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**PART A: MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

**REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES**

**DATE: 19 MARCH 2020**

**REPORT OF THE: PROGRAMME DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS AND PARTNERSHIPS  
PHILLIP SPURR**

**TITLE OF REPORT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION  
PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT**

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To present the biannual Climate Change Action Plan progress report to Policy and Resources Committee.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2.1 It is recommended that Policy and Resources Committee note the Climate Change Action Plan Progress Report.

### **3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

3.1 To deliver the Climate Change Action Plan adopted by Council.

### **4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS**

4.1 Potential reputational risk of not taking action to achieve net zero emission targets.

4.2 Economic risk of not exploiting opportunities presented by the low carbon economy.

### **5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION**

5.1 The action plan was agreed at [11th April 2019 Council](#), as part of the Scrutiny Review into the how Ryedale District Council could play its part in reducing global temperature rise. (Minute 75 refers).

5.2 Members declared a Climate Emergency on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and agreed to commit to actions to achieve net zero carbon emission targets. ([Minute 51 refers](#))

- 5.3 Climate change and zero carbon are key priorities within regional initiatives across the York and Humber area. . These will generate new opportunities for activity in this area and will be the subject of programme of work which RDC will be part of.

## REPORT

### 6.0 REPORT DETAILS

6.1 The Climate Change Action Plan latest update is at Annex A

6.2 Highlights since the last report in November 2019 include:

i. Leadership

- Members have identified climate change and the environment as emerging priorities for the new Council Plan, which is currently in development.

ii. Capital and assets

- The programme of RDC owned footway lighting upgrades is currently out to tender. This will reduce energy usage through replacement with LED bulbs and 'part night lighting'. The tender specification also places value on recycling of the existing assets.
- The Grass Cutting Procurement specification placed value on biodiversity impact.
- Environmental metric data for investment was considered by Members in the Annual Investment Strategy 2020-21. [Paragraph 6.5.18 refers.](#)
- An initial meeting with Northern Powergrid has been held regarding 'local energy markets'. This will be followed up with information gathering to ascertain opportunities for RDC to generate or support communities to generate renewable energy for local consumption.

iii. Operational and service delivery

- The Energy Saving Trust has reported back on a study of the RDC vehicle fleet, including the 'grey fleet' (all staff mileage), to ascertain opportunities for low carbon fleet options.
- A Travel to Work survey has been undertaken by staff at RDC and Ryedale House (including Public Service Hub colleagues) to provide evidence for opportunities to reduce private car travel to work. These may include support for car shares and improving facilities for bike storage.
- Procurement: West and North Yorkshire Business Rate Pool funding has been awarded, and an application made by RDC, towards developing a low carbon supply chain and procurement toolkit for local authorities. This will enable RDC to include the low carbon agenda at both a strategic and operational level.
- RDC sponsored the Green Business category awards. Hovingham Market was successful. The community enterprise demonstrated their continued commitment to sustainable actions and sharing their learning with other partners.
- Officers are investigating the opportunities to put in EV charging points in each market town and at Ryedale House, with the potential for an EV Pool Car.

6.3 Focus in the next 6 months will be on:

- i. Performance management and measurement, to ensure full alignment to the corporate performance reporting process linked to the new Council Plan.
- ii. Developing new and updated actions for the Action Plan following outcomes of commissioned feasibility studies and reports. This includes a major piece of research

undertaken on behalf of the Local Enterprise Partnership and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority into developing pathways to decarbonise key sectors of transport, buildings, industry, power and land use. Reviewing the outcomes of this research and translating into local activity.

- iii. Continued work with communities across Ryedale on information sharing and practical actions such as supporting funding bids (the National Lottery are considering a Climate Change priority), local recycling points and small scale environmental projects.
- iv. Adaptation - drafting strategic and operational responses to anticipated climate change and extreme weather events.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The following implications have been identified:

- a) Financial  
Budgets for current projects underway have already been agreed. Budgets for future projects will be identified and requested as part of bringing forward project development work. £50K to support the delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan has been allocated in the 2020/21 budget.
- b) Legal  
These are taken into consideration where individual Action Plan items require this – e.g. during procurement exercises.
- c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental and Climate Change, Crime & Disorder)
  - i. The actions contained in the report have a positive impact on the reduction of global temperature rise.

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### **Background Papers:**

None

**Background Papers are available for inspection at:**

**N/A**