
TITLE: Local Electricity Bill

Committee: Operational Services Committee

Date: 16th November 2020

Author: Jo Brooks, Director of Operations

[V95]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To update Members on progress made in respect of the Local Electricity Bill

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 To request that Members note the contents of this report

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

3.1 On the 14th September 2020 Members of this Committee discussed the merits of supporting the Local Electricity Bill. It was resolved that this Council;

- (i) acknowledges the efforts that this council is making to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy;
- (ii) recognises that councils can play a central role in creating sustainable communities, particularly through the provision of locally generated renewable electricity;
- (iii) further recognises
 - that very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers result in it being impossible for local renewable electricity generators to do so,
 - that making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would create significant opportunities for councils and local community co-operatives to be providers of locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations, and
 - that revenues received by councils that became local renewable electricity providers could be used to help fund local greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures and to help improve local services and facilities;
- (iv) accordingly resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, currently supported by a cross-party group of 187 MPs, and which, if made

law, would make the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate by establishing a Right to Local Supply; and

(v) further resolves to:

- write to local MPs, asking them to provide information on the impact of the Bill and if appropriate support the Bill;
- following a response from local MPs bring a report back to this Committee and then decide if East Cambridgeshire District Council wishes to write in support of the Bill.

3.2 The Director of Operations was instructed to write to Lucy Frazer and Stephen Barclay M.Ps

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

4.1 As instructed a letter was sent to Lucy Frazer and Stephen Barclay (appendix 1) and their responses can be found in appendix 2.

4.2 Members now need to consider what further action to take.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required

5.3 Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) completed. In summary, the CIA concluded as follows:

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 – copy of letter sent to Lucy Frazer and Steve Barclay M.P.
Appendix 2 – responses received from Lucy Frazer and Steve Barclay M.P.

Background Documents

Operational Services
Committee papers 14th
September 2020

Location

Room 101B.
The Grange,
Ely

Contact Officer

Jo Brooks
Director, of Operations
(01353) 616498
E-mail:

Jo.Brooks@eastcambs.gov.uk