

**ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR FEEDBACK REPORT FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Report to Corporate Policy and Performance Committee – 10 February 2022

Name of Meeting:	Joint Climate Change Board
Date of Meeting:	13 October 2021
Report by:	Councillor Samantha Staniforth
Committee:	Internal Meeting organised by West Sussex County Council

The theme was working together for West Sussex Natural Environment.

Tom Fourcade and Kate Rice from Nature Partnership started off the presentations. Slides were available for most of the speakers this time, so I have included those in my notes for everyone.

They referred to the 2011 white paper encouraging us to support local nature partnerships. With joined up thinking and a good mix of local organisations, businesses and local people we can influence strategic decisions. All district and borough councils across Sussex are now connected. This includes 27 organisations such as Sussex biodiversity, South East Water, NFU and the South Downs National Park. Funding comes in part from WSCC,ESCC.



The Environmental Agency have issued a report available as to what to expect in the years to come, regarding flooding, which can be found here.

[Climate adaptation reporting third round: Environment Agency - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/104113/Climate_adaptation_reporting_third_round.pdf)

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It is important that all local authorities are working together for Environmental Bill readiness. It is a huge subject with big tasks to be delivered. This will be aided by making a partnership for the whole of Sussex.

Sussex Wildlife Trust

38,000 members lead a voice for Nature through 46 wildlife centre trusts over the UK. The main issue we see now is the thought that in Sussex there is not a problem! It is thought of as being elsewhere. We have had a loss of 85% of hedgerows in the last 20 years. 120,000 new houses are planned and as our woodlands are not managed, we are losing them as all this develops.

We need to look at re-visioning Environmental community based green spaces, funding for these lasts until March 2022.

They plan to work with communities, WSCC and SNP. This will also all contribute to the Environmental Bill. They have 7 things they would like from us:

Robust and meaningful priorities: Not just local plans but transport and climate strategies.

Strategic Ambition: linking into the work of the LNP.

Resourced: In house skills to scrutinise submissions from developers.

Prioritising: Nature and climate decisions. Long term priorities that underline the fact this needs to happen now, not a maybe nice to have.

Set and Share vision: Horsham have been very brave and published a Nature Recovery Network.

Keep Up: things are moving at a fast pace, and we cannot afford to fall behind on these important targets. We expect carbon gains and losses for each Council to be accounted for.

Evidence: We expect local authorities to have access to use evidence in decision making and to let the public know about this.

While Sussex Wildlife Trust realise these things are challenging, they will help, and support where they can.

Sussex has vast opportunities for climate action. Things such as Sussex IFCA banning bottom trawling. Working with communities and visitors to show we can work with nature.

Sussex Bay Vision

A large scale blue habitat tackling climate and biodiversity crisis.

A Nature Recovery Network for this part of the world.

Revitalising sustainable fishing.

A place where visitors and communities can co-exist.

Powered by models of sustainable investment by using natural capital approaches.

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Explaining to the public why the kelp forests are important and how we help nature recover. It would be great to also support the renewal of Sussex Marine & coastal forum.

Looking for ways to make Nature corridors - "Weald to waves"

Linking in with the coastal Local Authorities forum and keeping in touch via events like the one in February 2022 setting out next steps.

West Sussex County Council

Recapped the waste strategy for us and say they think the Environmental Bill maybe pushed back by government 20 2020/2024.

They are looking at a target of the end of 2030 being 60% of our waste recycling target, is met. Hoping we are by then no longer sending organic matter to landfill. Vehicles too by 2030 having zero emissions.

Arun District Council

Philippa Dart updated the group on the food waste trial which is going better than they hoped. There have been issues, and these have been developed well as we work through the trial. All in all, it is good news.