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PUBLIC

To: Members of Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – Climate Change, Biodiversity and Carbon Reduction

Friday, 28 January 2022

Dear Councillor

Please attend a meeting of the **Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – Climate Change, Biodiversity and Carbon Reduction** to be held at **2.00 pm** on **Monday, 7 February 2022**; the agenda for which is set out below.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen E. Barrington'.

Helen Barrington
Director of Legal Services

A G E N D A

PART I - NON-EXEMPT ITEMS

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 2)
4. Public Questions (Pages 3 - 4)

(Questions may be submitted to be answered by the Scrutiny

Committee, or Council officers who are attending the meeting as witnesses, on any item that is within the scope of the Committee. Please see the procedure for the submission of questions at the end of this agenda.)

5. Acceleration Low Carbon Growth (Pages 5 - 12)
6. Climate Change Strategy Update (Engagement, Action Plan, Monitoring and Reporting) (Pages 13 - 28)
7. DCC Property and Land Holding Management (Pages 29 - 32)
8. Consideration of a Nature Recovery Work Programme

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MINUTES of a meeting of **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY AND CARBON REDUCTION** held on Monday, 20 September 2021 at County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG.

PRESENT

Councillor W Major (in the Chair)

Councillors B Bingham, S Bull, A Clarke, M Ford, A Hayes, T Kemp, G Kinsella, R Redfern and P Rose

Also in attendance from Place were Claire Brailsford, Director – Environment and Transport and Caroline Toplis, Project Manager and Denise Ludlum, Principal Policy Officer, Communities, Commissioning and Policy

05/21 MINUTES

RESOLVED - to confirm the non-exempt minutes of the Improvement and Scrutiny - Climate Change, Biodiversity and Carbon Reduction meeting held on 26 July 2021.

06/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

07/21 CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

The Committee was given a report and presentation on the Council's draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

The Council had undertaken significant work on reducing emissions from the Council's property, whilst working with partner organisations. It recognised a lot more had to be done to meet the ambition of being a net zero Council by 2032, or sooner, and in ensuring the county was net zero by 2050.

Through a series of workshops it had identified that the development of an overarching strategy and action plan should be a key priority. Consultants, Arup, were commissioned to develop this and engaged with internal and external stakeholders. The Strategy would be used to direct the associated programme of work for the Council in the short, medium and longer term.

The Strategy contained 28 priority targets across five key themes which supported by over 120 supplementary actions, initiatives and projects over the period 2021-25, being reviewed and updated fully in 2025 to provide a Strategy beyond that. Annual reviews of the targets and priority actions

would be conducted along with a review of any changes in central government legislation, policy and direction, and significant technological advances.

The Strategy was scheduled to be presented to Cabinet on 14 October 2021, being launched and published thereafter, potentially as part of Derbyshire County Council's activities around the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 (COP26).

The presentation gave details on how the actions and priorities would be delivered through the establishment of Theme Teams, an easy-read version of the Strategy, the development of a climate change engagement plan, an annual formal progress report and the establishing of performance measures (these were detailed within the report).

If the Council did not have a Strategy and Action Plan in place, emissions across the county would not reduce sufficiently to achieve expected targets. The final action plan was considered achievable within the Council's statutory duties and role as a community leader, subject to the necessary finances and resources being available. It also set out how the Council could use its influence supporting others to reduce emissions.

There was no statutory duty to engage on this development of the document however, it was the intention to engage more widely with Derbyshire's businesses and communities on the delivery mechanisms of the Strategy.

Members commended the work that had gone into developing the Strategy. They also recognised that work had already started in achieving targets and the many challenges faced by the Council however, it welcomed regular feedback on the engagement process and the timescales involved.

RESOLVED – that the Committee (1) support delivery and publication of The Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025);

(2) note the intention to present the Strategy to Cabinet on 14 October 2021 and to launch and publish the Strategy shortly thereafter; and

(3) request that monitoring reports against the progress of the delivery of the strategy are received and is informed about the outcomes of community engagement.

Procedure for Public Questions at Scrutiny Committee meetings

Members of the public who are on the Derbyshire County Council register of electors, or are Derbyshire County Council tax payers or non-domestic tax payers, may ask questions of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committees, or witnesses who are attending the meeting of the Committee. The maximum period of time for questions by the public at a Committee meeting shall be 30 minutes in total.

Order of Questions

Questions will be asked in the order they were received in accordance with the Notice of Questions requirements, except that the Chairman may group together similar questions.

Notice of Questions

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email to the Director of Legal Services no later than 12noon three working days before the Committee meeting (ie 12 noon on a Wednesday when the Committee meets on the following Monday). The notice must give the name and address of the questioner and the name of the person to whom the question is to be put.

Questions may be emailed to democratic.services@derbyshire.gov.uk

Number of Questions

At any one meeting no person may submit more than one question, and no more than one such question may be asked on behalf of one organisation.

Scope of Questions

The Director of Legal Services may reject a question if it:

- Exceeds 200 words in length;
- is not about a matter for which the Committee has a responsibility, or does not affect Derbyshire;
- is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Committee in the past six months; or
- requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

Submitting Questions at the Meeting

Questions received by the deadline (see **Notice of Question** section above) will be shared with the respondent with the request for a written response to be provided by 5pm on the last working day before the meeting (ie 5pm on Friday before the meeting on Monday). A schedule of questions and responses will be produced and made available 30 minutes prior to the meeting (from Democratic Services Officers in the meeting room).

It will not be necessary for the questions and responses to be read out at the meeting, however, the Chairman will refer to the questions and responses and invite each questioner to put forward a supplementary question.

Supplementary Question

Anyone who has put a question to the meeting may also put one supplementary question without notice to the person who has replied to his/her original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The Chairman may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds detailed in the **Scope of Questions** section above.

Written Answers

The time allocated for questions by the public at each meeting will be 30 minutes. This period may be extended at the discretion of the Chairman. Any questions not answered at the end of the time allocated for questions by the public will be answered in writing. Any question that cannot be dealt with during public question time because of the non-attendance of the person to whom it was to be put, will be dealt with by a written answer.



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CLIMATE CHANGE,
BIODIVERSITY AND CARBON REDUCTION**

MONDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2022

Report of the Executive Director - Adult Care

Acceleration Low Carbon Growth

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of current work and opportunities for accelerating low carbon growth in Derbyshire, particularly in providing support for businesses, skills and training, and the adoption and manufacture of new technologies. The content of the report will be supplemented by a presentation at the meeting that provides more detail on the key work programmes currently being delivered.

2. Information and Analysis

- 2.1 The Council's ambitions to de-carbonise the Derbyshire economy are well publicised and set out in key documents such as the COVID Economic Recovery Strategy which was launched in January 2021 and more recently, the Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025) which was approved at Cabinet in October 2021.
- 2.2 The Recovery Strategy has been developed in partnership with all Derbyshire local authorities; key business organisations such as the Chamber (EMC) and Federation of Small Business (FSB); transport providers; universities; colleges and Government departments.

2.3 The key principle set out in the Strategy was to ensure the economy was supported to ‘build back better’ through the various COVID recovery stages which meant:

Using the ‘Revive, Renewal and Regenerate’ periods of the Strategy to:

- Work towards longer-term regeneration and a more circular and distributed economy.
- ‘Level up’ key areas of economic and social disparity.
- Accelerate work to mitigate and adapt to climate change and achieve sustainable, good growth
- Reset the economic profile of Derby and Derbyshire - maximise contribution to UK plc.
- Build resilience into the local economy and reinforce/ restore public and business confidence.

2.4 The Recovery Strategy contains a number of priorities and work programmes which have been progressed in earnest over the last year or so, all of which have embraced the above principles in aiming to secure low carbon or net zero objectives. A summary of the Strategy proposals is set out below:

Priorities	Projects and Programmes
Economic Development	
Place	Focus on resilience and diversification of town centres, greening/ better use of space, vacant properties and use of natural capital
Industry	Focus on protecting and enhancing key sectors, supporting low carbon growth, diversifying and increased productivity. Better procurement to drive social value and business support programmes
Visitor Economy	Focus on immediate support for recovery and long-term transformation of the sector through cultural festivals programme and direct sector support
Enabling Infrastructure	Focus on improving physical and digital infrastructure as foundations for innovation and clean growth through new grant funding schemes, full fibre connectivity, defining a new approach to sustainable travel
Inward Investment	Highlighting Derbyshire’s unique offer to attract local carbon, innovative and green technology business through refreshed prospectus and links to business support programmes

Employment and Skills	
Young People	Focus on developing better career pathways and encouraging access to new industries and green technologies through workplace co-ordination, inspirational careers programme, targeted NEET activity
Adults	Focus on re-training and routes to better employment through better links to employers and colleges e.g. via talent retention scheme, digital skills campaign, sector academy programme
Entrepreneurship and self employment	Focus on stimulating business growth and enterprise e.g. through apprenticeship levy transfer, start up and growth support
Responding to Future Skills	Focus on facilitating a 'responsive skills system' e.g. via Green Skills Programme, higher level skills programmes and graduate recruitment/ retention

2.5 Other projects and programmes that sit outside the Recovery Strategy will be required to undertake a climate impact assessment (CIA), in line with the objectives of the Climate Change Strategy. Whilst the detail of the CIA hasn't been finalised yet, inevitably the assessment will be checking what impact a proposed project has on reducing carbon emissions, changing behaviour, improving 'green credentials' etc; for those projects that don't offer sustainable proposals, the ability to mitigate impacts will no doubt be a key consideration.

2.6 Low carbon growth for Derbyshire means 'good growth' – that is '*the right growth, being delivered in the right way for the right reasons*'. It is about businesses, labour market skills, geography and place – enabled by the right transport and digital infrastructure. Key projects and programmes implemented to date that are helping achieve Derbyshire's low carbon ambitions for businesses, skills and the adoption and manufacture of new technologies include:

- De-carbonise grant scheme to support local business to reduce carbon emissions from fleet or premises - £920,000
- Green Entrepreneurs Fund to fund 'low carbon demonstrator projects, grants to businesses and skills training - £2m
- Five new Business Start Up Advisers to help new businesses get off the ground and build in low carbon options from inception - £1m
- Created 424km of cycle routes across the County linking people to jobs and learning and encouraging sustainable tourism
- Cultural Framework and Cultural Recovery Fund to support hospitality and tourism-based businesses to progress low carbon recovery - £1m

- Digital infrastructure in hard to reach places to assist digital connectivity, reduce the need for travel and support e-commerce - £1m for top up vouchers
- Rolled out programme to refurbish laptops and moving IT into communities/households in need. Helps avoid landfill and supports expansion of digital skills and e-commerce
- Rolled out I Programme across the County to promote and teach digital skills to unemployed or inactive people and those at risk of redundancy - £3.1m for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire area
- Continued roll out of electric vehicle charging –218 public facing charge points currently in place across the County
- Development of hydrogen and future fuel proposals with private sector – submission of £30m bid for funding to Government to support roll out of hydrogen buses
- Work with Derbyshire colleges to map existing ‘green skills’ training offer – to develop into a wider offer for a ‘green skills academy’. Revisiting curriculum to embed as much ‘green skills’ within existing courses (e.g. modern methods of construction)
- Development of proposals for mobility hub pilots for Buxton and Hope Valley – now integrated into Bus Service Investment Plan for the whole County.
- Secured through Department for Transport to produce 4 feasibility studies for walking and cycling via £250,000 Capability Fund: undertaking a bus and rail interchange audit (will inform future capital infrastructure); commercial e-bike hire in Peak Park and market towns; scoping a blue print for ‘one stop shop information portal’; capitalise on cycling networks in northern Derbyshire (Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire, Bolsover), including adult cycle training
- Commenced work with Job Centres to support job seekers in accessing sustainable and public transport (buses, e-bikes)
- Delivering Wheels to Work through Rural Action Derbyshire supporting apprentices and job seekers to access learning and employment through sustainable transport - £50,000 per annum
- Bikeability training provided to young people in targeted areas (high levels of deprivation e.g Bolsover) to raise confidence in cycling as a means of travel
- Buxton on the Move – travel plan developed with the Town Team to pilot and demonstrate how communities can become more sustainable

2.7 Further details on these projects, including take up and outputs, will be provided in the presentation to the Scrutiny Committee.

2.8 Additional, planned projects include:

- Race to Zero Accelerator - Community Renewal Fund project to be launched November 2021 to expand original de-carbonise project (part of £1.5m bid)
- Working with partners to promote and encourage access to 'green jobs' through the two Derbyshire Careers Hubs to future employees
- Bringing forward a review of vacant properties for town centres and working to reimagine places and spaces to create more sustainable
- Developing proposals for a 'green skills academy' for the County to attract new learners into the low carbon economy
- Developing the Trusted Trader scheme to include a 'low carbon' accreditation for the County
- Report commissioned and due by March 2022 detailing future demand locations for electric charging – will direct further roll out of charge points to achieve 1,000 units by 2025. Procurement exercise likely in 2022-23 to secure additional electric vehicle charging points (EVCP)
- Exploring hydrogen infrastructure roll out at critical locations in the County (north Derbyshire, linked to tourism offer and south Derbyshire linked to growth opportunities) – also wider promotion of future fuel options
- Development of Integrated Transport Strategy which will provide the platform for sustainable travel and transport in the County
- Development of Future Fuels Strategy – to capitalise on natural capital (e.g. water power) and the potential of future fuels such as hydrogen
- Developing proposals to extend Wheels to Work to subsidise access to e-bike as a means of sustainable travel to work and learning - £250,000
- Developing strategic proposals for 'Mobility as a Service' – app-based approach to sustainable travel (dial up services)
- Developing pilots for low carbon communities e.g. Travelling Light in the Hope Valley

3. Consultation

- 3.1 None as a direct result of this report but a wide range of engagement and consultation exercises took place with partners (including local authorities, Government departments, colleges, universities and local businesses) on the development of the Recovery Strategy – and continues to take place through the recovery governance arrangements.

4. Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 None directly relevant to this overview but most of the substantive projects identified for supporting low carbon recovery have been subject to 'project development' processes where alternatives have been considered.

5. Implications

- 5.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 Presentation to Improvement and Scrutiny Committee on 'Delivering Economic Recovery', 23 July 2020 (Minute No.16/20 refers).

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – Implications.

8. Recommendations

That Committee:

- a) Notes the approach being taken to 'build back better' in the Economic Recovery Strategy and the contributions of key work programmes to driving forward a low carbon economy.
- b) Considers other suitable projects and programmes that could form part of the next phase of 'good growth' recovery.

9. Reasons for Recommendations

- 9.1 To understand the progress that has been made to date in supporting the local economy to become more sustainable.
- 9.2 To help shape the nature of future low carbon work programmes in the County in the drive to net zero by 2032.

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 No financial implications as a direct result of this report. The Council has set aside a COVID Recovery Fund of £15m which is supporting implementation of a number of the low carbon programmes listed above. Individual calls on this Fund are subject to separate approvals either through Cabinet or via delegated arrangements with relevant Cabinet members.

Legal

- 2.1 No legal implications as a direct result of this report. Any such implications are considered in the development of each individual project or programme as part of the development process and are clearly articulated at the point of seeking approval.

Human Resources

- 3.1 No human resource implications as a direct result of this report. Some of the projects outlined in this update have secured additional resources through dedicated project funding (e.g. DE-Carbonise) or through external expertise (e.g. Derby University in supporting the Green Entrepreneurs Fund).

Information Technology

- 4.1 No information technology implications as a direct result of this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 No equalities impact as a direct result of this report but at the stage of project inception and development due consideration is given to potential impacts and mitigations on key groups of people, particularly geographical disparities and those furthest from the job market – which often includes those from ‘protected characteristic’ communities.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 Delivery of the Economic Recovery Strategy and the Climate Change Strategy have been developed in direct support of the Council Plan objective to deliver a ‘green and prosperous Derbyshire’ and in

particular, to achieve net zero for the Council by 2032 (or sooner) and for the County by 2050.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental, Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

7.1 None.



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CLIMATE CHANGE,
BIODIVERSITY AND CARBON REDUCTION**

MONDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2022

Report of the Executive Director - Place

**Climate Change Strategy Update (Engagement, Action Plan, Monitoring
and Reporting)**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present an update on the Council's Climate Change Engagement Plan, Action Plan and approach to monitoring and reporting on progress of the delivery of the Council's Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025) and overarching carbon reduction targets.

2. Information and Analysis

Background

- 2.1 The Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025) was approved by Cabinet on 14 October 2021 and published on the Council's website in November 2021 (Minute No. 150/21 refers). The focus is now on delivery of the Strategy and the actions within it.
- 2.2 At a meeting of the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee for Climate Change, Biodiversity and Carbon Reduction held on 20 September 2021, the Committee supported the delivery and publication of the Strategy and resolved to request that the Committee receives monitoring reports against the progress of the delivery of the Strategy and is informed about the outcomes of community engagement. This report provides an update on these points.

Climate Change Engagement Plan

- 2.3 A Climate Change Engagement Plan has been developed, which sets out how the Council will engage with its communities to establish and agree delivery mechanisms and communicate crucial climate messages and information to Derbyshire's residents and businesses.
- 2.4 The Engagement Plan was presented to the Corporate Management Team (CMT) in October 2021, where support for its implementation was expressed. The Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism and Climate Change, and Leader of the Council, Councillor Barry Lewis, has also approved the Plan.
- 2.5 For each of the relevant actions set out in the Climate Change Strategy, the Council will engage with Derbyshire's communities on the delivery mechanisms for that action. Prior to the commencement of each engagement activity, a simple engagement plan will be prepared setting out the mechanisms for engaging communities. Engagement will be specifically on exploring and identifying roles and responsibilities and how the action will be delivered.
- 2.6 A Thriving Communities approach will be taken whereby, if, in the course of the engagement and delivery processes, the communities involved decide that they would like to carry out an additional project related to the action, then any request of the Council for additional support would be considered. This would need to be considered on a case by case basis as the nature of what communities might wish to undertake independently of the Council is unknown.
- 2.7 Engagement plans for an initial small set of relevant actions from the Climate Change Strategy are being developed for implementation during the first quarter of 2022, with further relevant actions being delivered on a rolling basis as part of delivery of the Climate Change Strategy. Projects will be reviewed with lessons learnt from each engagement activity applied to future work.

Climate Change Action Plan

- 2.8 There are 32 priority actions in the Climate Change Strategy, across five themes. The priority actions are supported by over 120 supplementary actions (the 'Long List'), initiatives and projects, which it is anticipated the Council will either lead or support. The Long List actions are split into those that would need to be delivered by 2025, and those that would need to be delivered by 2035.

- 2.9 In order to robustly monitor and measure progress, a detailed programme-level SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-based) Action Plan is being developed, which sets out the cost and carbon impact of each action, the level of complexity, who is responsible for the delivery, timescales, status and review of progress against the required output or outcome.
- 2.10 The Action Plan focusses on the priority actions, as well as those Long List actions that are likely to have the biggest positive impact on emissions reduction, and those which require the most immediate action and implementation.
- 2.11 Over time, other projects and initiatives may be identified and launched, which are not currently listed in the Strategy. These will be added to the Action Plan and monitored accordingly.
- 2.12 The Action Plan will be reviewed and updated in full on a quarterly basis.

Monitoring and Reporting

- 2.13 Ensuring effective and timely delivery of the Strategy is central to the successful delivery of the Council's net zero ambitions. The following sections set out mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on progress going forward.

Annual Progress Report to Cabinet

- 2.14 As agreed by Cabinet on 14 October 2021, an annual progress report will be presented to Cabinet, summarising progress in delivery of the Strategy and the Council's net zero targets, as well as outcomes of the annual review of the need to refresh and update the Strategy. This report will be presented to Cabinet in the Autumn of each year, starting in 2022.
- 2.15 The report will summarise progress against the Council's target of net zero by 2032, or sooner, split by the four areas currently measured and reported by the Council:
- emissions from Council-owned property and buildings;
 - emissions from street and road lighting;
 - emissions from grey fleet usage; and
 - emissions from Council-owned core fleet vehicles.

- 2.16 It will provide an updated emission reduction trajectory and projections, based on trends at that time and taking into account planned and confirmed actions and activities happening across the Council to reduce emissions. This will identify any issues or areas where particular actions need to be clearer or accelerated.
- 2.17 The report will also summarise county-wide emissions, sourced from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) data, although it should be noted that this data can take up to two years to be published by the UK Government and is provided as calendar years, whereas Council emissions are reported by financial years. This reporting will be against the carbon budget for each area and include a high-level trajectory going forward.
- 2.18 In addition, the annual report will provide an expected trajectory of further progress for each target set out in the Climate Change Strategy.

Quarterly Council Plan and Service Plan Reporting

- 2.19 As part of the reporting requirements associated with the Council Plan and Service Plans, the Climate Change Team reports on a range of Deliverables and Measures on a quarterly basis. This includes, for the Council Plan:
- 2.20 Deliverables:
- Reduced carbon emissions from Council property and vehicles, street lighting and procurement.
 - Developed and commenced implementation of a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan which sets out priorities to reduce the county's carbon emissions.
 - Explored initiatives to tackle climate change including low carbon local energy generation schemes and working with partners to provide further publicly accessible electric vehicle charge points.
 - Developed and delivered a strategic approach to sustainable travel and transport across the County, including the promotion of cycling and walking.

Measures:

- Percentage reduction in carbon emissions from Council land and operations from 2010 baseline.
- 2.21 In addition to the Deliverables and Measures reported quarterly by the Climate Change Team, other teams across the Council are responsible

for reporting on other relevant items with the Council Plan. This includes, but is not limited to:

- The Natural Capital Strategy, identifying areas where the natural environment can be further enhanced in order to support healthy, thriving communities, a vibrant economy and a healthy environment.
- The Council's approach to Good Growth to maximise low carbon economic opportunities. Good Growth is *'the right growth, being delivered in the right way for the right reasons'*.

2.22 Progress against a range of Deliverables and Measures within Service Plans are also reported on a quarterly basis.

Reporting to the Climate Change and Environment Programme Board

2.23 Going forward, on a quarterly basis, the Climate Change and Environment Programme Board (CCEPB) will receive a report that sets out the proportion of all 32 priority actions that are on track, in terms of both timescales and outcome, as well as the proportion of priority actions on track, split by the five themes.

2.24 A narrative will be provided on which actions are not on track, why, the potential impact, and the mitigation being carried out to get the action back on track. The same process will be carried out for the Long List actions by 2025 that are likely to have the biggest positive impact on emissions reduction, and those which require the most immediate action and implementation.

2.25 For the other Long List actions to be delivered by 2025 and 2035, a high-level summary of progress and any risks or issues will be provided.

3. Consultation

3.1 The Climate Change Strategy was developed through engagement with Council officers and Elected Members, officers from Derbyshire District and Borough Councils, and young people. There is no statutory duty to engage on this document, nor even to have such a strategy. However, it is the intention to engage more widely, with Derbyshire's businesses and communities, on the delivery mechanisms of the Strategy.

3.2 An outline of the Strategy and the draft priority actions were presented to the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee for Climate Change, Biodiversity and Carbon Reduction on 26 July 2021. The Committee supported those priority actions, and also the governance structure that has been established to deliver the programme of work.

3.3 The Strategy was presented to the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee for Climate Change, Biodiversity and Carbon Reduction on 20 September 2021. The Committee supported delivery and publication of the Strategy, and noted the intention to launch and publish the Strategy shortly after presentation to Cabinet on 14 October 2021. It was resolved to request that the Committee receives monitoring reports against progress of the delivery of the strategy and is informed about the outcomes of community engagement.

4. Alternative Options Considered

4.1 N/A

5. Implications

5.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

6. Background Papers

6.1 N/A

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 – Implications.

7.2 Appendix 2 – Climate Change Engagement Plan (2021-2025)

8. Recommendations

That the Committee resolves to:

- a) Note and support the proposals to engage Derbyshire's residents and communities in the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy, as set out in the Climate Change Engagement Plan (2021-2025).
- b) Support the development and ongoing management of an overarching and detailed climate change programme Action Plan.
- c) Note and support the mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on progress of the delivery of the Strategy and the overarching carbon reduction targets as set out in this report.

9. Reasons for Recommendations

- 9.1 To ensure that the Committee fully supports the Engagement Plan for engaging communities on climate change.
- 9.2 To ensure that the Committee fully supports effective delivery of the Climate Change Strategy through the development and ongoing management of an overarching and detailed Action Plan.
- 9.3 To ensure that the Committee fully supports monitoring and reporting on progress on the delivery of the Strategy and the overarching carbon reduction targets in an appropriate, meaningful and effective manner, in order for the Strategy and actions to remain on track and be delivered.

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The delivery of the actions within the Strategy, and engagement activities with communities will have financial implications for the Council. These will be considered on a project-by-project basis. Proposals for programme-level financial commitment to support the overall development and delivery of the strategy and programme are also in development and are the subject of a bid for additional resources as part of the development of the Council's Budget for 2022-23.

Legal

- 2.1 Some of the projects required to deliver the actions within the Strategy may have legal implications. These will be considered on a project-by-project basis.

Human Resources

- 3.1 Some of the projects required to deliver the actions within the Strategy may have Human Resource implications. These will be considered on a project-by-project basis.

Information Technology

- 4.1 Some of the projects required to deliver the actions within the Strategy may have Information Technology implications. These will be considered on a project-by-project basis.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 Some of the projects required to deliver the actions within the Strategy may have Equalities Impact implications. These will be considered on a project-by-project basis.
- 5.2 Proposals for delivery emerging from the engagement process will be subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment to identify how the proposals would impact on people with protected characteristics.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 The Strategy and the engagement plan support the Council's ambition to be a net zero organisation by 2032, or sooner, and for the County to

be net zero by 2050, and will inform the action that needs to be taken to achieve these ambitions.

Environmental Sustainability

6.2 Delivery of the Strategy and implementation of the engagement plan will improve the environmental sustainability of the Council and the County and in particular, will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental, Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

7.1 None to report.

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Derbyshire County Council

Climate Change Engagement Plan (2021-2025)

Introduction

Derbyshire's Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-25) has been published. It sets out the next steps for the Council to reduce emissions from its own estate and operations and from across the county.

Derbyshire County Council has control over the actions it takes to reduce emissions from its own estate and operations and, along with the UK government and other local authorities, has a key role to play in tackling climate change across the county through legislation, policy and funding approaches. However, it is estimated that local authorities have powers or influence over roughly a third of emissions in their local areas and consequently a 'whole society' and community-wide approach is needed to reduce emissions across the county. More than half of the emissions cuts needed rely on people and businesses taking up low-carbon solutions – decisions that are made at a local and individual level. Many of these decisions depend on having supporting infrastructure and systems in place some which local authorities can influence and others which require action from the UK government.

To reduce emissions from across the county and to adapt to a changing climate, collaboration with the communities of the Derbyshire is therefore necessary and welcome. The Council cannot deliver this work alone, it will require action from businesses and communities across the county.

The actions needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are, by and large, reasonably well understood. However, the mechanisms to deliver these actions are less clear. The Council has identified targets with priority actions in its Climate Change Strategy and now wants to work with communities to understand the best way to deliver the actions. By working together, agreement will be reached on how both parties can support each other to deliver action.

Dialogue between communities and the Council will need to be sustained over the long term and so partnership engagement approaches will be designed to be flexible to changing needs and messages with some underlying principles. In the Climate Change Strategy, the Council made a commitment to:

1. Ensure elected members and officers engage with community groups, residents, schools, and businesses to map existing or ongoing work on

- climate change and to identify and understand the role that Derbyshire County Council can play in supporting these activities
2. Explore the success and viability of different engagement methods to coproduce solutions (e.g. large group discussions, digital platforms and mobile applications, gamification and the arts and education)
 3. Work with partners such as businesses, the private sector and the Local Authority Energy Partnership to develop demonstrator projects to be used to build understanding on retrofitting buildings and decentralised energy systems.

In developing this Plan, consideration has also been given to the findings and recommendations of the Climate Assembly UK set out in the report '*The path to net zero*'. A number of themes emerged to underpin the UK's approach to achieving net zero which this plan aims to emulate. In summary, key themes are:

- **Education and information:** There is a need for information and education about climate change for everyone
- **Fairness:** The solutions to climate change are neither easy nor free but they need to be fair
- **Freedom and choice:** It is important to maintain, where possible, freedom and choice for both individuals and local areas so they can choose the solutions that work best for them
- **Co-benefits:** Tackling climate change could bring many advantages and co-benefits and the UK should take advantage of these potential rewards
- **Nature:** We need to protect and restore our natural environment and our access to it.

Guiding Principles

In engaging communities about climate change and climate action, Derbyshire County Council will ensure:

- Its approach is inclusive and accessible to all
- That its actions do not end up broadening inequalities or lead to undesired outcomes but creates a better future for present and future generations
- There is a widespread societal dialogue on climate change
- It is open and transparent to make sure people can see and understand its actions
- It is aspirational using expert knowledge to guide it and to promote the many co-benefits of climate action
- It spends money wisely making the best use of its resources

Engagement Process

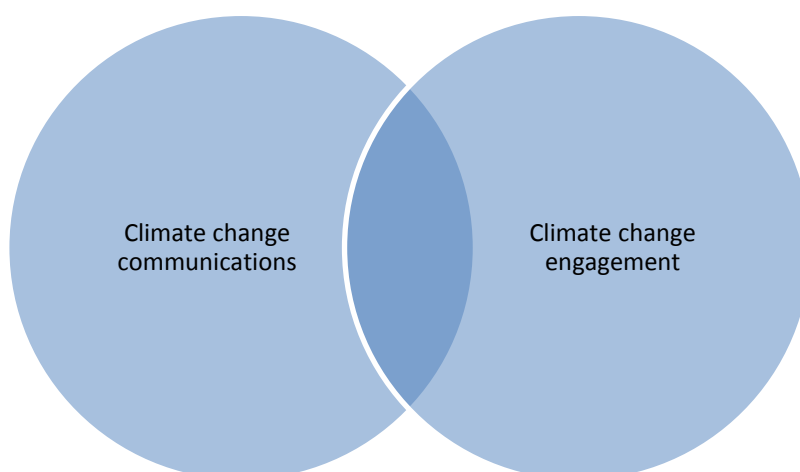
This plan sets out how the Council will engage with its communities to agree the delivery mechanisms.

It is proposed that a two-stage engagement process is undertaken:

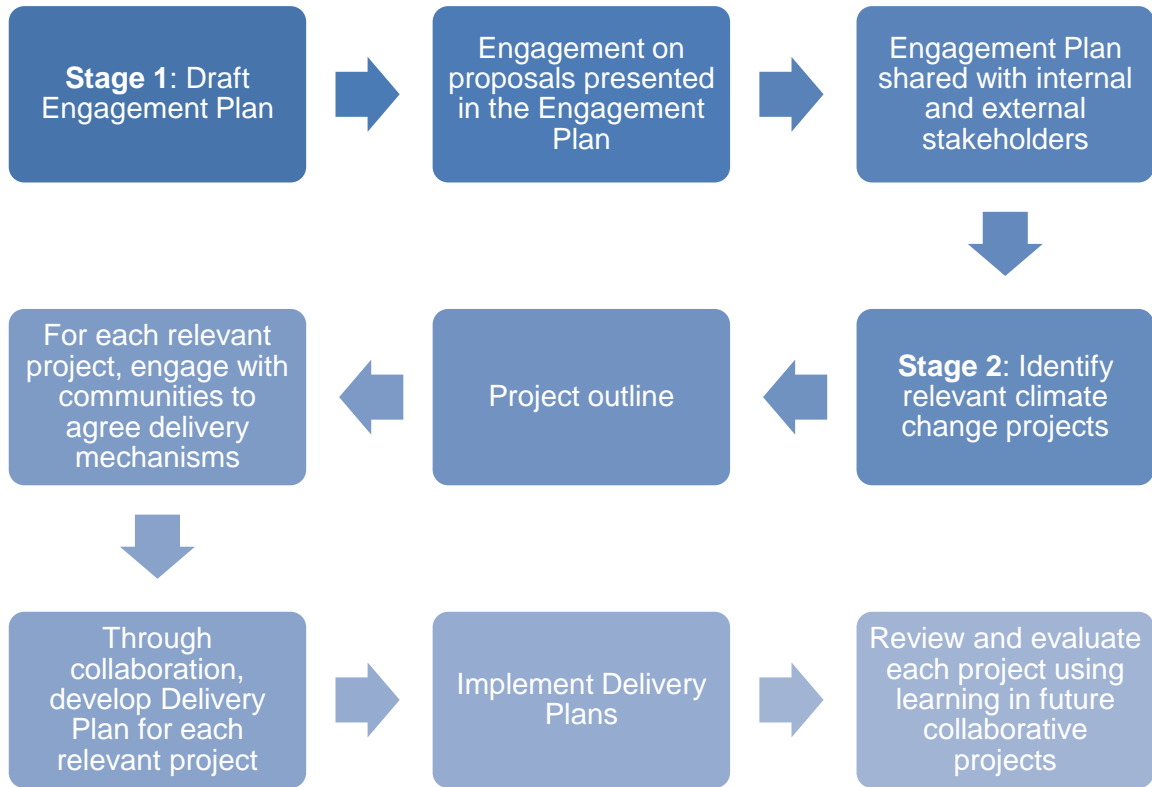
Stage 1: Seek support for the Council's proposals for community engagement about the delivery mechanisms of climate action (i.e. the engagement process proposed)

Stage 2: Engage with communities to agree the project delivery mechanisms for relevant actions set out in the Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero (2021-2025)

The Council will continue to communicate crucial climate messages and information to Derbyshire residents and businesses recognising that not everybody will want, or have the capacity, to be involved more deeply in climate action. Many people will be more focused on improving the thermal comfort of their home or living a healthier lifestyle rather than tackling climate change, so it is important to understand the drivers and interests of the groups we are engaging. The messaging for individual projects should recognise this with the aim that all residents and businesses will have some level of engagement, either directly or indirectly, in the climate change agenda. The Plan is complemented by the County Council's internal Climate Change Communications Package and the two should be considered together.

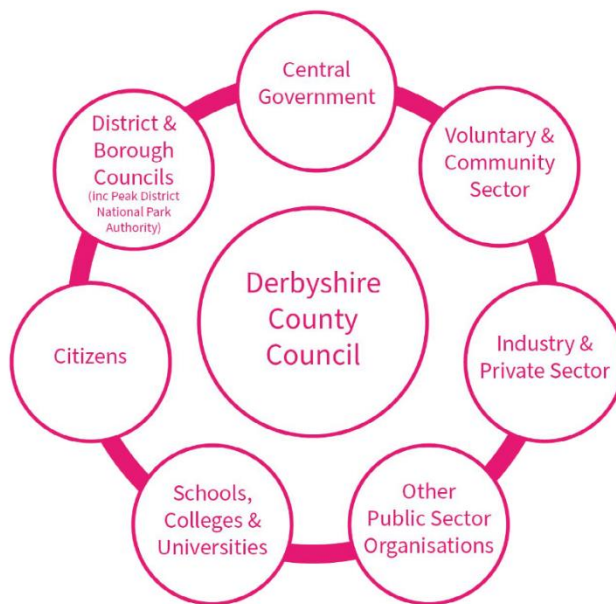


The Engagement Process



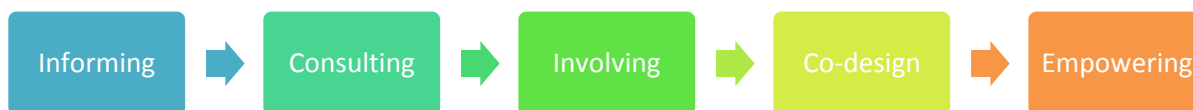
Key stakeholders

Local authorities currently have no statutory responsibility to tackle climate change other than through the planning system. However, the Council recognises it has a key role, as a community leader, to lead and support the work to tackle climate change. Key stakeholders to be included in the delivery of the Climate change Strategy are identified below.



Engagement Approach

The *Local Authorities and the Sixth Carbon Budget* report identifies five key types of engagement with different levels of ownership which it is expected hoped will be covered through a combination of the Communication Plan and the Engagement Plan.



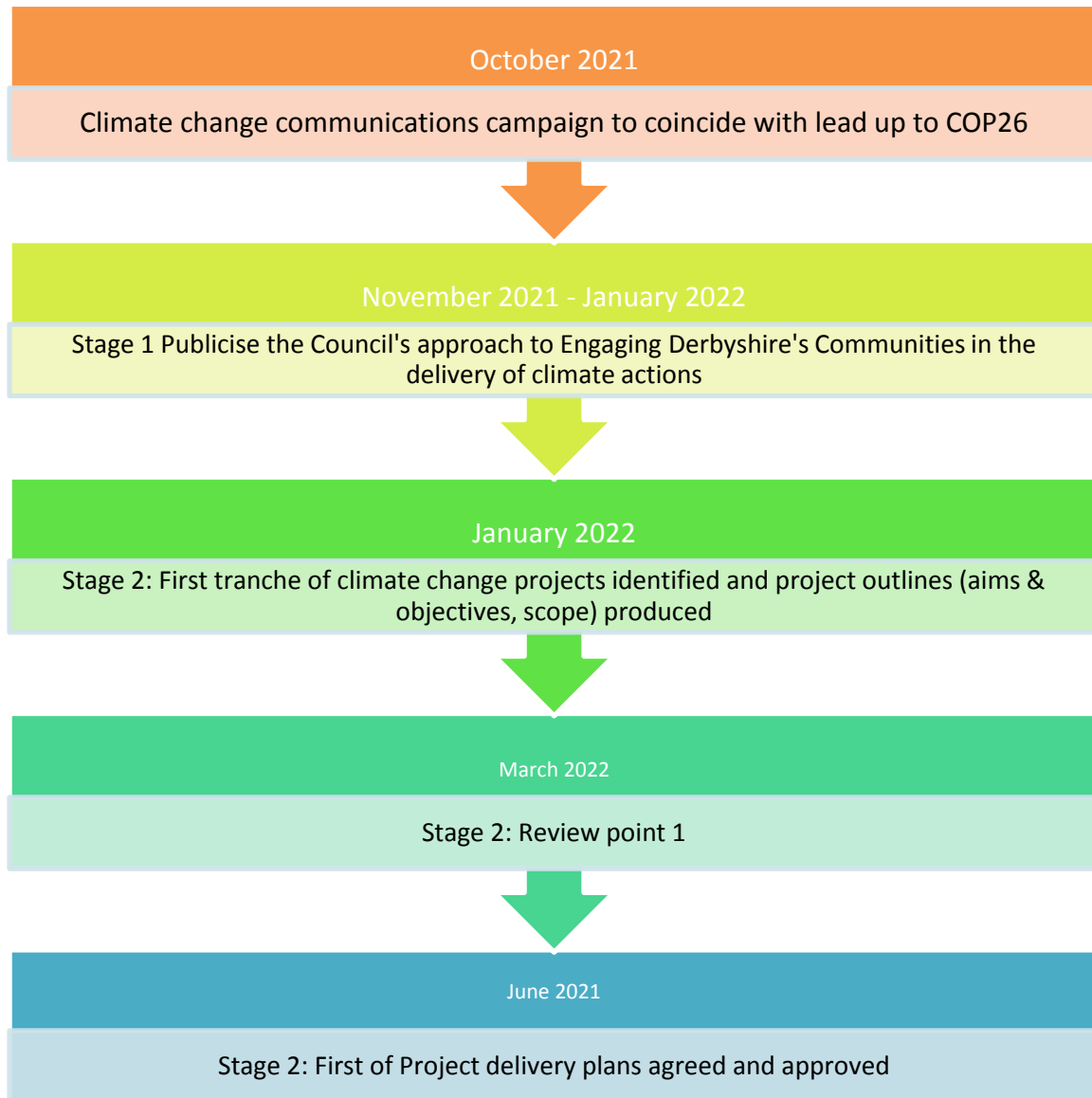
1. Informing – One way, information provision
2. Consulting – Statutory consultations on already developed plans and proposals
3. Involving – Directly working with people to understand their views and needs e.g. Climate Commissions
4. Co-design – working together with people at a local level or interest groups to design solutions and projects
5. Empowering – Handing over the power and co-creating schemes to tackle a problem or deliver a solution.

Engagement Methods

Informing	Press releases Social media Local Authority Energy Partnership communication service
Consulting	Citizen's Panels Public consultations (on-line) Derbyshire Youth Network Focus groups
Involving	Community groups and forums Focus groups
Co-design	Community groups and forums Focus groups
Empowering	Community groups and forums

A Thriving Communities approach will be taken whereby, if, in the course of the engagement and delivery process, the communities involved decide that they would like to carry out an additional project related to the action, then any request of the Council for additional support would be considered. This would need to be considered on a case by case basis as the nature of what communities might wish to undertake independently of the Council is unknown.

Timelines and Milestones



Post-engagement Delivery Plans

An output from the engagement will be that Delivery Plans will be produced for each of the relevant action points setting out who has agreed to undertake what action and by when. Regular meetings with stakeholders will be held to monitor progress, highlight issues and share information.

Review Points

The engagement approach will be reviewed after each project is implemented in order to inform engagement processes for future projects which will commence on a frequent basis.



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – CLIMATE CHANGE,
BIODIVERSITY AND CARBON REDUCTION**

MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2022

Report of the Director - Property

DCC Property and Landholding Management

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present for scrutiny the process for ensuring that carbon reduction measures are embedded into our asset management decisions.

2. Information and Analysis

- 2.1 A presentation is attached, which outlines our Property 2025 programme to review every land and property asset and ensure that an effective plan is in place for their management.

The presentation illustrates how Property 2025 links back to the Climate Change Workshop on Property held in 2020 and helps to deliver the findings and priorities highlighted in that workshop.

The presentation also takes the committee through the asset planning process, which will ensure that property performance is benchmarked and measured and an appropriate plan is in place for improvements, ultimately lead to greatly improved performance across the property portfolio.

This aligns with our asset rationalisation programme, which is driven by a number of strategic objectives, including carbon reduction.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 Not applicable

4. Alternative Options Considered

4.1 Not applicable

5. Implications

5.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

6. Background Papers

6.1 None

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 – Presentation on ‘Introducing a Sustainable Future for our Corporate Estate’

8. Recommendation(s)

That Committee:

a) That the committee receive the presentation

9. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

9.1 This is a briefing for scrutiny and not a decision

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Implications

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered:- Legal and Human Rights, equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property, crime and disorder and social value considerations.

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