

<b>CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
<b>28 FEBRUARY 2023</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Adrian Chapman, Executive Director Place and Economy	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Marco Cereste, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning, Housing and Transport	
Contact Officer(s):	Hannah Swinburne, Principal Climate Change Officer	Tel. 01733 453479

**PETERBOROUGH DRAFT COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN**

RECOMMENDATIONS	
<b>FROM:</b> Adrian Chapman, Executive Director of Place and Economy	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
It is recommended that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee note the update on the Draft Council Climate Change Action Plan and provide comments on proposals for future commitments.	

**1. ORIGIN OF REPORT**

1.1 The report has been requested by the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

**2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

2.1 This report is brought to the Scrutiny Committee to share the Draft Council Climate Change Action Plan. Councillors may wish to provide comments on the plan for inclusion in the final version.

2.2 This report is for Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

- 4. Climate Change;
- 5. Reducing Carbon Emissions and achieving Net Zero Carbon Emissions;
- 10. Energy Generation and Consumption.

**3. TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>YES</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>tbc</b>
Date for relevant Council meeting	<b>tbc</b>	Date for submission to Government Dept. <i>(Please specify which Government Dept.)</i>	<b>N/A</b>

## 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

### 4.1 Background

On 24 July 2019, the council declared a climate emergency, the council then approved and adopted the first council carbon management action plan in March 2020. Council agreed to update this action plan annually. This report is the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of a climate change action plan to reduce emissions across the council.

### 4.2 Report overview

The Draft Council Climate Change Action Plan is brought to the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee for discussion. Any suggestions will be considered, and the final version may be edited ahead of recommendation to Council for adoption. There is the opportunity to suggest projects to reduce the council's greenhouse gas emissions.

### 4.3 Carbon footprint

The council calculates its carbon footprint annually. In 2021/22 the council emitted 13,647 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e, plus emissions from purchased goods and services which have not been calculated. Emissions have reduced from the previous financial year, primarily through the reduction in emissions from the purchased goods and services within the Peterborough Highways Service. Another key action to reduce emissions is the use of HVO fuel instead of diesel within this contract. This occurred partway through the financial year, so vehicle emissions are expected to reduce further in future years.

1,224 MWh of electricity was generated via solar panels across the council's estate. Some of this electricity will have been used on site, with some exported to the national grid.

The council purchased 95% of its electricity use through a green electricity tariff, which reduced net emissions to 9,927 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. When considering net emissions (i.e. with consideration of the green electricity tariff), the council's most significant areas of emissions are the goods and services purchased through the highways contract (4,809 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e), council purchased gas (2,780 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e) and Aragon-owned transport (1,670 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e).

Assumptions for waste produced from council buildings have been used (based on previous financial years). When data for the 2021/22 year is available, the carbon footprint will be edited. This is not expected to significantly change the overall data or conclusions as this is likely to represent under 1% of the council's emissions.

### 4.4 Progress on 2022 commitments

The previous report was adopted by council in June 2022. This report details progress made on the commitments during the seven months since its adoption; work will continue to complete the commitments over time, with an update available when the final Council Climate Change Action Plan is drafted. Key achievements include the significant level of funding secured for tree planting and research and drafting of a procurement plan to reduce emissions through the council's supply chain.

### 4.5 Proposed 2023 commitments

There are several commitments suggested within the report. These include the development of a roadmap to net zero emissions, installation of solar panels and LED lighting for suitable buildings and implementation of a carbon reduction procurement plan to support suppliers to reduce emissions. It is recommended that selection of projects considers the following aspects:

- **Project cost.** Projects which could be funded by external grants or will offer financial savings may be prioritised.
- **Potential impact to emissions.** Projects with the highest potential impact to emissions may be prioritised.
- **Ease of implementation.** Staffing resources must be utilised efficiently to ensure that maximal projects can be delivered.

- **Public demonstration.** The council has an important leadership role in demonstrating how projects which tackle climate change can be completed to other organisations and businesses.

## **5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

### *5.1 The Economy & Inclusive Growth*

The proposed commitments for the upcoming year will decrease carbon emissions, through reduced electricity consumption, decreased staff travel and increased carbon capture through tree planting.

There are several commitments which aim to empower staff and councillors to develop carbon reduction projects. Additional projects that reduce carbon emissions will likely be brought forward and have not yet been identified.

The Council Climate Change Action Plan focuses on actions that can reduce Council emissions rather than city wide emissions, however the council does play a leadership role in demonstrating good practices and therefore may have an impact on wider emissions.

#### *Sustainable Future City Council*

Financial savings are expected to be made through the generation of electricity from solar panels and the reduced energy consumption through LED lighting.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 Relevant officers have input into the report to comment on progress on the 2022 commitments and propose commitments for the following action plan.

## **7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

- 7.1 It is anticipated that councillors note the progress on the commitments made within the 2022 Council Climate Change Action Plan and discuss the proposed projects for the upcoming year.

## **8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 8.1 The Council has previously committed to the actions of preparing an updated Council Climate Change Action Plan.

The document for consideration has been developed by officers and has taken account of reasonable and viable options for the council to cut its carbon emissions.

## **9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 9.1 The option of not preparing a Council Change Action Plan is dismissed, because Council has already committed in principle to its preparation. Alternative content within the Action Plan could have been prepared and recommended, which could have committed more, less or different projects to reduce the council's carbon emissions. However, in order to start to reduce our emissions to net-zero by 2030, yet take account of the resources available, the content of the action plan is deemed a reasonable and practical set of actions for the next 12 months.

## **10. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

- 10.1 The proposal to install LED lighting and solar panels for suitable buildings and the proposal to transform energy management to identify potential energy reduction will require council funding. These have been proposed in the transformation bid and will require full business case development ahead of securing finance.

## **Legal Implications**

- 10.2 There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

## **Equalities Implications**

- 10.3 There are no equality implications associated with this report.

## **11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 11.1 Peterborough City Council's declaration of a climate emergency, July 2019  
Council Carbon Management Action Plan, March 2020  
Council Carbon Management Action Plan, March 2021  
Council Climate Change Action Plan, June 2022

## **12. APPENDICES**

- 12.1 *Appendix 1 - Draft 2023 Climate Change Action Plan*