

CABINET

25TH OCTOBER 2021

CARMARTHENSHIRE GLOBAL GOALKEEPERS CLIMATE ACTION MANIFESTO

Recommendations / key decisions required:

It is recommended that:

1. the Carmarthenshire Global Goalkeepers Climate Action Manifesto be endorsed, and
2. a 'climate action consultation body' be established (in response to Manifesto Commitment 3).

Reasons:

'Walk the Global Walk' was a three-year international project which focused on mobilising young people in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2019/20, all 12 of our secondary schools plus two primary schools participated to address SDG 13: Climate Action. This culminated in the 'Carmarthenshire Global Goalkeepers Climate Action Manifesto' which was launched at the Wales Youth Climate Summit 2020 held on 8th December 2020.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted N/A

Cabinet Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:

Cllr. Ann Davies, Cabinet Member for Communities and Rural Affairs

Cllr. Glynog Davies Cabinet Member for Education & Children

Directorate:

Environment

Name of Director:

Ruth Mullen

Report Author:

Kendal Davies

Designations:

Director of Environment

Sustainable Development
Manager

Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:

RMullen@sirgar.gov.uk

JKDavies@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CABINET

25TH OCTOBER 2021

CARMARTHENSHIRE GLOBAL GOALKEEPERS CLIMATE ACTION MANIFESTO

Background

1. 'Walk the Global Walk' was a three-year international project which focused on mobilising young people in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
2. It was led by Oxfam Italia and Tuscany Region and connected local government, school communities and NGOs from 11 European nations, promoting collaboration to address three of the SDGs, namely:

Year	United Nations SDG
2018/19	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
2019/20	SDG 13: Climate Action
2020/21	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

3. We were the only local authority in Wales involved in this EU funded programme and worked in partnership with Dolen Cymru Lesotho. The Carmarthenshire programme was led by the International Partnerships Officer - Schools, Education and Children Department, and features in our Net Zero Carbon Plan (Action NZC-26).
4. In 2019/20, all 12 of our secondary schools plus two primary schools participated to address SDG 13: Climate Action. Teachers received training as well as a bilingual resource pack. Pupil ambassadors – 'Global Goalkeepers' - raised awareness of climate change, led actions in their communities and then came together to share and celebrate their work with decision makers in the annual Global Walk.
5. Despite restrictions due to COVID-19, we continued to support the 'Walk the Global Walk' project including facilitating a virtual model UN climate change conference for schools. 28 pupils across six different countries participated, and lively debate was had around the topics of climate change, plastic waste, and our Net Zero Carbon Plan. The event was also attended by both Members and Officers. Following this event, the students agreed the 'Carmarthenshire Global Goalkeepers Climate Action Manifesto' which was launched at the Wales Youth Climate Summit 2020 held on 8th December 2020 (see **Appendix 1**).

Delivering the Manifesto commitments

6. The post of Associate Educational Support Adviser (AESA) within the Education and Children Department has responsibility for climate action and international links. This Officer will strategically plan the most effective ways forward, alongside our Global Goalkeepers, ensuring that the learning experiences result in lifelong habits for individuals, schools, and our communities. The aim is to ensure that the Curriculum for Wales and Wellbeing Objectives underpin the approach to achieving these actions. The AESA will link directly with other Council Officers, elected Member, pupils, teachers, and community members. The Officer will be supported by Educational Support Advisers and 'Healthy School' Advisers, building on the successes of Walk the Global Walk and Curriculum for Wales initiatives such as the 'Lost Words' and 'Lightbringers' projects undertaken to date.

7. The following outlines how the Manifesto commitments will be delivered:

No	Manifesto Commitment	Department / Head of Service	Lead Officer	Delivering the Manifesto commitments
1	Promote development of green spaces and support native tree species planting of a minimum of 10 trees in each school, or school community if school grounds are unsuitable, and ensure their ongoing protection	ECS / Elin Forsyth + ENV / Head of Place and Sustainability	tbc + Rosie Carmichael	ECS: The new AESA with responsibility for climate action and international links will promote green spaces and tree planting in schools. ENV: Rural Conservation Section will advise on delivery to ensure that the right tree is planted in the right place. Partners such as the Carmarthen Youth Services, Woodland Trust, Natural Resources Wales, and Keep Wales Tidy will be engaged to help deliver this commitment.
2	Encourage and support safe, sustainable school transport including car-pooling, walking and cycling e.g. providing bike shelters	ENV / Stephen Pilliner	Simon Charles	We will continue to offer support with the development and implementation of School Travel Plans. These plans identify existing issues at the school and outline actions required for improvement, for example improving cycle storage to encourage modal shift. A Safe and Active Travel Training Coordinator has also recently been appointed who is able to provide support in accessing Road Safety training programmes (this support is currently being focused on specific areas but where possible we will offer support to other interested schools). We will also bid for grant funding on behalf of schools and communities, such as the Safe Routes in Communities Fund. This funding can be used to deliver larger infrastructure interventions such as new footways and shared use paths.
3	Set up a climate action consultation body consisting of a representative group of young people, councillors, council officers, and local businesses which meets every 3 months to ensure progress on this manifesto	ECS / Elin Forsyth	tbc	ECS: Consultation body to be established in September under the umbrella of the Youth Council. ENV: Sustainable Development team will provide technical support.
4	Provide support for developing countries to combat impact of climate change e.g. by supporting the Size of Wales initiative	ECS / Elin Forsyth	tbc	The AESA with responsibility for climate action and international links will continue to lead on international projects such as 'Walk the Global Walk' and will ensure that the strategy underpinning the Climate Action Manifesto encompasses the ' <u>Size of Wales</u> ' initiative.

5	Support the development of gardens in schools and local communities to provide food and encourage biodiversity e.g. provide seeds and peat-free compost	ECS / Aneirin Thomas / Elin Forsyth	tbc	<p>The 'Brechfa Wind Farm' project will continue to develop gardens with the participating schools or their communities.</p> <p>The focus on learning in the outdoors will continue in line with the introduction of the Curriculum for Wales and this will ensure reflection on the outdoor learning environments within schools and their communities, taking in to account the localised focus, the 'Cnefin', endorsed through the C4W.</p>
6	Double the council's use of hybrid and electric vehicles and install electric charging points in appropriate primary and secondary schools by January 2022	ENV / Stephen Pilliner	Richard Waters	<p>The six EVs in our Council Fleet, which have been operating for some time, have recently been increased to a total of 12. We are exploring opportunities to further increase the number EVs as part of our ultra-low emission vehicle (ULEV) Fleet Review.</p> <p>To support the use of electric vehicles we have to-date, installed 26 fast charging points at 24 locations across the County. This is due to be supplemented in 2021/22 by a further 15 fast charging points at 13 locations. These locations include Carmarthen, St Clears and Newcastle Emlyn leisure centres.</p> <p>For 2022/23 we have already located several other sites across the County that are interested in accommodating further charging infrastructure. We are also nearing completion of the Cross Hands Rapid Charging Hub which is a custom-built location adjacent to the A48 that will house 4 x 50kW Rapid Charging Units and 1 x 150kW Ultra Rapid Charging Unit.</p> <p>EV charging points are now being specified in all our new building projects. All new schools are fitted with EV charging points in accordance with Welsh Government recommendations.</p> <p>In terms of existing schools, we will work with Wales Government to identify opportunities to fund school EV charging points through existing grant programmes. Ynni Sir Gar are proposing to install EV charging points (plus additional solar panels) at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr from the revenue generated by their wind turbine in Salem, Llandeilo.</p>
7	Work together with schools and suppliers to reduce single use plastic in schools by January 2022	ECS / Simon Davies	tbc	<p>ECS: Pre-Covid some Secondary Schools removed all single use plastic bottles and replaced with water fountains for pupils use. This option was being explored for roll-out across all schools. The Catering Service were also actively looking at alternative packaging to reduce and remove single use plastic in schools.</p> <p>When schools are fully operational further work will be undertaken to progress this further.</p> <p>ENV: Waste and Environmental Services will provide technical support.</p>
8	Ensure young people have the support they need to carry out relevant climate actions	ECS / Aneirin Thomas / Elin Forsyth	tbc	<p>The AESA with responsibility for climate action will link directly with the Consultation Body outlined in Commitment 3, identifying the support required by our young people and ensuring that this support is actioned.</p>

8. In response to Manifesto Commitment 3 - establishing a 'climate action consultation body' - it is proposed that the requested Consultation Body be established under the Youth Council umbrella.

9. The Manifesto outlines the following membership of this Consultation Body “...representative group of young people, councillors, council officers, and local businesses”. It is proposed that initially a limited number of named representatives be identified, namely the two respective lead Executive Board Members, i.e. Cllr Ann Davies and Cllr Glynog Davies, with all secondary schools invited to nominate a representative(s) to attend the inaugural meeting. Membership to be discussed at the inaugural meeting to allow the school representatives to have a voice in shaping the Consultation Body. Ideally, the inaugural meeting will be held during the first week in November 2021 to coincide with the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow.

General Observations

10. As part of the Education & Children Department’s 10-year strategy young people have suggested that the following are included in the list of core purposes which reflect one of the core ambitions of the new Curriculum for Wales – ‘Ethical, informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world’:
- We will ensure our children and young people develop an appreciation of their community and environment.
 - We will protect and restore the environment and change our lifestyles to protect the environment now and for the future.
 - We will ensure that learner voice is central to our decision making and that the Rights of the Child are promoted and fulfilled.
11. The ‘Walk the Global Walk’ programme has been submitted as a case study to WLGA, and has also been submitted to LGA for their ‘Pass the Planet’ campaign to showcase best practice from councils across England and Wales in the run up to the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26).
12. Young people from 18 Carmarthenshire schools have recently been recognised for their positive contributions to peace and global citizenship as part of the 2020/21 ‘Walk the Global Walk’ programme. As a result of the hard work of around 100 pupils, the schools involved have achieved the overall winner’s prize at the Young Peacemakers award ceremony which is organised by the Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA) and the Llangollen International Eisteddfod - Carmarthenshire school’s Global Goalkeepers scoop national peace award!

Recommendations

13. It is recommended that:

1. the Carmarthenshire Global Goalkeepers Climate Action Manifesto be endorsed, and
2. a ‘climate action consultation body’ be established (in response to Manifesto Commitment 3).

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

Appendix 1: ‘Carmarthenshire Global Goalkeepers Climate Action Manifesto’

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: Jason Jones, Head of Regeneration

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities: Builds upon our 'Walk the Global Walk' programme by providing learning experiences that result in lifelong habits for individuals, schools, and our communities. The approach is underpinned by our Wellbeing objectives, UN Sustainable Development Goal: 13 Climate Action, and our Net Zero Carbon Plan. Contributes to the Education & Children Department's 10-year strategy and reflects one of the core ambitions of the new Curriculum for Wales i.e. 'ethical, informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world'.

Finance: Whilst there is little direct financial cost in establishing the Consultation Body under the Youth Council umbrella, delivering upon the commitments and future requests may have financial implications that will need to be considered on their individual merits. However, working with the Consultation Body provides an opportunity to deliver some of our Net Zero Carbon Plan actions with modest funding; accordingly, a growth bid of £20,000 has been submitted in the 2022-23 budget-setting process for a 'School Greening Fund' to enable schools to apply for project funding.

ICT: Opportunities to deliver Consultation Body meetings and projects virtually.

Staffing Implications: The Education & Children Department are currently in the process of recruiting an Associate Educational Support Adviser (AESA) with responsibility for climate action and international links. This Officer will strategically plan the most effective ways forward, alongside our Global Goalkeepers, ensuring that the learning experiences result in lifelong habits for individuals, schools, and our communities.

Physical Assets: Provides an opportunity to enhance school grounds and premises in collaboration with individual schools.

**CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Both Cllr Ann Davies/Cllr Glynog Davies
have been consulted.**

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Ruth Mullen, Director of Environment

1. Scrutiny Committee	N/A
2. Local Member(s)	N/A
3. Community / Town Council	N/A
4. Relevant Partners	N/A
5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations	N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information - List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THERE ARE NONE