

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Report to a meeting of the Cabinet

Date of meeting: 26 January 2021
Report by : Dilwyn Williams, Chief Executive
Item title: Climate Change

Decision sought

That the Cabinet establishes a Climate Change Board to steer the work of formulating and acting upon a Climate Change Action Plan and provides £58,990 from the Transformation Fund in order to employ a Project Manager to coordinate the work

Background

1. Following the Council's decision to declare a climate emergency the Cabinet established a task group to consider the practical steps which could be taken in order to respond to that emergency.
2. The intention was that the task group would formulate an action plan and that this work would by now have been completed.
3. Unfortunately, the Covid emergency cut across this work but it is imperative that we recover from lost time and re-establish the work as a matter of urgency so that we have an action plan in place as soon as possible.
4. Accordingly work is ongoing by the departments to consider what could be incorporated into such a plan and the intention is to start with those suggestions and convene a workshop with all council members to see if anything has been missed, with a view to amending the document as we proceed.
5. When the task group considered the matter, whilst individual departments are developing the individual actions which could contribute to our response to climate change, one fundamental requirement was identified which is that we need a coordinator for the whole project and a recommendation was made that we should ask the Cabinet for a one off resource amounting to £58,990 in order to fund a project manager for 12 months in the first instance. We could see whether there would be a need to continue with the post after that time.

6. The intention would be to offer a secondment to any officer within the Council who would be interested in the area of activity and who had the appropriate project management skills.
7. In view of the need to ensure action across a number of Council departments and to underline its importance, the task group also recommended that the cabinet should establish a Climate Change Board to steer the work as we have done in the areas of regeneration and supporting people. The members of the task group could in the first instance form the membership of the Climate Change Board.
8. **It is recommended** that the Cabinet establishes a Climate Change Board to steer the work of formulating and acting upon a Climate Change Action Plan and provides £58,990 from the Transformation Fund in order to employ a Project Manager to coordinate the work.

Statutory Officer Observations

Monitoring Officer

No observations to add in relation to propriety

Head of Finance

There is a request here for £58,990 of one- off money from the Council's Transformation Fund. In accordance with the usual procedure, it is a matter for Cabinet members to prioritise in distributing resources from the Fund, which has been established to finance applications which will make a difference. I confirm that there is sufficient provision in the Transformation Fund in order to finance the post/secondment.