

Report to	Performance Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	28 November 2019
Lead Member/Officer	Councillor Emrys Wynne Chair – Use of Plastics Members’ Task & Finish Group
Report author	Heidi Barton-Price – Strategic Planning & Performance Officer
Title	Avoidance & Reduction of Plastics in Denbighshire County Council Offices

1. What is the report about

To consider the findings and recommendations/Action Plan (Appendix 1) of the Use of Plastics Members’ Task & Finish Group.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To enable Members to scrutinise the findings and recommendations/draft Action Plan following a Notice of Motion (July 2018) where it was resolved that the Council ‘supports in principle the reduction in the use of plastic but asks that it be referred to Scrutiny for detailed consideration and a further report back to Council.’

Members agreed the use of single use plastic was a global problem but locally, the council needed to act and were unanimously in agreement for the item to be discussed at Scrutiny as a great deal of work would be involved.

Approval is required on the formulated recommendations/draft Action Plan on how the council can avoid and reduce its use of plastics in its own offices in a deliverable and sustainable way. These recommendations will then be proposed to County Council in January 2020 for consideration.

3. What are the recommendations?

That Scrutiny considers and comments on the Task and Finish Group's findings and recommends:

3.1 That the proposed recommendations/proposed Action Plan (Appendix 1) be submitted to County Council for consideration to ensure:

- An Action Plan for a reduction in the use of plastics within Denbighshire County Council offices will be implemented within council.
- Achievement of objectives within the Action Plan will demonstrate that the Council is taking a lead in Denbighshire in reducing the use of plastics.
- A reduction in the use of plastics by Denbighshire County Council will contribute towards the Environmental Priority contained within the Corporate Plan.

3.2 That the Use of Plastics Members' Task & Finish Group continue its work for a further 12 months with a view to proposing further actions in the area of: School Catering (which is currently out of scope in this proposal) plus broader procurement around plastic.

3.3 The 'avoidance and reduction of plastics within the council' be a work stream linked to the wider Climate Change and Ecological Emergency response.

4. Report Details

The draft Action Plan (Appendix 1) outlines the actions that the Use of Plastics Members Task & Finish Group seeks Scrutiny's support to take forward to County Council for approval on 28th January 2020.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The decision will contribute towards the Environment priority contained within the Corporate Plan 2017–2022.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

Not applicable. There are no financial proposals involved with this report.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well Being Impact Assessment?

The Well-being Impact Assessment is an integrated impact assessment. This means it has been designed to assess likely impact on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world. This project to develop options in avoiding and reducing plastics used by the council in its offices demonstrates a sustainable approach to the environment and contributes positively overall to the well-being goals.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

The Use of Plastics Members' Task & Finish Group has received and commented upon a draft of this report. The Use of Plastics Officers' Task & Finish Group have been informed and have been consulted on this draft report.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

Not applicable – to be completed once progressed to County Council (28th January 2020).

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

Not applicable.

11. Power to make the Decision

Scrutiny's powers in relation to Policy Development and Review are outlined in Section 7.4.1 of the Council's Constitution, whilst Section 7.2.2 of the Constitution stipulates that Scrutiny "can make reports or recommendations to the Council or the Cabinet in connection with the discharge of any functions."