

**SUBJECT: ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE
VISION 2025 PROGRESS REPORT**

DIRECTORATE: DIRECTORATE OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

REPORT AUTHOR: KATE BELL, CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGER

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Performance Scrutiny Committee with an update on progress towards addressing the challenge of climate change strategic priority contained in Vision 2025.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 On an annual basis each vision group provides a progress report to Performance Scrutiny Committee. This report provides an update on the progress of the group in addressing climate change and its strategic priority aspirations.

3. Background

- 3.1 Vision 2025 contains five strategic priorities (Reduce Inequality; Economic Growth; Quality Housing; Remarkable Place; Climate Change) along with an important strand of work focusing on High Performing Services.
- 3.2 As part of the arrangements for managing and monitoring progress of Vision 2025, the Council established five Vision Groups along with a High Performing Services Board, each with a Corporate Management Team lead. Each Vision Group reports annually to Performance Scrutiny Committee on progress.
- 3.3 The Climate Change Vision Group is leading on delivering the following Council aspirations under this priority:
- Let's ensure our development approach reduces our carbon footprint
 - Let's set the Lincoln standard for sustainable zero carbon developments
 - Let's make walking, cycling and the use of public transport the best and favourite way to move around Lincoln.
 - Let's ensure the city's infrastructure is fully adaptable and resilient to the challenges of climate change.
 - Let's make our existing housing and business premises energy efficient
- 3.4 In addition to all the 'day to day' services the Council offers which is central to the delivery of these aspirations, a programme of projects and initiatives has been developed for Vision 2025, to ensure the delivery of this strategic priority.

4. Project Monitoring Table (Appendix A)

4.1 The Project Monitoring Table provides an overview of the current and live projects for this strategic priority. This table is attached to this report as Appendix A.

4.2 There are 11 projects currently being monitored in the work programme for Climate Change. A summary of the position of these projects is included below. This is split by completed projects, projects flagged as green (meeting their milestones). There are currently no projects flagged as amber (monitored closely as a result of being impacted by a number of external factors) or red (not meeting their milestones).

4.3 Completed projects – The following three projects have been completed during the past 12 months:-

- **Gain Environmental Accreditation.** The Council gained Environmental Accreditation for their Environmental Management System (EMS) following an external audit by Investors in the Environment in September 2020.
- **City of Lincoln Council Travel Plan (2019-2024).** The Council have updated the Employee Travel Plan for 2021 and implementation of actions are underway.
- **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.** Following a successful grant application a further 8 electric vehicle charge points have been installed in 2021 in two Council car parks.
- **Air Quality Management Plan.** The Council have submitted an Air Quality Annual Status Report update to DEFRA.

4.4 Projects flagged as green – The following projects are underway and meeting the set milestones.

- **Work with partners on the Lincoln Climate Commission and deliver Lincoln Climate Action Plan**
The Council have worked with partners to establish the Lincoln Climate Commission in 2020 and 2021 and a series of engagement and consultation activities are currently underway to raise awareness about the impact of climate change and local climate action. The Commission will develop a Climate Action Plan based on the input from a range of experts and the community, this is due to be complete by December 2021.
- **Stop using single-use plastics and encourage our partners to do the same.**
The Council have a Single Use Plastic (SUP) Declaration, an up to date SUP Action Plan and SUP Audit to enable the Plastic Free Lincoln steering group to submit an application to Surfers against Sewage for Plastic Free Lincoln status.
- **Make current and future business premises as energy efficient as possible**
A City of Lincoln Council Decarbonisation Strategy and Action Plan has been completed, outlining projects across 6 decarbonisation pathways. Two major decarbonisation projects are currently underway and the Council are working to secure Public Sector Decarbonisation Funding to enable the delivery of future energy efficiency projects.
- **Climate conscious infrastructure projects developed as part of Town**

Fund Board vision

Preparation of Town Fund business plans for all projects are currently underway, with the Drill Hall due to complete by November 2021 and Central Market due to start on site in Spring 2022. These projects include low carbon solutions to be introduced as part of refurbishment plans.

- **Central Lincolnshire Local Plan – Climate Policies**

The draft climate policies have been prepared and the 8 week public consultation period was completed at the end of August 2021. The responses to the consultation are currently under review.

- **Setting the Lincoln Standard for Zero Carbon Homes.**

A task and finish group has been set up to prepare a new specification for zero carbon homes as well as a 10 year Decarbonisation Plan for existing council homes.

- **Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme.**

Funding has been secured to deliver the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Deliver Scheme for phase 2 in 2021/22. The project will aim to retrofit 44 homes for households living in fuel poverty by March 2022. The Council have applied for GHG LAD phase 3 to secure funding to retrofit up to 300 homes in 2022/23.

5. Performance Indicators (APPENDIX B)

A set of performance indicators have been developed for the Climate Change strategic priority. These measures have been included within appendix B.

6. Strategic Priorities

6.1 Let's address the challenge of climate change

This report captures the progress of the Climate Change Vision Group, whose remit is to ensure the delivery of this strategic priority.

7. Organisational Impacts

7.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

7.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity

- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

There are no E&D implications arising from this report, however E&D will be considered in each project as it progresses

8. Risk Implications

- 8.1 Options Explored – Not applicable.
Key risks associated with the preferred approach – Not applicable.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 To consider the progress of the Vision Group and this strategic priority.

Do the exempt information categories apply? No

Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply? No

How many appendices does the report contain? Two

List of Background Papers: None

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