

**CABINET – 26 OCTOBER 2021****PROCEDURAL MATTERS****Public Questions****Question (1): John Oliver**

The Greener Futures paper, to be considered at the Cabinet meeting, states, at paragraph 16, “Progress against Surrey’s Climate Change Strategy will be reported on an annual basis which ensures that the Delivery Plan supports the level of change needed to achieve the 2030 and 2050 net-zero carbon targets”. Although the strategy is setting targets for 2030 and 2050, current thinking is that we only have 7-8 years to turn the tide in order to prevent global warming of 1.5 degrees centigrade. Given the extreme urgency of the situation, is the Cabinet satisfied that annual reporting is sufficient or should a shorter timescale, say 6 months, be required to ensure that projects are getting off the ground and being implemented to best effect?

**Reply:**

Whilst there is a pressing need to make rapid progress against our targets, it is not appropriate to monitor greenhouse gas emissions on a more regular basis. Progress against the 2050 target is tracked through peer-reviewed national data-sets. These data sets are updated on an annual basis and are not suitable to track more frequently. Annual emissions reporting for Local Authorities also takes place on an annual basis, which shows progress against 2030 targets. The Council will be monitoring progress against individual actions in the Delivery Plan on an ongoing basis. The frequency of reporting against these internally will vary depending upon the nature and the scale of the project, and progress against Delivery will be reported to the Greener Futures Board on a quarterly basis.

**Marisa Heath**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment**  
**26 October 2021**

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