give further details on the timetable for the review and concrete commitments to fleet electrification?

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