



CABINET

Tuesday, 11 July 2023

Subject	Appointments to the Environment Task Group (ETG)
Report by	Councillor Rachel Smith-Lyte Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Environment
Supporting Officers	Nick Khan Strategic Director Nick.khan@eastsoffolk.gov.uk Fiona Quinn Head of Environmental Services & Port Health Fiona.quinn@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

Is the report Open or Exempt?	OPEN
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Category of Exempt Information and reason why it is NOT in the public interest to disclose the exempt information.	Not applicable
Wards Affected:	All Wards

Purpose and high-level overview

Purpose of Report:

To approve the appointment of 9 Members to the Environment Task Group (ETG)

Recommendations:

1. That the appointment of Councillor Rachel Smith-Lyte, Councillor Katie Graham, Councillor Janet Candy, Councillor Sarah Plummer, Councillor Stephen Molyneux, Councillor Louise Gooch, Councillor Rosie Smithson and Councillor Edward Back to the Environment Task Group be approved.
2. That the amended terms of reference for the Environment Task Group are approved.

Corporate Impact Assessment

Governance:

To make the necessary appointments to the ETG will enable the Group to carry out its work, as planned.

ESC policies and strategies that directly apply to the proposal:

None.

Environmental:

None.

Equalities and Diversity:

Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) have been carried out, as appropriate. No adverse impacts have been identified.

Financial:

The costs of the ETG's administration are absorbed by the Democratic Services/Members budget, in the same way as any other Committee of the Council is accounted for.

Human Resources:

There are no HR implications for the organisation.

ICT:

No impact.

Legal:

The ETG has been set up in accordance with the Terms of Reference and appropriate legal guidance and legislation.

Risk:

There are no particular risks identified with these proposals

External Consultees:	None on this occasion
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Strategic Plan Priorities

Select the priorities of the Strategic Plan which are supported by this proposal: <i>(Select only one primary and as many secondary as appropriate)</i>		Primary priority	Secondary priorities
T01	Growing our Economy		
P01	Build the right environment for East Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P02	Attract and stimulate inward investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P03	Maximise and grow the unique selling points of East Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P04	Business partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P05	Support and deliver infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T02	Enabling our Communities		
P06	Community Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P07	Taking positive action on what matters most	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P08	Maximising health, well-being and safety in our District	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P09	Community Pride	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T03	Maintaining Financial Sustainability		
P10	Organisational design and streamlining services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P11	Making best use of and investing in our assets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P12	Being commercially astute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P13	Optimising our financial investments and grant opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P14	Review service delivery with partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T04	Delivering Digital Transformation		
P15	Digital by default	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P16	Lean and efficient streamlined services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P17	Effective use of data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P18	Skills and training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P19	District-wide digital infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T05	Caring for our Environment		
P20	Lead by example	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P21	Minimise waste, reuse materials, increase recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P22	Renewable energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P23	Protection, education and influence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XXX	Governance		
XXX	How ESC governs itself as an authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How does this proposal support the priorities selected?			
The appointments to the ETG, a task group of Cabinet, will enable them to identify and make recommendations on developing new environmental policies which will help to protect and enhance the environment.			

Background and Justification for Recommendation

1 Background facts	
1.1	<p>On 24 July 2019 (Full Council agenda item 9(a)), after considering a notice of motion about climate change, the Council resolved unanimously to:</p> <p>Declare a climate emergency</p> <p>Set up a Cross Party Task Group, commencing by October 2019, to investigate ways to cut East Suffolk Council's carbon and harmful emissions on a spend to save basis, with ambition to make East Suffolk Council (including all buildings and services) carbon neutral by 2030. The Cross Party Task Group will report on their progress on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>To work with Suffolk County Council and other partners across the county and region, including the LEP and the Public Sector Leaders, towards the aspiration of making the county of Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030.</p> <p>To work with the government to:</p> <p>a) deliver its 25 year Environmental Plan and</p> <p>b) increase the powers and resources available to local authorities in order to make the 2030 target easier to achieve.</p>
1.2	<p>The implementation of Environmental Policy" is something for which the Cabinet has responsibility. Therefore, it was appropriate that the Task Group be set up by Cabinet, and report back to it.</p>

2 Current position	
2.1	<p>The task group was originally made up of nine elected members, being seven from the Conservative, one from the GLI Group and one Labour member and was politically balanced.</p>
2.2	<p>It is proposed that going forward the Terms of Reference of the task group be amended to state that 'The East Suffolk Environment Task Group (the Task Group) will consist of nine members and be in proportion to the political groups' membership of the Council.'</p>
2.3	<p>To reflect the Council's current political balance, the nine places on the Environment Task Group will be allocated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GLI – five places• Conservative – two places• Labour – two places

3 How to address current situation	
3.1	<p>Following the appointment of a new Cabinet at the Full Council meeting of the 24 May 2023, Members now need to be appointed to the ETG for a four year term so that it can carry out its work.</p>
3.2	<p>It is proposed that the following Councillors be appointed to the ETG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Rachel Smith-Lyte• Councillor Katie Graham• Councillor Janet Candy• Councillor Sarah Plummer

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Stephen Molyneux • Councillor Louise Gooch • Councillor Rosie Smithson • Councillor Edward Back • Vacant position – Conservative Group representative
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4 Reason for recommendation

4.1	Cabinet is asked to appoint the Cabinet Members referred to in paragraph 3.2 above to enable to ETG to carry out its business.
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Appendices: None

Appendix A	Environment Task Group Terms of Reference September 2019
Appendix B	Environment Task Group Terms of Reference amended June 2023

Background reference papers: None