

## **Terms of reference**

To review the Ashden report on “31 climate actions for councils” to confirm that the items identified below are the most effective for Wyre Forest District Council to pursue, having regard to its direct powers and responsibilities and to availability of resources.

To advise the Cabinet on the practical steps that the Council can take to reduce its carbon emissions and to act as an exemplar for local businesses, organisations and residents in the actions that they can take to reduce their own carbon emissions.

To advise on changes to policy, both executive and non-executive, that would reduce the carbon emissions of the district.

The Panel’s work should focus on:

- 1) Planting of trees on land owned by or purchased by the Council;
- 2) Deployment of electric charging points at car parks and other venues owned by the Council;
- 3) Implementation of a solar farm on suitable land owned by or purchased by the Council, or other renewable energy generation schemes including commercial opportunities such as biomass fuel;
- 4) Programme for moving as much of the Council’s fleet and equipment away from fossil fuels to electric or other power sources that do not emit carbon dioxide or would reduce such emissions;
- 5) Implementation of measures to reduce emissions from travel by staff and councillors e.g. electric pool car; lower mileage allowances for vehicles that depend on fossil fuels; carbon offsetting schemes;
- 6) Changes to licensing policy to move the taxi and private hire vehicle fleet to vehicles not powered by fossil fuels. This should include such options as: changing policy so that, in the near future, new applications for taxis and private hire vehicles would be granted only for electric vehicles or vehicles not powered by fossil fuels; the appropriate and reasonable timescale to be adopted for ceasing to license existing licensed vehicles that are powered by fossil fuels, following research and analysis undertaken by the panel; whether policy could be changed to allow implement higher licensing fees for vehicles powered by fossil fuels and/or other incentives to encourage the move away from using such vehicles;
- 7) Changes to season ticket prices for car parks to reward vehicles that do not have carbon dioxide emissions;
- 8) When the current contracts come to an end, switching electricity and gas supply contracts to renewable sources or, if that is not possible, supplies that involve carbon offsetting;
- 9) Further measures to reduce carbon emissions from Council-owned operational properties, including the financial case for retro-fit alternative heating and lighting, solar panels etc;
- 10) Measures that can be taken within the Council’s procurement of goods and services that would reduce carbon emissions.