

RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 10

COUNCIL – 24 SEPTEMBER 2020

QUESTION B

Councillor Ellis to ask Councillor Roberts, Environment and Growth Portfolio Holder:

“Has COVID-19 delay the work of the climate emergency cross party working group and if it has how long will it be to get things back on track?”

Councillor Roberts, Environment and Growth Portfolio Holder, to reply as follows:

“Whilst there have undoubtedly been challenges arising from COVID-19 and resources have been prioritised towards our immediate response and recovery, the Climate Emergency Working Group has continued to progress key elements of work and in June 2020 resumed its regular meetings.

The Working Group must ensure that plans relating to the Climate Emergency are evidence based, with clear outcomes identified and that our future work coordinated in a strategic manner. To this end, the working group is currently in the process of procuring expert advice to support baselining activity and the development of a delivery plan.

In addition to this, the Climate Emergency Working Group is supporting the progression of a number of environmental projects such as the concept of a Parks Connector Network, a Rugby Borough Council Tree Policy and a Rugby Pollinator Friendly Strategy.

Furthermore, Officer and Councillor level discussions are progressing with neighbouring District Councils and Warwickshire County Council. These discussions seek to ensure alignment with strategic plans beyond our own organisation and has included matters such as Electric Vehicle Charging, Transport Planning and Biodiversity.”