

STRATEGIC CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Committee name	Residents' Services Select Committee
Officer reporting	Ian Thynne
Papers with report	Strategic Climate Action Plan – Progress Report
Ward	All

HEADLINES

In January 2020 the Council declared:

that there is a current global emergency and, as a consequent, agrees to extend the Council's climate change targets beyond those currently set, as follows:

*To become carbon neutral across the Council services by 2030 and;
To achieve 100% clean energy across the Council's services by 2030.*

Considerable work has gone into meeting these aims and aspirations. The most important step was the adoption of the Strategic Climate Action Plan in 2021 which specifically set out how the above 'vision' will be achieved through a range of actions and objectives.

The 2024 progress report sets out the current position, reports on progress, identifies where further work is required and sets the priorities for the forthcoming financial year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 1. Notes the content of the Progress Report**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Progress Report considers the work undertaken in the last financial year (23/24) along with the last set of available data (22/23, noting that 23/24 data will be available in late spring this year).

It identifies significant progress in tackling emissions within the corporate estate showing a 20% reduction in the 2019 baseline emissions from non-transport related operations, which is forecasted to be 30% with the delivery of a major piece of building improvement work to the Civic Centre, the single largest source of carbon for the Council.

The Strategic Climate Action Plan contained 9 key themes against which many sub actions were developed. The Progress Report also considers these wider objectives in the plan at a high level and captures the work relating climate change as a whole, as opposed to just carbon emissions. It shows progress against the majority of the key themes, but also identifies areas of further work.

The Progress Report also uses that analysis of the performance against the Key Themes to set out where priorities lie for the forthcoming financial year (24/25). It is noted that there is also a commitment to review the plan in 24/25 giving the opportunity to refocus action and workstreams to keep on track to those overarching 2030 commitments.

PERFORMANCE DATA

The Strategic Climate Action Plan is subject to a full annual review with the specific carbon neutral targets linked to data on energy usage.

RESIDENT BENEFIT

The Progress Report provides for an important analysis of performance against the Strategic Climate Action Plan. It allows for the identification of priorities, or where greater focus is required in order to meet the ambitious climate change objectives all of which are aiming to put residents first.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no financial cost in setting out the Progress Report but invariably some of the work and priorities have financial implications either through project delivery or energy savings which result in cost benefits for the public purse.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The production of the Progress Report is a non-statutory function.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.

APPENDICES

Strategic Climate Action Plan: Progress Report 2024.