



## **Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee**

### **Scrutiny Observations to Cabinet on: 01-03-2022**

The Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee met on 28-02-2022 and considered the following documents:

- Climate Change Update
- Covid Recovery Fund

The Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee thank the Portfolio Holders and officers for attending scrutiny.

Scrutiny made the following observations:

#### **Climate Change Update:**

- The Committee suggested:
  - that any new Council properties should have electric vehicle charge points installed in the properties.
  - that the Council would need to push back against current Welsh Government legislation and guidance as well as Natural Resources Wales regulations as older legislation and guidance may hinder the Council's ability to move forward any climate change proposals.
- The Committee requested:
  - that details of the number of houses identified in project EFG be circulated to the Committee.
  - that the Committee undertakes a pre-decision scrutiny of the transport strategy once prepared (to include milestones to progress the proposals).
- The Committee recommended:
  - that the Cabinet ensures that the Council's Climate Change Strategy and those of the PSB, Growing Mid Wales Board and the Brecon Beacons National Park align to secure a co-ordinated approach to climate change rather than a piecemeal approach.
  - that the Cabinet ensures that the Council's Climate Change Strategy aligns with the Powys Nature Action Recovery Plan and the Powys Procurement Strategy.
  - that as part of the transport strategy the Cabinet focus on supporting the development of local bus services utilising electric vehicles which could be a 'quick win' for the Council.
  - that the Cabinet support the development of local food networks to ensure more food was produced locally and sustainably to reduce food miles.
  - that the Cabinet considers the level of additional funding the Council could make available to speed up the installation of electric vehicle charging points, over and above those funded by Welsh Government and Transport for Wales as well as consideration of additional locations for charging points.
  - that as there are a number of different payment methods to use electric vehicle charging points dependent on the individual provider, the Cabinet lobbies Welsh Government or Parliament to establish an uniform payment method for electric charging points irrespective of the provider.

Scrutiny's Recommendation	Accept (plus Action and timescale)	Partially Accept (plus Rationale and Action and timescale)	Reject (plus Rationale)
1 that the Cabinet ensures that the Powys strategy and those of the PSB, Growing Mid Wales Board and Brecon Beacons National Park align to secure a co-ordinated approach to climate change.			
2 That the Cabinet ensures that the Council's Climate Change Strategy aligns with the Powys Nature Action Recovery Plan and the Powys Procurement Strategy			
3 that as part of the transport strategy the Cabinet focus on supporting the development of local bus services utilising electric vehicles which could be a 'quick win' for the Council.			
4 that the Cabinet support the development of local food networks to ensure more food was produced locally and sustainably to reduce food miles.			
5 that the Cabinet considers the level of additional funding the Council could make available to speed up the installation			

<p><b>of electric vehicle charging points, over and above those funded by Welsh Government and Transport for Wales as well as consideration of additional locations for charging points.</b></p>			
<p><b>6 that the Cabinet lobbies Welsh Government or Parliament to establish a uniform payment method for electric charging points irrespective of the provider</b></p>			

In accordance with Rule 7.27.2 the Cabinet is asked to provide a written response to the scrutiny report, including an action plan where appropriate, as soon as possible or at the latest within 2 months of the date of the Cabinet meeting i.e. by 01-05-2022.

Membership of the Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 28-02-2022:

County Councillors:

M Dorrance, J Pugh, G Jones, D Evans, J Charlton, D Selby, K Curry, L Corfield, D Jones-Poston, J Wilkinson.