

Full Council meeting of 14 January 2020

Amendment to Agenda Item 9 (d) - Action on Carbon Reduction

After paragraph one, add

Any actions have to be balanced with other considerations. Council is keen to do what it can to protect the city's High Streets, all of which are suffering as retail patterns change. It therefore opposes any damaging moves to raise parking taxes.

Council notes the need to restrain spending. It is concerned that Carbon Neutral clauses in contracts may significantly inflate costs, leading to pressures to reduce other services or to significantly increase taxes.

Council also notes the limits of its powers and specifically that local authorities have no control over rail services and only minor powers over buses.

Delete recommendations 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Add a new recommendation 3 to say

Continue the dialogue already on-going with public transport operators about how to improve services

In place of recommendation 7, add

Explore the likely cost implications of adding carbon reduction clauses into all contracts and partnership agreements and report this information back to Full Council

At the end of the motion, add

Council further resolves to lobby the Cabinet to:

1. Not increase parking charges
2. Not introduce workplace parking charges

Proposed by Councillor Luke Stubbs

Seconded by Councillor Simon Boshier

Renumber the recommendations so they are sequential. The amended motion should therefore read:

Portsmouth City council agreed the Climate Emergency motion unanimously on 19 March 2019. In order to achieve net zero carbon by 2030 we need to accelerate progress especially by taking immediate action to progress low cost projects and by making allocations of capital and revenue where possible in the Council budget for 2020/21.

Any actions have to be balanced with other considerations. Council is keen to do what it can to protect the city's High Streets, all of which are suffering as retail patterns change. It therefore opposes any damaging moves to raise parking taxes.

Council notes the need to restrain spending. It is concerned that Carbon Neutral clauses in contracts may significantly inflate costs, leading to pressures to reduce other services or to significantly increase taxes.

Council also notes the limits of its powers and specifically that local authorities have no control over rail services and only minor powers over buses.

The Cabinet therefore be asked to include outline business plans for new capital and revenue proposals that will demonstrably accelerate the implementation of the climate emergency motion in the forthcoming council budget for consideration by the next full council.

This will include the following low cost actions listed below

1. Actively working with Local authorities who are ahead of Portsmouth in carbon reduction to learn from others, avoid the cost of 'inventing the wheel' and adopt proven strategy and policy documents where appropriate. For example, Southampton already have a Clean Air strategy.
2. Calling a cross party working group to make affordable recommendations for the 2020/21 budget (low cost)
3. Continue the dialogue already on-going with public transport operators about how to improve services
4. Explore the likely cost implications of adding carbon reduction clauses into all contracts and partnership agreements and report this information back to Full Council
5. Introduce a carbon reduction kitemark and accessible list of approved businesses for local business that is eligible and signs up in return for the free advertising the scheme provides. Link this to a carbon information website. (Low cost)

Council further resolves to lobby the Cabinet to:

6. Not increase parking charges
7. Not introduce workplace parking charges