



<b>Report To:</b>	Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
<b>Lead Members:</b>	Sian Williams, Chair of Conwy & Denbighshire PSB & Iwan Davies, Chief Executive of Conwy County Borough Council
<b>Report Authors:</b>	Hannah Edwards & Fran Lewis, Conwy County Borough Council
<b>Title:</b>	Community Green Pledges and Environmental Policy Statements update

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## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update regarding the work on the Community Green Pledges and the Environmental Policy statement work under the PSBs environmental resilience priority.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

- 2.1 To inform members of progress to date and to seek approval from the Board to the approach and publication for these pieces of work.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

- 3.1 That members approve the Community Green Pledges for publication.
- 3.2 That members consider the proposal to focus on a select number of commitments within the environmental policy statements as initial priorities and agree the reporting timescales.

## **4. Report Details**

- 4.1 Following an environmental workshop last year to develop actions for this priority, work has been progressing to develop the outcomes of the session - a community green pledges scheme and a common PSB environmental policy statement.
- 4.2 A working group was set up for each of these pieces of work. Representation on the group included environmental officers from the majority of PSB partners. For the pledges working group there were also representation from town and community councils.
- 4.3 The working groups have been consulted on both documents and relevant comments have been incorporated.

## **Community Green Pledges**

- 4.3 The community green pledges (see appendix A) considers where the PSB can work with communities to encourage them to make small changes to behaviour that will make a big

difference to reducing environmental impact. We have also developed a hints and tips guide for individuals wanting to 'go green' (see appendix B).

- 4.4 The community pledges identifies 5 key areas that communities can make to reduce their impact on the environment (including buildings, transport, recycling, shopping and outside space). These areas are also mirrored in the individual guide. For each area with the community pledges, information is provided about why this is important, suggested green changes they can make, examples of who is already making the change, some ideas for inspiration and where they can go for further funding support and advice.
- 4.5 There will be an awards process established as part of this scheme. We will ask communities to provide a self-assessment of what environmental changes they have made and award them with a 'Community Green Pledge' status depending how many changes they've made (either bronze, silver, gold or platinum).
- 4.6 We are developing a communication plan in preparation for the launch of the scheme and are looking to engage with Town and Community Councils and work with other groups and organisations with environmental interests.
- 4.7 The PSB website will be used as an online hub to house this information.

### **Environmental Policy Statement**

- 4.8 The purpose of the environmental policy statement (see appendix C) is to provide a common framework that identifies steps that all PSB partners can work towards. It is recognised that partner organisations will be at different stages of achievement at the outset and appreciate the time taken to reach different steps will differ between partners.
- 4.9 The framework identifies different environmental 'commitments' PSB partners will work towards. Each 'commitment' outlines the national frameworks and legislation that apply to public bodies are that we are proposing all partners commit to follow. It also details good practice from elsewhere and outlines the key steps partners will endeavour to implement within their own organisations. A lead organisation has been allocated to support the 'commitment' and provide guidance to other partners in achieving the steps.
- 4.10 The policy statement was developed from gathering partners' environmental policies, as well as following an exercise to identify what frameworks / legislation partners currently work towards, what they were currently doing under each of the commitments and what their ambition were for the future.
- 4.11 Further work is needed to develop targets to monitor progress against these commitments.
- 4.12 We are proposing that work commences on 1 or 2 'commitments' as initial priorities and that a progress update is provided to the PSB on an annual basis. We suggest that initially 'commitment' 1 (carbon and energy) and 'commitment' 2 (waste) are prioritised and 'commitment' 4 (travel) and 'commitment' 7 (procurement) become sub-themes.