

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Title of meeting:	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Green Recovery
Subject:	Portsmouth Climate Festival
Date of meeting:	24 th November 2021
Report by:	Kelly Nash, Corporate Performance Manager
Wards affected:	n/a

1. Requested by

1.1 Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Green Recovery

2. Purpose

2.1 To provide information about the activity undertaken as part of Portsmouth Climate Festival and set out proposed next steps.

3. Information Requested

3.1 Portsmouth climate festival was an event to raise awareness of the climate challenges in the city, highlighting both the implications of climate change for Portsmouth, and the opportunities for us to make a positive difference. The event organisation was through a partnership of Portsmouth University, Portsmouth City Council and the Climate Action Board.

3.2 The intention of the festival was to bring together organisations and communities across the city in a range of events to link with the UK hosting the UN Climate Change Conference COP26. Portsmouth Climate Festival was intended as an opportunity for the city to explore issues related to the four main goals of COP26.

- Secure global net zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach
- Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats
- Mobilise finance
- Work together to deliver.

3.3 Portsmouth Climate Festival was held between Friday 22 October and Friday 12 November and featured a range of online and in-person events and activities, inspired by the need for urgent action on climate in Portsmouth. The format of the

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event was an "umbrella festival" with organisations, communities and individuals encouraged to submit ideas for events that they would run and administer, but which would be highlighted as part of an overall programme, with branding and publicity associated with this. It was the first event of its kind in the city.

- 3.4 The City Council and University took responsibility for organising anchor events for the festival, with the City Council hosting a reception on the opening day of the event as a launch, and the University organising a closing Question Time. The City Council ran the Big Climate Conversation at the Guildhall on the 9th and 10th of November showcasing the work that the council has going on to tackle this agenda featuring a number of speakers and exhibitors. The University held a number of events related to the Revolution Plastics work. Both organisations created a number of other events throughout the programme. The City Council led a successful funding bid to the South West Energy Hub for resource to develop events in support of the COP26 themes and this funding has enabled us to hire venues and develop materials (including the Festival website) at no additional cost to the partner organisations.
- 3.5 The programme also included a number of performances at venues across the city of the family-friendly mini-musical The Adventures of Florence and the Mermaid's Tears, produced by local company People and Stories, and funded by the Arts Council.
- 3.6 Other events on the programme included walks and talks, litter picks and shore cleaning, film screenings and participatory events including sustainable textiles and growing food. In total, around 40 events were promoted through the programme.
- 3.7 Full evaluation of the event needs to take place to understand how many people engaged and what the impact of this was, and also to consider next steps including whether there is appetite to run the event again next year and if so, what improvements or adjustments might need to be made.

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Signed by
Corporate Strategy Manager

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Appendices:**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location