

SUSTAINABILITY POLICIES REVIEW
WDA/02/23

Recommendation

That Members:

- 1) Note the progress in reviewing the Authority's sustainability policies.
- 2) Approve the draft Sustainability Policy at Appendix 1 of this report.

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SUSTAINABILITY POLICIES REVIEW

WDA/02/23

Report of the Chief Executive

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the review of the Authority's sustainability policies. It asks Members to approve a new Sustainability Policy which encompasses the principles of the existing Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Procurement policies.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Authority developed a headline sustainability strategy in 2008 including a number of sustainability policies which covered Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development, Sustainable Procurement and Environment.
- 2.2 The existing Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Procurement policies were due for review

3. Sustainability Policies Review

- 3.1 A review was undertaken to update the Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Procurement policies and ensure they are fit for purpose in supporting delivery of the Corporate Plan.
- 3.2 The completed review identified that the fundamental aims and objectives of the policies remain relevant today.
- 3.3 The main outcome of the review was to replace the existing policies; Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development, Sustainable Procurement and Environment with a single Sustainability Policy.

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority

3rd February 2023

4. Draft Sustainability Policy

- 4.1 Members are asked to approve the draft Sustainability Policy attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.2 The draft sustainability policy, if approved, will promote further embedding of sustainability principles into the Authority's strategies, plans and policies.
- 4.3 The draft policy reflects the key environment, social and economic pillars of sustainability under the themes of people, planet and economy.
- 4.4 It highlights the opportunities to improve sustainability outcomes across these themes by treating waste as a resource and by growing a reuse culture.

5. Risk Implications

Identified Risk	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Value	Mitigation
Failure to define and target wider sustainability outcomes in the context of zero waste and net zero carbon.	2	4	8	Embed people, planet, economy themes through Authority strategies and monitor performance against key SDGs.
Failure to design next generation of contracts to be fit for a net zero carbon future.	3	3	12	Review of contracts to assess potential for expanding positive sustainability outcomes.
Failure to maximise sustainability outcomes from current operations.	3	3	3	Review of Authority policies, plans and service delivery to identify opportunities for sustainability improvements.

6. HR Implications

6.1 None directly associated with this report.

7. Environmental Implications

7.1 The draft sustainability policy, if approved, will promote further embedding of sustainability principles into the Authority's strategies, plans and policies. It will support the development and of a Zero Waste Strategy and delivery of our Climate Action Plan, both of which are of vital importance to the Authority's response to the climate emergency and in improving the sustainability of waste management. The Strategy will lead and prepare our services and contracts for a zero waste and net zero carbon future.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 None directly associated with this report.

9. Legal Implications

9.1 None directly associated with this report.

10. Conclusion

10.1 The existing Climate Change, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development and Sustainable Procurement policies were due for review

10.2 We carried out a review of these policies and determined we should encompass the key principles of these policies into one Sustainability Policy which will support the Authority in achieving its Corporate Plan.

10.3 The new Sustainability Policy, if approved, will simplify and update the current number of sustainability policies. It will embed the UN Sustainable Development Goals into the Authority's strategies and promote action on the twin priorities of reducing waste and tackling climate change.

10.4 It is recommended that Members:

- Note the progress in reviewing the Authority's sustainability policies.
- Approve the draft Sustainability Policy at Appendix 1 of this report.

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The background documents to this report are open to inspection in accordance with Section 100D of The Local Government Act 1972 - Nil.