

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE VISION 2025 PROGRESS REPORT</b>
<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS</b>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>KATE BELL, CLIMATE CHANGE MANAGER</b>

## **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 (complete), projects flagged as green (meeting their milestones). There are 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 projects have been completed during the past 12 months:-**
- **Gain Environmental Accreditation.** The Council maintained its Environmental Accreditation for their Environmental Management System (EMS) following an external audit by Investors in the Environment in September 2023.
  - **City of Lincoln Council Travel Plan (2019-2024).** The Council have updated the Employee Travel Plan for 2023 and implementation of actions are underway.
  - **Work with partners on the Lincoln Climate Commission and deliver Lincoln Climate Action Plan.** Lincoln 2030 Climate Action Plan was published in 2022 and the council continue to work with our partners to deliver actions to address the challenges of climate change. The CAP and monitoring table are published on the council and climate commission websites.
  - **Net Zero Innovation programme – Biodiversity Net Gain** This project was completed in July 2023 and involved a prototype BNG mapping tool and Lincoln open spaced website.
  - **Central Lincolnshire Local Plan – Climate Policies.** The CLLP was approved by the Secretary of State in April 2023. ColC continue to work with the CL Local Plan Team to implement the new climate policies.
  - **Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme.** Phase 2 Green Homes Grant Local Authority Deliver Scheme was completed in September 2023, 134 homes receiving retrofit measures and lifting households out of fuel poverty.
  - **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. The Council continue to work with Plastic Free Lincoln to support the campaign and sign up of businesses.
- 4.4 **Projects flagged as green – The following projects are underway and meeting the set milestones.**
- **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.** Following a successful grant application a further 21 electric vehicle charge points have been installed in 2023 in six Council car parks, of which 10 are now operational and the remaining 11 charging points are due to be operational by the end of the year.
  - **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. One major decarbonisation project is now complete and another

is 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**

Delivery of Town Fund projects are either complete or underway and 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.

- **Setting the Lincoln Standard for Zero Carbon Homes.** A task and finish group have completed a review of council housing stock and identified D rated properties and suitable measures to improve the energy efficiency of council homes. A programme to decarbonise social housing has been included in the Council's HRA 30 year business plan.
- **Air Quality Management Plan.** The Council have submitted an Air Quality Annual Status Report for 2023 to DEFRA and are awaiting approval.

4.5 Looking towards Lincoln 2030 the following new projects are either in the pipeline or are currently being set up:-

- Home Energy Advice Service – Funding secured by Central and South Lincolnshire councils to deliver an demonstrator energy advice and support service until 2025 and look to secure funding to extend the service if successful.
- Lincoln District Heat Networks - Working with key partners and private investors to undertake a feasibility study to establish a low carbon district heat network for new and existing homes, leisure and retail outlets.
- To co design and deliver a community engagement campaign #Climate Hope Lincoln with our partners.
- Secure funding to deliver a citywide Public Sector Decarbonisation programme with our public sector partners.
- Complete the actions in the Food for the Planet 'Every Mouthful Counts' Local Authority Toolkit.
- Support the Greater Lincolnshire Circular Economy objectives.
- Work with the Central Lincs Local Plan Scheme to set up a carbon offset fund.

## 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 provides an update on the council's projects to deliver this priority.

## 7. Organisational Impacts

### 7.1 Finance

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 has and will be considered in each project as it progresses and where required an Equality Analysis has been prepared where decisions relate to changes in policy or new services introduced by the council.

## **7.4 Human Resources**

There are no HR implications arising from this report.

## **7.5 Land, Property and Accommodation**

There are no LPA implications arising from this report.

## **7.6 Significant Community Impact &/or Environmental Impact**

There are no community or environmental implications arising from this report.

## **7.7 Corporate Health and Safety implications**

## **8. Risk Implications**

### **8.1 (i) Options Explored**

Not Applicable

### **8.2 (ii) 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.**

**Is this a key decision?**

No

**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?**

2

**List of Background Papers:**

Appendix A Project Monitoring Table  
Appendix B Performance Indicators

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