Recommendations of the Environment, Economic Growth and Transport Scrutiny Committee 25 April 2024

Item 6 - Carbon Capture through Nature

Response from CC Shaun Turner, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, following the outcomes of the biochar project gives consideration to challenging the UK waste regulatory framework regarding the use of green waste for the production of biochar.

Response:

"Once we have all the results from the soil analysis and can demonstrate the outcomes from the trials of biochar application at both Chisnall Hall and Midgeland Farm, anticipated to be towards the end of the year, we will work with the UK-based Biochar Demonstrator project to present the findings to the Environment Agency and recommend, as appropriate depending on the findings, that they consider the conditions under which biochar can be stored and spread without an environmental permit for a waste operation. This could potentially include a review of the waste codes permitted for the production of biochar and the thresholds at which it can be applied, which are currently set out in the Low Risk Waste Position Statement 61 (Storing and spreading biochar to benefit land: LRWP 61)."