

London Borough of Enfield

Cabinet

Meeting Date 14 October 2020

Subject: Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Cabinet Member: Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Leader; Cllr Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

Key Decision: KD 5089

Purpose of Report

1. To provide an overview of the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy and seek approval for its adoption and implementation.

Proposal(s)

2. Adopt the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy as set out in this report and appendices.
3. Delegate responsibility for the implementation of the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy to the Meridian Water Programme Director.

Relevance to the Council's Plan

4. The Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability strategy supports the delivery of the following Council Plan priorities:
5. Good homes in well-connected neighbourhoods
 - The Strategy encourages the provision of low carbon housing which can be cheaper to build and run.
 - Encourages construction of more sustainable and lifelong housing.
 - Promotes performance requirements that support resource efficiency in terms of energy and water use therefore reducing the cost of running a home.
 - Encourages the provision of housing that enables more sustainable access to local services, green spaces, transport and employment and minimises and/or mitigates the impact of developments on the natural environment. This includes excellent safe walking and cycling routes to pitches, sport centres and the Lee Valley Regional Park.
6. Safe, healthy and confident communities
 - Supports the creation, protection, enhancement and accessibility of sustainable green infrastructure which provides natural environments for people to enjoy and contribute towards their health and wellbeing.

- Takes action to mitigate and adapt to climate change and therefore contribute to reducing the risks from climate change on people's health and wellbeing particularly from severe weather events and disease.
- Supports action to improve air quality and therefore reducing the health impacts associated with poor air quality.
- Manages microclimates, ventilation and providing well connected cycling routes and access to green space will support good health outcomes and establish safe and resilient environments, this is particularly important considering the Covid-19 pandemic which has disproportionately impacted ethnic minorities.
- Reduces biodiversity loss and helps mitigate the consequences of food shortages and related health effects.

7. An economy that works for everyone

- Contributes to a reduction in carbon emissions and help to mitigate and adapts to the impacts of climate change which are predicted to have significant negative impacts on the economy.
- Identifies local business opportunities that will arise from the move towards a low carbon future e.g. renewable energy, sustainable transport, smart technologies, research and development.
- Supports the more sustainable use of resources and greater resource efficiency and enables reductions in costs for businesses.
- Identifies business opportunities that will arise from the move towards a circular economy.

Background

8. Climate change remains the most pressing issue of our generation. The effects of climate change are already evident across the globe, with increased severity and frequency of extreme climate events:

- We are experiencing the hottest summers on record, causing adverse health implications, severely affecting the more vulnerable population.
- Increasing wind speeds are further reducing climate comfort.
- Intense rainfall and sea level rise are increasing risk and severity of flooding and change in rainfall patterns is increasing stress on resources, further intensified by the growing population.
- Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Populations most at risk are marginalised, disadvantaged and vulnerable. In Enfield some of our most deprived wards will be vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

9. In some ways the COVID-19 pandemic can be seen as an accelerated analogy for climate change, both are major threats to health and livelihoods, presenting a global threat to wellbeing in which the vulnerable are hit first and hardest, and individual behaviours and policy action play a crucial role. The pandemic has shown how systemic risks can have exponential impacts, it has laid bare the vulnerability of our cities, health systems, and economies, substantiating concerns about resilience more broadly to external shocks.

10. Although there has been a temporary reduction in daily CO₂ emissions due to global measures to contain the virus that have affected demand, these will not be prolonged enough to meaningfully alter our climate trajectory, therefore there is no climate silver lining to COVID-19. In fact, following the global financial crises of 2008, CO₂ emissions quickly resurged beyond their previous levels, on a wave of carbon-intensive stimulus spending. A repeat of this scenario in the aftermath of coronavirus would obliterate chances of limiting global average temperature rise to no more than 1.5°C. To heed this lesson, the steps that the UK is taking to rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic focuses on accelerating climate action to support a green recovery. A green recovery will rebuild based on sustainability, and a fair transition to a low-carbon future that provides high-quality jobs and tackles health inequality.
11. The purpose of this report is to set out the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy that will steer Meridian Water from being a potential driver of global climate change to a pioneering agent of change. The strategy will support rapid transformative change that is needed, not only to reduce emissions and stabilise global temperatures, but to build safer, healthier and more prosperous futures for all.
12. Meridian Water is one of the largest brownfield development opportunities in London, which has the potential to deliver significant housing and employment growth ambitions of the borough. The regeneration scheme will bring forward land for redevelopment over a 25-year period to maximise the potential for what is currently either vacant or low density industrial and retail land. Once completed the development will deliver 10,000 new homes, 6,000 jobs, new roads, improved public transport, social and physical infrastructure to support a thriving community.
13. The Environmental Sustainability Strategy strengthens Meridian Water's strategic alignment with Council priorities as it supports the Council's Climate Emergency commitment to become Carbon neutral by 2030. It will help ensure one of the largest regeneration developments in the UK delivers equitable growth and resilience by setting an ambitious vision and clear and measurable objectives over the short, medium and long term to:
- Reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions,
 - Work towards net zero carbon and carbon,
 - Design for changes in climate and mitigate the impact of development,
 - Restore green and blue spaces to support a radical increase in biodiversity and active, healthy living and eliminate waste by adopting circular by design principles
14. The strategy will drive action to meet national and regional policies and climate obligations by embedding environmental sustainability into all stages of the development lifecycle.
15. Adopting the strategy will further strengthen Meridian Water's environmental credentials and position the development to be eligible for funding opportunities that support the direction of travel toward green recovery and a low carbon economy. One of the stimulus measures designed to initiate

green recovery include a £900m fund aimed at 'shovel ready' capital projects that can be delivered within the next 18 months. The projects are required to deliver on two overarching objectives of supporting green recovery and driving up economic growth and jobs and fulfil value for money standards. Imbedding a triple bottom line approach to sustainability across all Meridian Water projects has meant the team were in a strong position to put forward two capital projects that deliver on the objectives of the funding and demonstrate excellent value with a benefit cost ratio of 3 and 6.

16. The report is structured to first set out the key drivers for low carbon and climate resilient transition and identifies the building blocks of climate policy that are guiding factors in the development of the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy. The report will set out the aims of the Strategy, areas of focus, how it will be implemented and monitored.

Legislative and policy context

17. Globally, the response to climate action remains framed by the Paris Agreement, adopted by 196 countries at the Paris climate conference in December 2015. The Paris Agreement is the first legally binding global climate change agreement. It sets out a global framework to limit the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C, as this would significantly reduce risks and the impacts of climate change. Implementation of the Paris Agreement is through a "bottom-up" approach where Governments are expected to translate commitments into national action plans, policies and initiatives.
18. Since the Paris Agreement in 2015, science has shown that limiting global average temperature rise to no more than 1.5°C is far preferable if we are to avoid the worst forecast effects of climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which assess the global risks from climate change, published a special report in October 2018, detailing the impacts of missing the targets set out in the Paris Agreement.
19. The IPCC report warns that there is a window of just 12 years (now 11 years) to limit the most devastating impacts of global heating and radical change is needed in order to avert catastrophic impacts that will be felt across ecosystems, communities and economies. To meet targets, global net human induced emissions of Carbon dioxide would need to fall by at least 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.
20. UK parliament became the first in the world to declare a climate and ecological emergency and in June 2019, the Climate Change Act 2008 was amended to legislate reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.
21. The Climate Change Act 2008 establishes the framework for the UK's plan on dealing with climate change. The Act was amended in June 2019 to set a new target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% of 1990 levels (net zero) by 2050. The Act encourages the transition to a low carbon economy through the setting of national targets and to ensure that regular

progress is made towards this long-term target, the Act also established a system of five-yearly carbon budgets.

22. The UK Government's 2017 Clean Growth Strategy outlines the policies that are intended to meet the UK's carbon budget. In 2018, the UK's greenhouse gas emissions were 44% below 1990 levels. This means the UK has met the first two carbon budgets (2008-12 and 2013-17) and is on track to meeting the third (2018-22). The UK is currently not on track to meet the 4th and 5th carbon budgets (a 51% cut by 2025 compared to 1990, and then 57% by 2030). Some of the key policies in the Clean Growth Strategy intended to meet the 4th and 5th Carbon budget include; improving the efficiency of homes and rolling out low-carbon heating and accelerating the shift to low-carbon transport delivering clean, smart, flexible power.

Enfield Climate Action Plan

23. Enfield Council's Climate Action Plan sets out how the Council will become carbon neutral by 2030. The plan identifies seven key priority areas for climate action and for each priority area it details supporting actions and timescales. There are also performance indicators and targets which will allow progress to be monitored. The priority areas are:
- Council Operations
 - Travel
 - Buildings
 - Waste
 - Energy
 - Natural landscape
 - Influencing others
24. The Climate action plan reinforces the Council's commitment to lead by example, promoting the highest standards for new builds and for delivering Meridian Water which is the largest development site in the borough. The Meridian Water Environmental sustainability strategy details how we will deliver climate action and minimise emissions generated from the programme and achieve mitigations over the life of the development.

Main Considerations for the Council

25. The Environmental Sustainability strategy is intended to provide a holistic approach to environmental sustainability. It will help guide the development over the long term and provide an ambitious vision in line with the council's Climate Emergency declaration and Climate Action Plan.
26. The strategy will sit alongside the place vision and briefs to communicate how Meridian Water will be developed to enable sustainable living and working patterns. It will reflect emerging policy (national and local) and technology shifts in the approach, including decarbonisation of the grid, the circular economy, social value and net biodiversity gain, amongst others. The approach will need to be flexible to enable adaptation over time. The strategy will also respond to the context in which the new development is taking place

including site specific conditions (soil, water and landscape quality, heritage; etc.), transport, utility provision (including energy infrastructure), social infrastructure and socio-economic and broader cultural issues.

27. Sustainability Statements that will form part any planning applications that are submitted for future Phases of development will be informed by the strategy. The strategy should also inform design visions, place briefs, engineering and infrastructure proposals, development partner procurements and other related documents. It will also be included in all development briefs, partner requirements, and procurement documents. The strategy will also help inform and be closely tied to environmental and sustainability policies in the emerging Local Plan and any accompanying Supplementary Planning Documents.
28. The Strategy is comprised of two sections: The Strategic Vision (Appendix A) and the Implementation programme (Appendix B). The Implementation Programme will be an evolving section of the Strategy that will define how different standards may impact on spatial development, technical approaches to development and viability. It will be informed by a series of discreet studies that will help identify what impact adoption of different standards will have on development of the base masterplan and how they will impact on issues like long term management and maintenance and resident ability to engage with the strategy.
29. The Implementation programme will be tested against the masterplan and financial model to support a holistic triple bottom line approach to sustainability. The Action Plan (Appendix C) sets out the outstanding studies that need to be completed to conclude this iteration of the Implementation programme.
30. The Meridian Water team will seek to implement the requirements at the speed given in the Environmental Sustainability strategy while materially maintaining the financial metrics of the overall project i.e. approved capital programme budget and the Internal Rate of Return.
31. The strategy aligns with the social sustainability and employment agenda that is outlined in the employment strategy and the emerging housing, training and education, and health and wellbeing strategies. In particular, the interdependencies with the skills agenda and the way in which both can support new green jobs and attract businesses.
32. The ambitious Strategy aims to create high quality jobs paying London Living Wage as a minimum, particularly in the green sector. This is through attracting new businesses, creating new jobs that benefit residents in Enfield. Innovative businesses that are aligned with our vision will be encouraged to move to the area, particularly those whose mission is also to evolve construction in terms of climate positive, environmental sustainability, better performing materials and net zero processes.
33. The Strategy also supports a Circular economy to thrive at Meridian Water, one that encourages green jobs and reinforces the change away from the; extract, make, use and discard economy to a make, use, reuse and

remanufacture loop, where the feedstock to a new process is the re-use from the last. This opens new opportunities for new jobs, skills and education. Some examples are:

- Manufacturing jobs repurposing of existing buildings and materials
- Creative maker economy reprocessing recyclables into higher value products
- Design and technology jobs developing the re-use of products and the re-designing existing products so they can be re-used or easily recycled
- Managing and operating tree nurseries, gardens and urban agriculture
- Engineering jobs repairing and renovating equipment and appliances
- Design, Engineering, commercial, project management and construction jobs creating green buildings
- Community engagement jobs
- Teaching and training jobs providing education into green skills

34. The strategy seeks to be relevant to many projects outside of Meridian Water, to help create a borough wide approach, economies of scale and to deliver the direction set out in the Enfield Climate Action Plan. This would be co-ordinated through the Council's Sustainable Construction Board, once established.

Energetik

35. The London Plan supports the greater use of renewable and low carbon generation technologies and has set a target for London to generate 25% of its heat and power requirements through the use of local, decentralised energy (DE) systems by 2025. As such Enfield's local plan requires all major developments to connect to or contribute towards existing or planned DE networks supplied by low or zero carbon energy.

36. The Meridian Water heat network will be the largest of Energetik's community heat networks. Initially it will supply at least 10,000 homes at the Meridian Water development and is designed to adapt and expand over time and service the wider locality. The Meridian Water heat network will consist of an energy centre and an underground pipe network that will distribute hot water to homes and businesses in Enfield. Once the new Energy Recovery Facility at the Edmonton EcoPark is built (due in 2026) Energetik will use recovered heat from this facility as the main heat source for this heat network. Until then Energetik will use other low carbon heat sources like combined heat and power (CHP).

37. Regulatory pressure from Climate change legislation, update of Building Regulations, adoption of enhanced sustainability policies and consumer demand have provided a renewed focus on setting stringent targets for energy efficient homes. The industry is accelerating toward enhanced fabric performance of buildings, reduced heating costs, so that they become much more air-tight, well-insulated and have specialist windows that are installed, allowing the homes to be heated 'passively' by the sun, internal heat sources and heat recovery systems. As there are several unknowns here, it is not possible to calculate the effect of these external drivers. The ambitious

Environmental Sustainability Strategy incrementally increases these fabric improvements but because of the evolving regulatory landscape, it is difficult to quantify the level of impact these have on DE and Energetik.

38. Wider industry and stakeholder engagement

39. The strategy forms a roadmap for delivering environmental sustainability goals on a project by project basis over the next 10 years. To reap the benefits of innovation for sustainability, Meridian Water would need to strike a balance between accelerating delivery of environmental sustainability with delivering at a pace that is in line with the wider built environment sector and technology. Being ahead of the innovation curve could increase risk and cost, whilst being behind could fail to deliver on our ambitions. Fostering strong partnerships with stakeholders and working with the industry will help achieve this balance and take steps toward a better future together.

Areas of focus

40. In line with the Council's Climate Action Plan the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy sets clear targets for the development to be carbon neutral by 2030 and ultimately to be carbon positive across its life cycle. To achieve this Meridian Water will aim to deliver key environmental outcomes:

- Carbon Positive
- Environment positive
- Zero Waste and Circular

41. The strategy sets out specific sustainability objectives and requirements against each of the three goals. An overview of these is provided below:

Carbon Positive

42. The building and the transport sectors are significant contributors to carbon emissions globally. On average, the construction and operation of buildings account for 32% of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions and transport accounts for 28% of an individual's carbon footprint. People's consumption habits, including food and stuff they buy, contribute to 40% of their annual emissions.

43. To meet Enfield's 2030 climate commitments Meridian Water needs to move beyond net zero and become a flagship for carbon positive development. For Meridian Water to be carbon positive, emissions associated with the Building, Transport and consumption sectors will need to be reduced to net zero.

44. This means Meridian Water must by 2030 use zero-carbon construction, renewable and sustainable resources, generate more energy than it uses, foster active travel and support high quality, healthy and low-carbon lifestyles. The objectives and requirements to achieve Carbon positive focus on:

- A. Low energy use- Reduce the demand for heating and electricity.
- B. Low carbon energy supply- Use low carbon heating and cooling systems and onsite renewable energy. Heating for the homes is to be provided by the Energetik's low carbon heat network.
- C. Low embodied carbon- Reduce whole life embodied carbon by increasing the use of natural materials and by adopting circular design principles.
- D. High impact carbon offset- Invest in a recognised and local offsetting framework to achieve a net carbon-positive balance on an annual basis. For instance, this could be local renewable energy (PV) electrical supply, insulating existing homes.
- E. Low carbon transport- Transport related emissions are minimised throughout the entire lifecycle of Meridian Water.
- F. Active travel network- Prioritise non-motorised transport by building networks that facilitate walking and cycling on-site and off-site.
- G. Positive carbon consumption patterns- Enable residents to lead low-carbon lifestyles.

Environment Positive

45. The natural environment and a radical increase in biodiversity is the key to the 'park life on your doorstep' placemaking pillar. Continuous green and blue networks will be at the heart of Meridian Water. Optimum environmental design of the built environment will provide a desirable microclimate, be resilient to climate change and support wellbeing. The objectives and requirements to achieve Environment positive focus on:

- A. Resilient, high quality microclimate- Provide a desirable and comfortable microclimate internally and externally that is resilient to climate change.
- B. Water Sensitive Design- Demonstrate resilience to flooding and minimise water use.
- C. Low Pollution- Minimise air, noise, light and water pollution as part of creating a high-quality environment.
- D. Continuous green & blue networks- Integrate Green and blue networks at the heart of Meridian Water with play, productive landscapes and active lifestyles.
- E. Radical increase in Biodiversity- Nature restoration to support a net gain in biodiversity.

Zero Waste and Circular by design

46. Our relationship to waste is critical to progress beyond the resource intensive, pollution producing linear economy. The long term view is that waste can be eliminated through adoption of circular design principles, sharing networks and eco-innovation – and that we need to begin with Meridian Water being a flagship regenerative built environment where whole buildings, materials and components will be retained at their highest value for continually reuse. The objectives and requirements to achieve zero carbon and circular by design focus on:

- A. Use less resources and design out waste- Prevent waste throughout construction and operation.
- B. Use local resources - Celebrate 'Made in Enfield' - where possible use and develop the uses for locally available materials and services.
- C. London's circular economy innovation hub - Create a campus for learning, skills, innovation and technology for the remanufacturing, recycling, reuse, refurbishment and repair of materials and equipment
- D. Design out waste- Prevent waste throughout construction and operation. Develop a circular resource strategy with the LBE environment team.
- E. Value Waste- Treat waste as a resource during construction and operation.
- F. Increase resource utilisation- Extend the life and utilisation of resources.

Implementation

47. The Strategy sets out an initial range of targets particularly for how we can reduce the Council's greenhouse gas emissions. The Implementation programme is an evolving section of the strategy, it has been developed to support the delivery of the Strategy. It identifies the key areas of activity over four phases:

- 1. Existing projects
- 2. Projects 'launched' in 2020 - 2025
- 3. Projects 'launched' in 2025 – 2030
- 4. Projects 'launched' in 2030 onwards

**Launched refers to the date that procurement for the project starts*

48. Monitoring

49. Performance monitoring of the Strategy will be managed through existing Council systems and/ or additional compatible software as required. This will include performance monitoring of the high-level targets set out in the Strategy and any additional supporting targets and KPIs which form part of the Implementation Programme. Further work will be carried out with delivery partners and suppliers to develop these and other targets to 2030. The performance monitoring of the Strategy will be managed through Meridian Water's existing reporting mechanisms.

50. An annual environmental performance summary report will be taken to Cabinet each year. The Implementation programme section of the Strategy identifies the key areas of activity over the next 10 years where known and will be further developed by the Meridian Water team in consultation with both internal and external stakeholders and in response to any updates to government policy and legislation or changes in local circumstances.

51. Where targets, KPIs or monitoring systems have yet to be established these will be developed through the Implementation Programme process in consultation with relevant officers and partners. Additional targets and KPIs

will be developed to support social and employment strategies. This will allow the targets to be measurable and monitored throughout the life of the strategy to demonstrate progress and achievement. Progress towards the targets using the KPI data will be regularly reported to a range of internal stakeholders such as Climate Action Task Force.

52. Meridian Water is a 20-year regeneration programme. This is the first version of the Sustainability Strategy (version 1.0). It establishes the long-term vision and objectives for the site, but with rapid changes in policy, technology and construction practice, it will be necessary to update it every five years. This five-year timeframe is consistent with 'stocktakes' as agreed in the Paris Agreement and the timeframes used for the UK Government's carbon budgets. It will allow the Strategy to respond to changes in environmental policies and the wider context and circumstances in which it operates.

Public Health Implications

53. Climate change has been described as the greatest threat to the health of the public in the 21st century. Every effort should therefore be taken to
a) prevent climate change and b) mitigate its effects.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

54. The Public Sector Equality Duty (5/4/11) requires public authorities, in the performance of their functions, to have due regard to the need to

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other unlawful conduct in the Equality Act 2010.
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations

55. The Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy provides huge opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in the community, delivering value that goes beyond purely environmental benefits.

56. The strategy includes detailed consideration of the communities affected by the programme and the opportunities to help the council go beyond compliance with the PSED to provide lasting improvements in outcomes for residents. Meridian Water will be home to engaged and empowered citizens, who benefit from high quality education opportunities and participate in meaningful employment. Community and social value will be enhanced as people lead active lifestyles within a clean and healthy environment, which is well connected, both physically and digitally.

57. EQIAs will be completed on individual projects as they develop.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

58. Climate change mitigation/ adaptation

- Supports national and international efforts in mitigating the impacts of and adapting to climate change.
- Reduce the risk of environmental incidents that result in negative local impacts.
- Ensure Meridian Water complies with all relevant legislation and environmental laws.

59. Promote health and wellbeing

- Provide excellent safe walking and cycling routes to pitches, sport centres and the Lee Valley Regional Park.
- Supports action to improve air quality and therefore reduce the health impacts associated with poor air quality.
- Takes action to mitigate and adapt to climate change and therefore contribute to reducing the risks from climate change on people's health and wellbeing particularly from severe weather events and disease.

60. Protect natural environment

- Protect and enhance the overall quality of the natural environment and contribute to net biodiversity gain and the strengthening of the blue green network within the Lea Valley. Blue and green infrastructure play an important role in helping to create a vibrant and healthy community that supports high quality lifestyles.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

Reputational Risk:

61. The Council has made a declaration of Climate emergency, with that comes an expectation to lead by example by requiring higher levels of environmental sustainability in its own developments. Not adopting an environmental sustainability strategy for one of the biggest regeneration schemes in the UK and that is led by the Council will create uncertainty as to how such a project could deliver on climate emergency commitments.

Financial implications:

62. There are two types of financial implications that could arise, the first is attributed to the increased pressure on council services as result of climate change. The second is costs ascribed to retrofit buildings, such as council homes and commercial units that will be retained by council in Meridian Water, to meet any future updates in standards.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

| Risk Category | Mitigation |
|---------------|--|
| Strategic | Risk: There is significant change in national and / or |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| | <p>regional climate change policy</p> <p>Mitigation: The strategy establishes the long-term vision and objectives for the site and has been designed to respond to the Councils ambitious target to reach net zero carbon emissions 20 years ahead of the national target. The strategy will be continually reviewed and renewed every 3-5 years in response to changes in national, London and Local policy, technology and construction practice, as well as scientific evidence about the impact of climate change.</p> |
| Financial | <p>Risk: Additional upfront cost of achieving high standards of energy performance</p> <p>Mitigations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make best use of external funding streams. • Prioritise measures which give a high return (both financial and carbon reduction) on investment. • Follow the principles of invest to save, also give consideration to measures based upon an 'invest to avoid future cost increases' mechanism. • Ensure that whole life costs and energy efficiency measures are key considerations in procuring development partners and delivering plots. • Explore strategies to decrease the additional cost – such as using economies of scale in supply chain, funding and grants and setting the standards at the 'launch' of the project. • Explore strategies to increase the value of the project – such as alternative development models, targeting green investment and carbon finance. |
| Reputational | <p>Risk: The Council does not deliver against the targets in the Strategy.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure delivery of the sustainability targets and objectives, the Sustainability Strategy requirements will be embedded into all procurement and delivery processes from the outset, or via an addendum to existing contracts. It will be an integral part of all design briefs and design reviews, all procurement activities, construction management plans and reviews, and all project and programme management processes and reporting. • Adopt a collaborative approach. The strategy sets performance requirements and provides flexibility for delivery partners to determine how best to meet the goals and objectives within the agreed |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| | <p>timescales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent and transparent monitoring of the development's performance against sustainability targets at phase and project delivery basis will help ensure targets are being met. If targets are not being met then remedial action will be taken. • Producing an annual environmental performance report will promote transparency and accountability. |
| Operational and financial | <p>Risk: That we don't progress quickly enough and we create many homes that need to be quickly retrofitted.</p> <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create pilot projects that help build capacity quickly without large financial uplift. • Develop the environmental strategy in conjunction with the economic and social strategy. |

Financial Implications

63. The implementation of the strategy will require a range of work streams to be developed and incorporated into the overall costings of the project. Once more detailed costs have been identified the budget will be reviewed to ensure funding is in place.

Legal Implications

MD: 27th July 2020

64. Taking action on climate change is not a statutory duty for local authorities. However, the Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and committed to making Enfield carbon neutral by 2030 and in July 2020 Cabinet adopted the Climate Action Plan. The Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended) requires the UK government to ensure that the UK achieves at least a 100% reduction in greenhouse gas levels (below 1990 levels) by 2050.

65. The general power of competence (s 1(1) of the Localism Act 2011) allows the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do. The recommendations within this report are in accordance with this power.

66. The recommendations in the Meridian Water Environmental Sustainability Strategy and any decisions taken in relation to its implementation will need to comply with the Council's Constitution, in particular the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Property Procedure Rules.

Workforce Implications

67. The Implementation action plan identifies resource requirements for the delivery of the ESS strategy and action plan, this includes the continuation of the Sustainability facilitator role, capacity requirement from existing teams and staff and additional roles to support technical implementation.

Property Implications

68. There are no specific property implications arising directly from this report however it is anticipated that there may be future Property Imps as the Environmental strategy is approved and implemented. Any future reports arising as a result of these proposals will need to be further reviewed and when property transactions are included. Strategic Property Services will comment on those individual deals and reports at that time.

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Date of report October 2020

Appendices

Appendix A- The Strategic Vision

Appendix B- Implementation Programme

Appendix C- Action Plan

Background Papers

None