#### Name of Review:

### **Transition Towns**

(A Transition Initiative (which could be a town, village, university or island etc) is a community-led response to the pressures of climate change, fossil fuel depletion and increasingly, economic contraction) (<a href="http://www.transitionnetwork.org/">http://www.transitionnetwork.org/</a>)

What are the objectives and desired outcomes of the review To identify themes the Council should adopt to begin a transition for the Borough to have to a sustainable, low-energy economy.

Desired outcome: an Action Plan to deliver a local economy that is less dependent on energy by focusing on local issues; adopting energy conservation measures; developing self reliance and migrating to a more localised economy.

http://www.transitionnetwork.org/community/support/12-ingredients

# What equality issues will need to be considered as part of the review – giving consideration to the 6 strands:

Age

The general aims of the movement appear

Gender to be independent of age, gender, race,

sexual orientation, faith or disability.

Race However each of these strands will need to

be considered as themes are developed.

Sexual orientation Potential measures do not preclude

individuals from sourcing goods or services

Faith from outside the local economy, nor do they

penalise them for doing so.

Disability

### Which witnesses are required?

Transitions Network (Totnes based – one of the early founders of the movement).

Representatives from local Councils that have adopted Transitions status e.g. Lewes

# Other ways to seek evidence? E.g. site visits, involving members of the public, consultation. \*

Totnes & District Energy Descent Action Plan

Kinsale 2012 Energy Consumption Reduction plan

Consult other councils e.g. Lewes, Kingston-upon-Thames, Norwich, Brixton

Consult local businesses and residents on possible measures

## What information/training is needed?

Background reading of the principles

Possible 2-day training course run by Transitions Network

Knowledge of the Equality Act 2010

### Suggested time for review and report completion date

Likely to be a long-term project – 12 months plus to develop a plan, and

perhaps ten years to implement the recommendations it in full – if that proves feasible.

# How does the review link to council priorities?

- 2 A place that is clean and green
- A place that has strong, healthy and safe communities

# How does this item deliver CfPS effective scrutiny principles?

- Provides 'critical friend' challenge to executive policy-makers and decision-makers
- 2 Enables the voice and concerns of the public
- Is carried out by 'independent minded governors' who lead and own the scrutiny role
- 4 Drives improvement in public services

This review would steer Council policy towards a low carbon, localised economy. This could result in initial costs to implement the measures, and ongoing higher costs for residents (e.g. reliance on local food production could result in higher costs than those from supermarkets). If the Review identified public support for the measures, then (2) would apply.

Any co-optees or expert witnesses?