SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

DATE: 26 OCTOBER 2021

REPORT OF: COUNTY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: REFERRAL OF COUNTY COUNCIL MOTION (MOTION 8 V)

(12 OCTOBER 2021)

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

At the County Council meeting on 12 October 2021, Lance Spencer moved a motion under Standing Order 11.

Under Standing Order 12.3 the Leader, Tim Oliver, moved a proposal that the motion be referred to the Cabinet for more detailed consideration. Lance Spencer agreed to the referral of the motion.

The proposal to refer the motion was put to the vote and received support.

RESOLVED:

That the motion be referred to the Cabinet for consideration.

MOTION DETAIL:

The Council notes that:

The important Climate Summit COP26 is being held in Glasgow this November, and that it is now over two years since the Climate Emergency was recognised and declared by this Council on 9 July 2019.

The local response to the Climate Emergency, as laid out in the Greener Futures Delivery Plan, while capable of undertaking many urgent and useful actions within its powers and capacity and able to energise local people and businesses, faces critical limitations in key areas for scaling-up change, including:

- Sufficient funding for the front-loaded costs of insulation schemes, replacement of carbon-intensive heating systems and installation of renewables in Surrey buildings - by residents, businesses and the public sector.
- Sufficient funding to bring forward the necessary changes to motorised transport as laid out in the Local Transport Plan 4 currently out for consultation to significantly reduce the 46% of Surrey-based greenhouse gas emissions which are from this activity.
- Sufficient funding and a clear strategy for the effective communications and engagement necessary to create the behavioural change that will be required in the coming years to deliver the Greener Futures Delivery Plan.
- Sufficient workforce, trained and employed to deliver the above.

In light of the climate emergency declaration, this Council resolves to:

- I. Request the Cabinet Member for Environment to write to the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, the new Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, and Alok Sharma, President of COP26 to urge sufficient funding and policy change to allow local government to make urgent progress in meeting its challenges meaningfully in the financial year 2022/23.
- II. Request the Cabinet Member for Environment to review and update the existing communications and engagement plan, before the next meeting of the Council, to set out how we will engage with the 1.2 million residents, eighty-one Members and businesses across Surrey so they fully understand the transformation needed for Surrey to meet its carbon reduction targets.

NEXT STEPS:

Lance Spencer will be invited to present his motion at the 26 October Cabinet meeting along with the motion seconder, Catherine Baart.

Contact Officer:

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