

Motion One

Title: Decarbonisation of the Domestic Sector

Proposer of motion: Councillor Gez Kinsella

Background/supporting information:

1. The 54% increase in the price cap on energy bills from 1st April, has led to an estimated 6.3m households (27% of homes in England) now being in fuel poverty. A further increase is expected in October.
2. The latest figures show an increase in fuel poverty across Derbyshire.¹
3. There is an urgent need to eliminate fossil fuel imports from the Russian Federation in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.
4. There is also an urgent need to decarbonise our energy system to deliver on Derbyshire County Council's net zero targets. In 2018 emissions from the domestic sector in Derbyshire account for 18% of all Derbyshire emissions².
5. 63% of domestic properties in Derbyshire have Energy Performance Certificates (A to G) of D or below. The Climate Change strategy target is for all domestic properties to be C or above by 2035³.
6. [Friends of the Earth research](#) shows energy bills of almost 8m households could be slashed by up to 40% if the government prioritises retrofitting the country's draughty, heat-leaking homes. Approximately 60% of homes could see lower bills in areas where household incomes are below the national average.
7. Trailed plans for an expansion to the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) scheme as part of the [Government's British Energy Security Strategy were abandoned](#).
8. The Energy Strategy stated that "onshore wind is one of the cheapest forms of renewable power." [83% of voters support its expansion](#), yet suggestions to ease planning restrictions to facilitate onshore wind were abandoned.

¹ Derbyshire County Council Observatory

² Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero 2021-25

³ Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy: Achieving Net Zero 2021-25

9. Nuclear energy production costs roughly twice as much as new wind and solar energy and, according to government research. It will also take up to 17 years to bring on stream.

10. Derbyshire's Climate Change Strategy states that an approach to deliver the targets to decarbonise the domestic sector has to be in place by 2023.

Council believes:

1. The Energy Strategy was a huge, missed opportunity to deliver urgent additional investment in home energy efficiency.
2. The Energy Strategy also failed to deliver affordable and timely renewable energy production. In doing so, it failed to:
 - Provide energy security
 - Protect the poorest households against impact of the energy price rises
 - Have a lasting impact in reducing carbon emissions.

Motion to be proposed:

That Council resolves to:

1. Update the [out of date Derbyshire County Council webpage](#)
2. Work with Vision Derbyshire and take a lead on developing and funding a Derbyshire 'one stop shop' that:
 - Provides a comprehensive and trusted single point of contact, giving advice on reducing household energy costs, as well as providing a sign posting service.
 - Provides vulnerable residents with high energy costs, advise on how to make *affordable* energy saving improvements to their homes
 - Facilitates direct referrals into a host of other organisations to provide expert energy advice and information on accessing grants and funding for insulation and heating
3. Build on and go beyond the actions set out in the Climate Change Strategy by establishing a Vision Derbyshire Retrofit Taskforce. Working with the districts and other interested parties who can offer technical expertise to:

- Identify the most inefficient homes. Using GIS mapping identify the worst cases of energy loss and determine appropriate retrofit interventions as has been successfully done by other councils
 - Use the county and district councils' spending power to purchase loft insulation at a discount and administer a loft insulation scheme targeting the most inefficient homes
 - Replicates [Cosy Homes Oxfordshire](#) retrofitting advice website aimed at both householders (including landlords) and building professionals
 - Fund and coordinate an 'eco homes' events in virtual and 'roadshow' form.
4. Working in partnership with other agencies, such as [Nottingham Energy Partnership](#) to assist householders to:
 - Provide independent advice on ways to reduce fuel poverty and improve homes energy efficiency
 - Access revenue and capital funding to make householders' homes more energy efficient
 - Provide contacts of reputable and trust marked installers.
 5. To leverage the county council's financial strength to provide households with loans for retrofitting homes throughout Derbyshire.
 6. Provide interest free or very low interest loans to householders for retrofits similar to [Salix Finance](#) who provides interest-free Government funding to the public sector to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and lower energy bills.
 7. Issue bonds (also known as Community Municipal Investment) to raise money from Derbyshire residents and community groups to fund retrofitting projects. Successful examples include Conservative county council [West Berkshire's CMI](#). £1 million was raised though this bond issue. West Berkshire used the money to finance numerous rooftop solar installations, as well as funding a range of other initiatives, such as active travel infrastructure improvements.
 8. In the light of these proposals refresh the Climate Change Strategy, setting out greater ambition, reflecting the climate emergency.

Date and time received:
(for completion by Democratic Services)

11 May 8:12 am

Motion Two

Title:

A motion that calls upon the Derbyshire and Derby Mineral Local Plan to include a presumption against conventional and unconventional gas and oil extraction unless a proposal can demonstrate it has net zero impact on carbon emissions, and that the Plan should not permit offsetting as a compensatory measure for extractive proposals

Proposer of motion:

Councillor Michael Yates

Background/supporting information:

The County Council has recently gone out for an informal consultation on the Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Draft Local Plan.

For many centuries Derbyshire has contributed to the economic growth of this nation through the exploitation of its mineral reserves, creating jobs throughout the whole of the county. The Plan, when agreed, will ensure that Derbyshire continues to contribute to economic growth, but at the same time ensure that the right checks and balances are in place to protect for the future our communities, our landscape and the environment against climate change.

However, whilst the draft plan does focus on climate change and its consequences, it is flawed in that it fails to recognise that the world is now facing a “climate change emergency.” It is regrettable that last year when the Labour group proposed a motion to declare such an emergency, the majority group removed any reference to an emergency in an amendment to the motion.

This may go some way to explaining why the plan is not robust enough in dealing with fossil fuels.

The Labour group has concerns about the sections on coal extraction, for example, “opencasting”, and hydraulic fracturing, so called “fracking” given that the Plan acknowledges if local authority carbon budget targets are to be met this “will require immediate and rapid programmes of decarbonisation across all sectors if they are to be met.” (*Draft plan, para 5.2*)

Therefore, to strengthen the plan, we propose the motion below.

This motion does not divert the Mineral Planning Authority from delivering on its statutory responsibility, under the National Policy and Planning Framework, to delineate Mineral Safeguarding Areas.

Motion to be proposed:

That Council in its Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan
(1) should include a presumption against conventional and unconventional gas and oil extraction unless a proposal can demonstrate it has net zero impact on carbon emissions, and
(2) That the Plan should not permit offsetting as a compensatory measure for extractive proposals.

Date and time received:
(for completion by Democratic Services)

11 May 9:38 am