

**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 12 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 as blue, projects flagged as green (meeting their milestones). There are currently two projects flagged as amber (monitored closely as a result of being impacted by a number of external factors) and no or red (not meeting their milestones).

4.3 Completed projects – The following 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 2022.
- **City of Lincoln Council Travel Plan (2019-2024).** The Council have updated the Employee Travel Plan for 2022 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 and this is published on the Council's website.

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 continued to work with partners on the Lincoln Climate Commission over the last 12 months and have prepared the Lincoln 2030 Climate Action Plan which has been published on the Commission and City Council websites.
- **Net Zero Innovation programme – Biodiversity Net Gain**
This is a new project added in 2022 as a result of a successful joint expression of interest submitted to the Local Government Association from the City of Lincoln Council and University of Lincoln. The UofL and CoLC are currently preparing a more detailed project plan with input from local stakeholders.
- **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 have been completed. The refurbishment of the Drill Hall was completed in December 2021 and included energy efficient equipment, kitchen facilities and lighting. The Central Market project commenced in Summer 2022 and includes low carbon heating, double glazing and insulation. CoLC are working with project leads to ensure all Towns Fund projects will include low carbon solutions as part of refurbishment plans and sustainable transport improvements as part of the road infrastructure projects.

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

Final amendments to the Local Plan policies were completed Spring 2022 and approved by the Joint Strategic Planning Ctee prior to submission for examination by the Local Planning Inspector Summer 2022.

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

Phase 1 Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme is now complete with 44 homes receiving retrofit measures and lifting households out of fuel poverty. Phase 2 commenced in April 2022 with a target to retrofit 192 homes, currently the project is on target to meet the performance indicators.

Projects flagged as amber – The following projects are underway but are missing the set milestones due to a number of external factors.

- **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. However the steering group are still seeking the support of a flagship employer.

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

A task and finish group are formed at the start of all new council housing projects to agree and prepare a specification for zero carbon homes. A task and finish group were formed to review council housing stock in preparation for an application to the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF), wave 2, launched in October 2022. An application was not submitted due to the lack of match funding. A working group has been formed to review the 30 year Housing Revenue Account Business Plan and this will include a plan to decarbonise social housing.

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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