

7. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS -  
REPORT BY HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
REGENERATION

The Council considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration presenting recommendations from the Cross-Party Climate Emergency Working Group.

It was recommended that West Lothian Council :-

1. Notes the contents of the report; and
2. Agrees the recommendations and proposals put forward by the Cross-Party Climate Emergency Working Group which was set out in Appendix 2 attached to the report.

Motion

To approve the terms of the report.

- Moved by Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick and seconded by Councillor Kirsteen Sullivan

Amendment

**“You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no results.**

The SNP Group, having fully participated in the Climate Emergency Working Group, are disappointed to have reached this stage without having any structure in place to drive the ambition of this Council to not only declare a Climate Emergency but to deliver the policies which will make a contribution to achieving our targets.

The proposals within this report only state “report to PDSP”, with no specific PDSP, either being mentioned or having the ability to “govern” the strategy if it straddles more than one PDSP eg Procurement.

The SNP Group are dismayed at the tokenism displayed by the Labour Group at the recent Budget meeting. Having argued against setting any governance procedures as it was “too early”, they then allocated a token balancing figure for one year of £802k, plucked from thin air, as a Climate Emergency Fund.

The SNP Group proposes that Council recognises the serious threat of Climate Change and that a proper governance scheme is paramount and has to be established as a priority.

Council therefore agrees to :

Call for the current review of PDSP remits as per decision of Council Executive, 20 August 2019.

(This decided how officers should proceed, one was for officers to bring forward proposals for retaining nine PDSP's by adjusting PDSP remits to include modernisation and digital transformation; revising and updating all PDSP remits to reflect the services now delivered by the Council; including rebranding the Voluntary Organisations PDSP to give recognition to its wider role in the community)

Come to P&R PDSP in April and then to Council in May and that the report looks at the option of creating a specific PDSP with the remit of Climate Action. The new PDSP membership to comprise of 2 Labour, 2 Conservative and 2 SNP members and appropriate members from our community. The Chair and Vice Chair should rotate yearly between the Conservative Group and the SNP Group and the first meeting should be held in June. There will be no responsibility allowance for the Chair."

- Moved by Councillor Frank Anderson and seconded by Councillor Janet Campbell.

A roll vote was taken. The result was as follow :-

Motion

Alison Adamson  
Stuart Borrowman  
Tom Conn  
David Dodds  
Angela Doran  
Lawrence Fitzpatrick  
Peter Heggie  
Charles Kennedy  
Tom Kerr  
John McGinty  
Andrew McGuire  
Dom McGuire  
Cathy Muldoon  
George Paul  
Kirsteen Sullivan  
Damian Timson

Amendment

Frank Anderson  
Willie Boyle  
Janet Campbell  
Peter Johnston  
Sarah King  
Andrew Miller  
David Tait

Decision

Following a vote the motion was successful by 16 votes to 7 and it was agreed accordingly.