

INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	2 SEPTEMBER 2021	12
CARBON NEUTRAL UPDATE			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

There are a number of actions for delivery by 2023/24 within the Corporate Plan on the carbon neutral agenda. This report gives an update on work in this area – the actions as articulated within the Corporate Plan are set out below:

- *Implement carbon reduction policies including plastics reduction, tree planting, energy efficient and recycling;*
- *Design education and awareness programmes to support carbon reduction policies and actions; and*
- *Work with partners to deliver carbon reduction*

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Corporate Plan and the first meeting of the Carbon Reduction Working Group.

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

This Committee has been designed the lead committee on coordinating work on the carbon reduction. This report aims to keep all members updated on work in this regard.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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Members are reminded that there are a number of actions for delivery by 2023/24 within the Corporate Plan on the carbon neutral agenda. These are set out below:

- *Implement carbon reduction policies including plastics reduction, tree planting, energy efficient and recycling*
- *Design education and awareness programmes to support carbon reduction policies and actions*
- *Work with partners to deliver carbon reduction*

A Carbon Reduction Working Group has been established to fulfil these actions.

This report provides an update on this area of work.

The first meeting of the Working Group took place on Tuesday, 3 August 2021. The Working Group comprises membership from the Environment, Health and Housing, Operational Management and Planning Committees, with

this Committee being the lead committee for the work. The Working Group is Chaired by Councillor Threlfall with membership as follows:

Councillors Brickles, Dixon, Griffiths, Henshaw, Nixon, Rigby, Trudgill and Willder

A lead officer/officers has been identified for each area of work as follows:

- Tree planting (Mark Evans)
- Electric charging points (Andrew Loynd)
- Plastics reduction (Kathy Winstanley)
- Energy efficiency (building assets: gas, water, electric and energy efficiency) Andrew Loynd
- Fleet (Steve Fulton)
- Recycling (Kathy Winstanley/Gareth Matthews)

The first meeting provided the opportunity for members to receive an overview from each of the lead officers on the respective subject areas. It was agreed that the first phase of the work of the Working Group would focus on how policy can be shaped to support carbon reduction for council led activities and initiatives.

Existing policies will be reviewed by the Working Group as the next phase of work - where they exist - starting with recycling. For other areas, policies will need to be developed in such areas as electric charging points and plastics reduction – although some work has been undertaken in these latter areas there is nothing established in writing which sets out the council's policy ambitions in this regard at this point.

The Chief Executive of the Environment Agency has also offered to give his perspective on the carbon neutral agenda to share his insight into how the council might respond further to this agenda. A meeting has been arranged between the Chairman of the Working Group, Councillor Threlfall and the Environment Agency Chief Executive, the outcome of which will be shared with the Working Group when it next meets.

The notes of the first meeting of the Working Group are attached.