

Terms of Reference Climate Change Working Group

Status

This is a working group of the Council. It may make recommendations but is not a decision-making body.

Membership

7 members of the Council to be appointed by the Cabinet on nomination by groups subject to political proportionality based on a ratio of 6:1:0.

Substitutes are to be permitted.

Chair/Vice-Chair

The working group will appoint its own Chair and Vice-Chair at its first meeting. The Chair will generally serve for the municipal year.

Attendance

Officers will attend to support the Working Group, as necessary.

The Working Group may invite other parties to attend and to contribute to meetings as it decides.

Meetings

The Working Group will fix its own timetable for meetings, meeting approximately eight times per year.

Regular update reports will be presented to Executive Cabinet on progress and be made available on the council's website.

Officer support

A senior Council officer will be designated as the lead officer for the Working Group.

Democratic Services will provide administrative support for the Working Group.

Role of the Working Group

The Council has declared a Climate Emergency and approved a Notice of Motion in November 2019. The working group will support the work in delivering against the challenges acknowledged in that motion.

The Working Group will:

- Monitor the progress of the Council and the borough overall in meeting the commitment to achieve net zero carbon by 2030
- Consider key issues, policy, emerging evidence, and legislative changes which impact on the Council and what we do and shape how these are addressed
- Oversee the development and delivery of a programme of projects and activity to contribute to the achievements of the targets including net zero carbon by 2030.
- Make recommendations to the Executive Cabinet and Council on matters relating to climate change.

- Enable collaborative working across the Council and engagement with individuals, community groups, businesses, and other partners in the district, including young people who should have a voice to help shape our future.
- Investigate steps that may be taken by the Council and by Chorley residents and businesses to work towards the Council's commitment to achieving net-zero carbon status by 2030 and towards protecting and enhancing biodiversity
- Identify support needed from Central Government in terms of funding, additional powers and policy changes which are needed to achieve the Council's climate and ecological objectives.
- Ensure that the council's external communications reflect the high priority that the council places on tackling climate change and the work it and its partners are undertaking in delivering against the challenges faced.