

Subject: **Climate Change Adaptation – Scrutiny Panel Report**

Date of Meeting: **20 July 2010**

Report of: **Director of Strategy and Governance**

Contact Officer: Name: Karen Amsden Tel: 29-1084

E-mail: Karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 A scrutiny panel was established by Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC) to investigate:

‘...what work needs to be done to make good progress in planning for a changing local climate.’

The panel has agreed its final report which is attached as the appendix to this report.

- 1.2 The findings and recommendations of the inquiry by the panel are presented here for approval by OSC.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That members:

- 2.1 Endorse the scrutiny panel’s report.
- 2.2 Agree to refer the report recommendations to the council’s Executive and to the appropriate partner organisations.
- 2.3 Instruct officers to prepare a progress report for OSC in both 6 months and 12 months time and then as required.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 On 10th March the OSC resolved to set up a panel to consider what the city needs to do to plan for a changing climate.
- 3.2 The panel comprised of Professor Gordon MacKerron, Councillors Tony Janio, Gill Mitchell and Vicky Wakefield-Jarrett.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Officers, Members and partner organisations have been consulted informally on the findings of the inquiry.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The funding implications of the recommendations that the Committee is being asked to endorse have not been considered or quantified at this stage. The financial implications will need to be determined by Cabinet in the context of the budget strategy, alongside any funding opportunities from partner organisations.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 If OSC endorses the panel's report, it is required to prepare a formal report and submit it to the Chief Executive for consideration by the relevant Cabinet Member or Cabinet. If OSC cannot agree on one single final report, up to one minority report may be prepared and submitted for consideration in addition to the majority report.

OSC may publish the report or recommendations.

Within two months of receiving the report, the Cabinet or Cabinet Member is required to consider the report and recommendations, and respond to the Overview & Scrutiny Commission, indicating what (if any) action it proposes to take. The report, together with the Executive response, is then reported to Full Council for information.

Lawyer consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 7 July 2010

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no equalities implications arising directly from this covering report, but equalities considerations would be taken into account when

implementing the recommendations of the scrutiny review. Under council policy, Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) would be undertaken for any significant policy changes.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 While there are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report, but implementing the recommendations of the scrutiny review should have significant positive sustainability effects.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None identified directly in relation to this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None identified directly in relation to this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The recommendations made in this report support the council priority to 'protect the environment while growing the economy', as outlined in the Corporate Plan 2008 – 2011.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Climate Change Adaptation Scrutiny Panel Report

Background Documents:

1. Volume 2 of Scrutiny Panel Report

