

Appendix A

Kent County Council – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

**Miss Susan Carey,
Cabinet Member, Environment**

DECISION NO:

20/00078

For publication

Key decision: YES

Subject Matter / Title of Decision

Kent County Council adoption of a net-zero emissions target for its own estate and operations (excluding schools) and those of its traded companies

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment I agree to approve the proposed accelerated net-zero emissions target to be achieved by Kent County Council by 2030 for its own estate and operations (excluding schools) and those of its traded companies.

The target will be delivered by investment in line with the supporting action plan.

Reason(s) for decision:

In response to the Climate Emergency, the UK government revised the Climate Change Act 2008 in 2019. This introduced into law the UK target of net-zero emissions by 2050. This Act requires local authorities to act to reduce emissions both from their own operations and their geographical area.

In May 2019, Kent County Council approved a motion to acknowledge a Climate Emergency and support a net-zero emissions target of 2050 for the county. The motion also included that by May 2020, KCC would set an accelerated Net Zero target for its own estate and operations and those of its traded companies.

The KCC net-zero approach and action plan supporting the target is derived from the high-level action plan included within this new multi-agency and cross-county Strategy.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The approach was presented to Members at the County Council meeting on 16 July 2020.

The proposed decision was considered and endorsed by Members of Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 15 September 2020.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

- Seek to achieve 80% reduction by 2030 and Net Zero by 2050 – this aligns closely with the science-based evidence, however this would not be considered as accelerated action as per the motion agreed in May 2019. This would not be aligned with other local authorities in Kent and Medway who have almost all declared a target of Net Zero by 2030 or earlier.
- Seek to achieve Net Zero by 2050 – this would not be considered accelerated action as it is the same as the UK target

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None

Signed:



Date: 17 September 2020

