

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	6 January 2021
Subject:	Notice of Motion: Support for Local Electricity Bill
Report of:	Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Clean and Green
Number of Appendices:	Three

Executive Summary:

At the Council meeting on 29 September 2020, a Motion was presented to Members seeking support for the Local Electricity Bill. In considering the Motion, it was determined that it be referred to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Executive Committee for decision.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Motion at its meeting on 24 November 2020 and the Committee's decision was as follows:

'While we are appreciative that the motion recognises this Council's climate change work, and we also recognise the important role locally produced electricity can provide if properly integrated, we do find the motion, at this current time, lacking in information on how it could work and it raises serious concerns over the infrastructure to deliver it, security of power supply delivery, cost and the potential financial and reputational damage implications for this Council. Consequently, this Committee recommends that the motion be rejected'.

Recommendation:

In accordance with the Council's decision, the Executive Committee is asked to consider the Motion and the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and determine this matter.

Reasons for Recommendation:

The matter was referred by the Council at its meeting on 29 September 2020, for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and back to the Executive Committee for a final decision.

Resource Implications:

None directly arising from this report.

Legal Implications:

None directly arising from this report.

Risk Management Implications:

None directly arising from this report.

Performance Management Follow-up:

None directly arising from this report.

Environmental Implications:

None.

1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

1.1 At the meeting of the Council on 29 September 2020, a motion seeking support for the Local Electricity Bill was presented and the Council resolved:

That the Motion be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Executive Committee for decision.

1.2 In accordance with that decision, the proposer of the Motion presented it to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 24 November 2020. Appendix 1 sets out the full wording of the Motion and Appendix 2 details the Local Electricity Bill for which the Council's support was sought.

1.3 A report was provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee setting out some of the background to the Bill, together with areas for consideration by the Committee. This report is attached at Appendix 3.

1.4 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered all of this information and after a detailed debate recommended to the Executive Committee as set out below:

'While we are appreciative that the motion recognises this Council's climate change work, and we also recognise the important role locally produced electricity can provide if properly integrated, we do find the motion, at this current time, lacking in information on how it could work and it raises serious concerns over the infrastructure to deliver it, security of power supply delivery, cost and the potential financial and reputational damage implications for this Council. Consequently, this Committee recommends that the motion be rejected'.

1.5 The Committee is asked to consider the Motion and the recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and determine the outcome of this matter.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 Not applicable.

3.0 CONSULTATION

3.1 None.

4.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

4.1 Workforce Development Strategy.

5.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

5.1 None.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

6.1 None.

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

7.1 The Committee considered these implications when making its recommendations.

8.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

8.1 The Committee considered these implications when making its recommendations.

9.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

9.1 Council meeting on 29 September 2020.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24 November 2020.

Background Papers: None.

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Appendices:

1. Original Motion presented to Council on 29 September 2020.
2. Local Electricity Bill.
3. Overview and Scrutiny Report – presented on 24 November 2020.