

Item 9: Notice of Motion: Nature Emergency
Amendment submitted by Councillors McIntosh and Allan

- After point 6 inserts a new point 7 which reads:
 - Further recognises that East Lothian Council is in a unique position to embed action on these issues across all its services due to the number of key strategies that are due to be updated in the near future, including the LDP, Economic Strategy, Local Housing Strategy, and Biodiversity Action Plan; and notes that that the nature crisis, like the climate crisis, is the responsibility of all departments and staff to tackle, and that Countryside and Leisure officers already support colleagues to embed awareness of this into working practices across the Council.

- Removes the sentence “Council requests a report to Council within two committee cycles” and replaces with “Council requests a draft report to the cross-party Climate Change and Sustainability Forum, on a timetable to be agreed with that group.”

- Deletes 2b and replaces with:
 - “Adopts a partnership approach, working with East Lothian Climate Action Network (utilising its newly-announced Climate Hub), and other community organisations, and also collaborating with neighbouring local authorities, and with Government agencies such as NatureScot, to maximise delivery opportunities for the strategies listed above and to identify further opportunities for nature restoration, nature-based solutions, and protection of biodiversity, both within the county and in connection to larger networks.”

- Inserts a new concluding sentence as follows:
 - “Following policy discussion at the cross-party forum, annual reporting should be made to Council on the progress of these actions, aligning where possible with existing cycles of reporting for climate action and biodiversity targets.”