

**STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA  
ITEM NO**

**13 DECEMBER 2018**

**11**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY UPDATE</b>
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To advise Committee of the findings from the recent Strategy consultation and to agree the work programme.
<b>Decision(s)</b>	<b>The Committee RESOLVES to:</b>  (1) Agree the Priorities for the revised Environment Strategy <b>and</b> (2) Agree the draft Environment Strategy work programme
<b>Consultation and Feedback</b>	Detailed within the report
<b>Financial Implications and Risk Assessment</b>	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The future work plan programme may attract financial implications but this will need to be addressed on subsequent Committee Reports.  Adele Rudkin/ Accountant Tel: 01453 754109 Email:adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk  Risk Assessment There is a risk that lack of an appropriate Strategy and subsequent separate work programme might inhibit the Council's ability to demonstrate its commitment to continuing to support the protection and enhancement of the environment
<b>Legal Implications</b>	There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. Specific legal advice can be provided regarding the projects and schemes set out in the report prior to their implementation.  Mike Wallbank, Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer Email: Mike.Wallbank@stroud.gov.uk
<b>Report Author</b>	Name Petula Davis Principal Project Officer Tel: 01453 754289 Email: <a href="mailto:Petula.Davis@stroud.gov.uk">Petula.Davis@stroud.gov.uk</a>
<b>Options</b>	The Council can chose not to have an Environment Strategy and not to invest in any initiatives that are not part of its statutory function.
<b>Performance Management Follow Up</b>	Quarterly monitoring reports to Committee by the Performance Monitoring Members

<b>Background Papers/ Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 – Strategy Consultation results Environment Strategy 2007-2027 <a href="#">Link</a> Environment Strategy Outcomes September 2017 <a href="#">Link</a>
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## 1. BACKGROUND

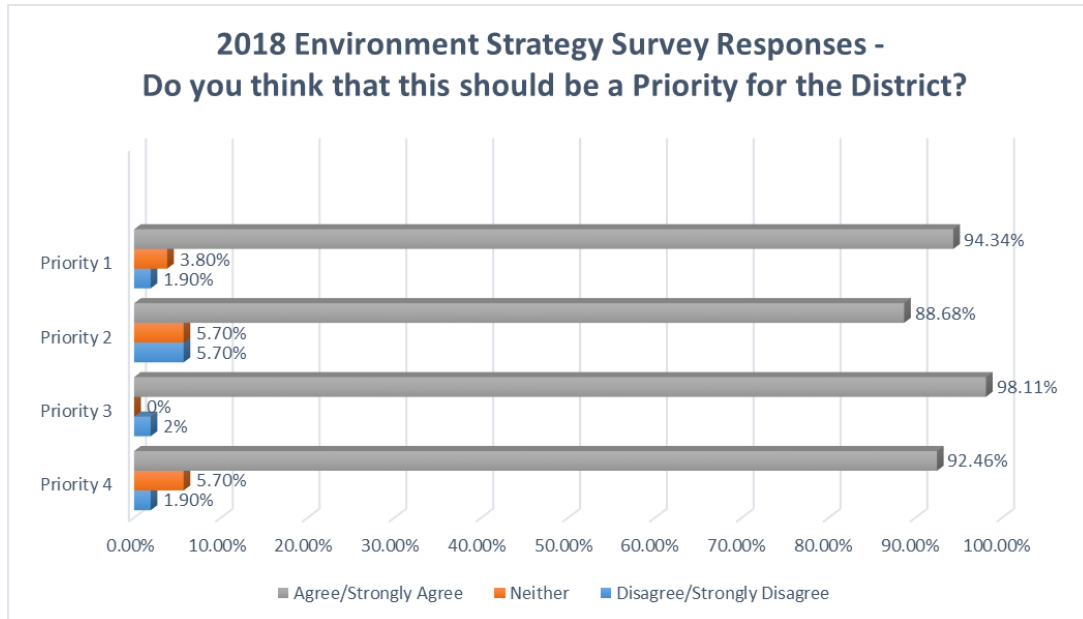
1.1 At the June 2018 meeting the Environment Committee agreed the priorities on the revised Environment Strategy subject to public consultation. The 4 revised priorities are:

- **Priority 1 - A Circular Economy**, *Thriving now, thriving in the future*; Financial prosperity today is no good if we use the resources our children will require tomorrow. We must consider the whole life costs of our purchases and not waste them. When we have finished with them we must repair, reuse and recycle and use them again. A sustainable economy should leave no trace.
- **Priority 2 - Climate Change**, *The biggest threat we face*; Man made climate change is the biggest threat humanity faces. We must adapt and increase our resilience to changes in weather patterns. We therefore must take steps to prevent levels of CO2 rising, by using less energy and what we do use must be greener, cleaner and smarter.
- **Priority 3 - Protecting the Environment**, *Caring for our natural world*; we are all the custodians of Stroud District, we are looking after it for future generations. It is our mission to hand it on to them in a better state than it was handed to us.
- **Priority 4 - Sustainable Communities**, *Planning today for a better tomorrow*. We must continue to ensure that the communities we plan and build today will still be vibrant places where people can and want to live long now and in the future.

## 2. Consultation

2.1 The purpose of the Strategy consultation was to understand the views of the wider community on the new priorities, the results from which would show (or not), support for the Priorities and help to inform the subsequent action plan.

2.2 The consultation ran from 9 July 2018 until the 30 September 2018. There were 53 responses from individuals, Town and Parish councils, environmental organisations and businesses representing several hundred people from across the District. There was overwhelming support for the Priorities as set out in the table below, the full results are set in appendix 1.



2.3 The questionnaire also asked respondents to comment on why they had answered in a particular way about of the Priorities. There were a large number of positive comments made, reflecting of the high percentage of those agreeing with the different priorities. Other remarks commented on how SDC is unable to achieve some of the aims set out in the priorities insolation of help from others such as central government, other local authorities, businesses, and manufacturers of such things as single use plastics.

### 3. Annual Budget and Satisfaction survey

3.1 The Annual Budget and Satisfaction telephone survey asks both SDC residents and businesses for their opinions on the Council's priorities and progress on improving the environment.

3.2 The 2018 survey has reaffirmed the past 5 years of outstanding results - 86% residents and 90% of businesses agreeing our priority to '*Help the community to minimise its carbon footprint adapt to climate change and recycle more*', with 78% of both residents and businesses agreeing that SDC is working to improve the environment.

### 4. Work Programme

4.1 The original 2007 Strategy encompassed the actions/work programme, many of which were quickly achieved. The Committee and subsequent Task and Finish Group agreed that it was important to separate the Strategy from the actions to enable better monitoring and reporting of projects and initiatives that were outside of normal business.

4.2 SDC is already committed to undertaking a number of projects and initiatives that directly link to the Environment Strategy Priorities most of which are already set out in the Corporate Delivery Plan (CDP). Taking on board the comments made in the consultation it is also important to work with our neighbouring authorities, the County Council and local environmental groups to achieve our aims.

- 4.3 It is proposed that the Work Programme is a 'living document' and not only monitors SDC initiatives but helps to inform county wide plans such as Vision 2050 and the Gloucestershire Energy Strategy.
- 4.4 Monitoring will be maintained through the performance monitoring system – Excelsis- and quarterly updates will be provided to Committee by the Performance Monitoring member(s) and/or by report.

#### **Draft Work Programme 2018/19**

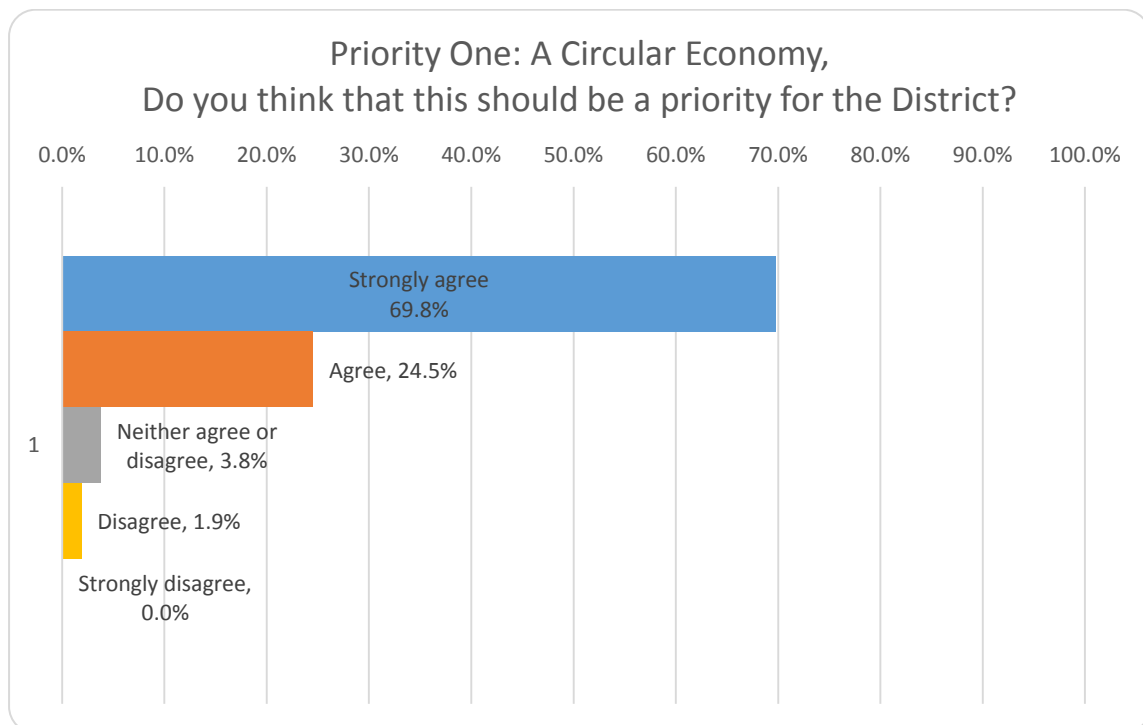
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
Phase out the use single use plastics across the council and those use by our contractors and suppliers	Barry Wyatt
Introduce cost saving measures for grounds maintenance, building cleaning and waste collection	Mike Hammond
Implement our cycling and walking plan focused on: Saul – Stonehouse - Stroud - Brimscombe, Stroud - Nailsworth and Cam – Dursley – Uley	Mark Russell
Refurbish Stratford Park Outdoor Pool (Lido) and zero or low carbon technologies to heat the pool water	Mike Hammond
Agree a long term investment and management plan for Stratford Park with partners and contractors	Mike Hammond
Complete our award winning council house building programme	Alison Fisk
Carry out up to £6.7m of planned work to council homes, helping tackle fuel poverty	Joe Gordon
Provide support for households in fuel poverty to install efficient and affordable heating	Jon Beckett
Local Plan - review	Mark Russell

## Environment Strategy Consultation Results 2018

### Priority 1

**Priority One:**  
**A Circular Economy, thriving now, thriving in the future; financial prosperity today is no good if we use the resources our children will require tomorrow. We must consider the whole life costs of our purchases and not waste them. When we have finished with them we must repair, reuse and recycle and use them again. A sustainable economy should leave no trace.**  
**Do you think that this should be a priority for the District?**

Answer Choice	Response Percent	Response Total
1 Strongly agree	69.8%	37
2 Agree	24.5%	13
3 Neither agree or disagree	3.8%	2
4 Disagree	1.9%	1
5 Strongly disagree	0.0%	0
<b>answered</b>		<b>53</b>



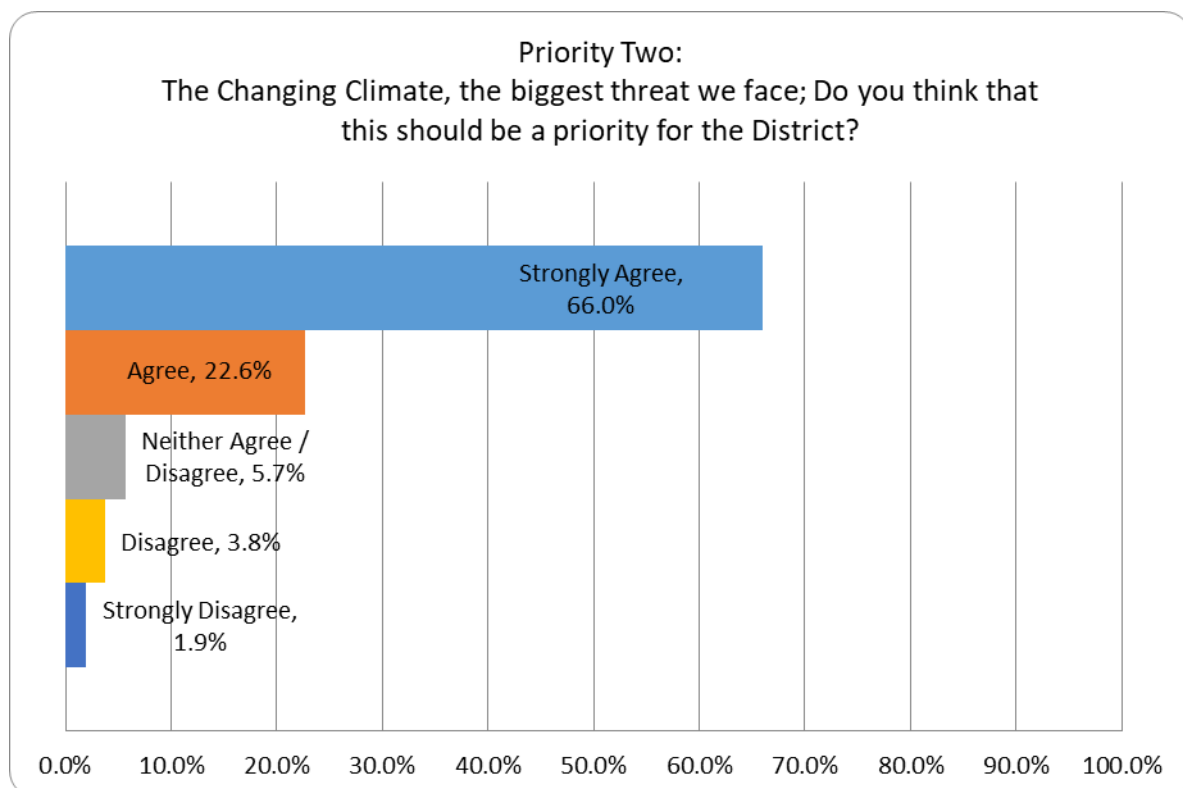
## Priority 2

### Priority Two:

The Changing Climate, the biggest threat we face; man-made climate change is the biggest threat humanity faces. We must adapt and increase our resilience to changes in weather patterns. We therefore must take steps to prevent levels of CO2 rising, by using less energy and what we do use must be greener, cleaner and smarter.

Do you think that this should be a priority for the District?

Answer Choice		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly Agree	66.0%	35
2	Agree	22.6%	12
3	Neither Agree / Disagree	5.7%	3
4	Disagree	3.8%	2
5	Strongly Disagree	1.9%	1
		<b>answered</b>	<b>53</b>



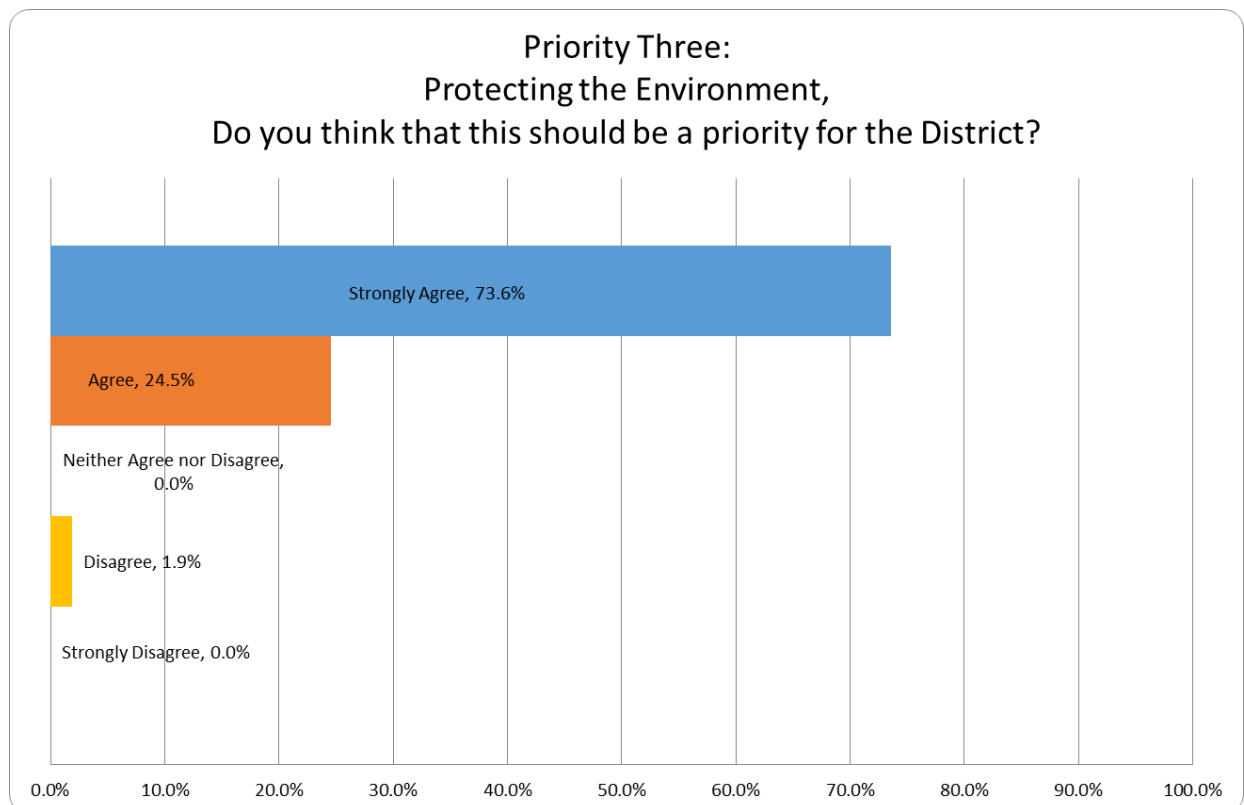
## Priority 3

### Priority Three:

Protecting the Environment, caring for our natural world; we are all the custodians of Stroud District, we are looking after it for future generations. It is our mission to hand it on to them in a better state than it was handed to us.

Do you think that this should be a priority for the District?

Answer Choice		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly Agree	73.6%	39
2	Agree	24.5%	13
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.0%	0
4	Disagree	1.9%	1
5	Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
		<b>answered</b>	<b>53</b>



## Priority 4

### Priority Four:

**Sustainable Communities, planning today for a better tomorrow: we must continue to ensure that the communities we plan and build today will still be vibrant places where people can and want to live long now and in the future.**

**Do you think that this should be a priority for the District?**

Answer Choice		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly Agree	60.4%	32
2	Agree	32.1%	17
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	5.7%	3
4	Disagree	0.0%	0
5	Strongly Disagree	1.9%	1
<b><i>answered</i></b>			<b>53</b>

