

DECISION NO: 18 / 106 *For Member Services use only*

Concurrence No: 066242

Action under delegated authority of Chief Executive	X
Action under delegated authority of Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance	
Action taken by Chief Executive in consultation with Cabinet Member(s)	

Subject: Local Energy East (LEE) Strategy

Signature and designation of officer(s) taking action:

24.7.18

Date

Chief Executive Date Director of Finance Date

Date

Head of Financial Planning and Reporting

Name of Cabinet Member(s) Consulted: I have been consulted and concur with the proposals set out below:

Councillor P N Seeby
24.7.18

Date:

Cabinet Member for Housing, Environment & Community Signature: Date:

Councillor

Date:

Cabinet Member for Signature: Date:

Name of any member who has declared a conflict of interest in relation to this decision: _____

THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

The report overleaf sets out the decision to be taken, the reasons for the decision, and the details of alternative options, if any, considered and rejected.

Officer decisions are available for public inspection, both at the Borough Offices and on the Council's website, for a period of six years after the decision is made. Background papers are available for four years.

RECOMMENDED that: the Local Energy East Strategy be endorsed.

Purpose

Local Energy East (LEE) is a partnership covering three Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, Hertfordshire, and New Anglia (Norfolk and Suffolk) collectively known as the 'LEE area'.

In early 2017, the department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) invited LEPs to produce a Local Energy Strategy.

The Project

The area is one of the most important energy producing areas in the UK, and leading area for renewable energy. The Governments Industrial Strategy and Clean Growth Strategy both present significant opportunities at a local level to capitalise on local energy growth initiatives.

The strategy sets out collective ambitions to 2030 underpinned by a range of activities that the LEE Network and the Greater South East Energy Hub will take forward to ensure that the area remains at the forefront of Clean Growth in the UK. The following themes are the basis for the strategy:

- **Clean Economic Growth (over-arching)** – Support growth in the local energy sector, ensure local people benefit from the employment opportunities this creates, and support the transfer of the benefits of new energy technologies across sectors as part of a wider drive to boost productivity.
- **Housing growth and commercial site infrastructure** – Work with UKPN and partners to ensure that the grid enables housing and commercial development ambitions. Support new smart grid systems;
- **Secure, local, affordable, low-carbon consumption** – Work to increase energy efficiency and improve energy affordability; reducing fuel poverty. Work to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality;
- **Clean transport networks** – Work with local partners and businesses to support the transition to electric vehicles (EVs). Continue to support behavioural change and modal shift that improves transport sustainability.

The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has asked all Hertfordshire Authorities to endorse the strategy. The document was considered informally at its meeting on 9 July 2018 when it was agreed that the strategy should be endorsed.

Financial, Legal and Risk Management Implications

There are no commitments required from the Council in endorsing the Strategy.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None considered.

Contribution to the Council's Objectives

The themes set out in the strategy are consistent with the Council's ambitions around economic development, jobs and housing, as well as the wish to support the use of electric vehicles.

Conclusion

The Council should endorse the Strategy as requested.

Contact Officer: Jeff Stack

Ext: 5553

Date

24/7/2018

Action reported to the Cabinet on:
