



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

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REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

REPORT AUTHOR	Climate Emergency Committee
TEL NO	01706 839639
EMAIL	cllr.gkent@todmorden-tc.gov.uk
Date	15th December 2021
SUBJECT	Climate Emergency Committee Update Report

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform and update council members on the progress of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
2. To inform Members that the councils web site now includes a section dedicated to Climate Emergency.
3. To make Members aware of the next three areas of the Action Plan to be taken forward.
4. To recommend year end creation of underspend into an Earmarked Reserve.

BACKGROUND

5. The focus to date has been centred on creating a strong foundation for communications and promotion of the Todmorden Town Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan and Pledge.
6. Progress has been made on the website in respect of:-
 - An introduction to Todmorden Town Council's Climate Emergency Committee - Background, progress to date and aspirations.
 - Reformatting the Climate Emergency Committee Action Plan -revised and re-presented in a reader-friendly format.
 - Plan to be broken down into the following categories:
 - Lobbying and campaigning
 - Development and planning
 - Working with local groups and initiatives
 - Raising awareness and educating

- Supporting and liaising with neighbouring government agencies
- Introducing the Todmorden Town Council's Climate Emergency Pledge
 - Link to access a PDF file of the pledge, to fill in and submit online, and print off for personal use/reference.
 - Tips, information and advice on how to fulfil your chosen pledge promises.
 - Launch at the closing of The Natural Flood Management open evening
 - Promotional poster to be distributed in shops and library.
 - Survey questionnaire for pledge participants to complete and return on signing up to the pledge – still in course of preparation.
 - Feedback form for pledge participants to complete after 3 months of signing up to the pledge- still in course of preparation
- Introducing Todmorden Action Groups -A comprehensive list of the various voluntary groups of Todmorden whose work either directly or indirectly relates to climate-change and environmental welfare, with a brief synopsis of each.
- Introducing Todmorden College -The background story of Todmorden Community College, a section on The Climate Challenge College and Todmorden Makery.
 - Supporting the Todmorden Makery opening event. Information of this event and Tod Makery itself to be included on Facebook and Twitter.
- Developing a structure for Grants -work needs to be progressed as part of the website content and promoted to local groups through direct contact and social media.
- Delivery of the Natural Flood Management Open Evening event -Information on the NFM event, the guest speakers and the groups and organisations they represent. Todmorden Town Council's support of local flood-mitigation initiatives and the Mayor of Todmorden's chosen charity "Slow the Flow".
 - Press release on the NFM event evening at the town hall
- Introducing a recommended reading list -to encourage people to read around the topic of climate change and learn effective ways to address and tackle the issue.
- Connecting with representatives of other local councils to learn about other climate-related efforts taking place in and around Calderdale, namely on the Calderdale Council Climate Emergency Officer Forum.
 - Engagement with Hebden Royd Town Council's newly appointed Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Coordinator

7. Next steps are to work up project plans for delivery in respect of three areas of the Action Plan that we think are deliverable subject to sufficient funding being available.

- Offer residents in terraced streets in the centre of Todmorden a fruit tree planted in a tub.
- Increase the number of recycling bins in Todmorden.

- To provide water butts, rainwater gardens planters/bog gardens, ground level rain gardens (planting areas that are deliberately located where they collect run-off and store it temporarily)

FINANCIAL

8. The nature of the work to date has been low cost and predominantly in house.
9. As the Committee moves forward with its Action Plan there will be a need to commit financial resource.
10. It is likely that the revenue budget for 2022/23 will be insufficient and therefore it would be helpful to carry over any underspend in 2021/22 by way of moving to an Earmarked Reserve.

RECOMMENDATION

11. That members note the good progress made to date.
12. That Full Council agrees that any underspend in the Climate Emergency Committee budget for 2021/22 be moved into an Earmarked Reserve subject to the need of year end General Reserve figure meeting the recommended level of £80,000 .

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 11 Given the importance of Climate Emergency the Committee wish to provide regular updates to Full Council.
- 12 To provide authority to effect Earmarked Reserve movements.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

- 13 None arising from this report

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

14. None directly arising from this report

CLIMATE CHANGE:

15. As addressed in the details of the Climate Emergency Committee's Action Plan

IMPACT EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

16. None arising from this report

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

17. None.

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Rachael Crane - Climate Officer. Email: climateofficer@todmorden-tc.gov.uk