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<b>PART A:</b>	<b>MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS</b>
<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>30 SEPTEMBER 2021</b>
<b>REPORT OF THE:</b>	<b>PROGRAMME DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS AND PARTNERSHIPS PHILLIP SPURR</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN AND ASSOCIATED PROJECTS</b>
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on progress in delivering the Climate Change Action Plan and projects and initiatives planned for the period up to September 2022.

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

- 2.1 To note progress on delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan and future actions to be completed.

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

- 3.1 To continue momentum with the delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan adopted by Council. The Council has set a target of achieving a net zero Ryedale by 2050.

### **4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS**

- 4.1 If timely action to achieve reduced carbon usage and emissions is not delivered, RDC potentially faces a reputational risk as a commitment has been made and agreed by Elected Members. Also, the longer it takes to reduce the carbon footprint of the area, the bigger the negative impact will be to the environment. This has been highlighted in various pathways within the recently published IPCC report.<sup>1</sup> It is clear from the report that the sooner changes are made to reduce carbon consumption, the lower the risks will be of having to make bigger climate change mitigations, and the loss of life, livelihoods, food growing potential and biodiversity.

## **5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Climate Change Action Plan is in Appendix A. The plan sets out how Ryedale District Council will play its part in reducing global temperature rise.
- 5.2 Members declared a Climate Emergency on 10 October 2019 and in line with the government's own legally binding net-zero targets as a minimum, committed to actions to help achieve these targets across Ryedale.
- 5.3 A Sustainable, Safe and Clean Place is included under the "Our Environment" Priority within the Council Plan that was adopted by Members in September 2020.

## **6.0 REPORT DETAILS**

- 6.1 The Action Plan is reviewed and delivered on an ongoing basis, supported by regular Climate Change officer working group meetings.

### **6.2 Progress October 2020 to August 2021**

- 6.3 A review of progress against actions within the Action Plan has taken place and the Action Plan has been significantly developed. Highlights of progress made since the last report in October 2020 include:

- Appointment of a new Climate Change & Environmental Projects Officer (CC&EPO), due to join RDC on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.
- The surveying of RDC Owned Buildings to identify opportunities for Climate Change related initiatives has commenced.
- EV charging points have been installed:
  - In the District
    - 4 - Malton, Wentworth Street Car Park
    - 4 - Kirkbymoorside, Town Farm Car Park
    - 4 - Helmsley, Cleveland Way Car Park
    - 4 - Pickering, Eastgate Car Park
    - 4 - Pickering, Vivis Lane Car Park
  - RDC workplace charge points
    - 4 - Ryedale House
    - 4 - Streetscene Depot
    - 2 - Coxwold House in Easingwold
- December 2020-July 2021 EV charges undertaken - 1,508 with a CO<sub>2</sub> saving of over 21000 kg.
- There has been a successful funding application through the Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) at the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) by Officers in partnership with Third Energy and the YNY LEP to examine the feasibility of progressing geothermal heat opportunities. The sites to further investigate the use of this technology and the benefits that can be achieved are to be decided.
- LED street lighting replacement programme has been completed for Malton and Norton with 264 lanterns replaced saving 36,000 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.
- Awarded LAD2 funding for home energy efficiency measures totalling £430,000.
- Increasing walking and cycling infrastructure is being studied, with Malton and Norton currently being focused on.

- The LGA Carbon Accounting Tool was used to benchmark and measure RDC CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The result for the 2018/2019 year (as this year indicates the council's emissions pre-covid) is stated below as Scope 1 (heating in RDC buildings and RDC vehicle fleet fuel consumption), Scope 2 (electricity usage in all RDC buildings) and Scope 3 (indirect emissions such as staff mileage, transmission and distribution losses). It is proposed to target a CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction of 5 % per year based on the fulfilment of the actions within the action plan.
  - Scope 1: 987080 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e
  - Scope 2: 219390 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e
  - Scope 3: 74740 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e
- The Low Carbon Skills Fund has been applied for to enable the council to produce heat decarbonisation plans for seven buildings.
- Procurement has Carbon/sustainability considerations built into tender processes.

### **New Activity proposed from September 2021 to end September 2022**

6.4 In summary, the following priorities for progress have been identified for the next 12 months.

Action	Summary of action required	Short term (next 3 months) Medium term (next 6 months) Long term (Next 12 months)
1. Action plan for the electrification of the streetscene fleet	To assess when each of the vehicles at streetscene can be replaced with electric alternatives. If hydrogen vehicles are required when these will be in place. The infrastructure requirements and by when should also be included in the action plan	L
2. Member and Officer Carbon mileage reduction plan	Review recommendations from the Energy Saving Trust on Low Carbon Staff Travel Plan and assess with the perspective of post-covid working arrangements	M
3. Increase in canopy coverage	Develop a plan to increase canopy coverage within Ryedale	L
4. Biodiversity Action Plan	Review and update the Biodiversity Action Plan	L
5. Grants for EV charge points and carbon reduction/climate change mitigation	To have grants in place and funds distributed to applicants	S

6. Circular Malton	Continue to work with Circular Malton on the viability of an anaerobic digester in the area	L
7. Street lighting LED replacement	Complete RDC LED replacement works across the district	M
8. Malton and Norton cycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure	Malton and Norton cycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure to be assessed for additional opportunities to encourage more walking and cycling within these towns. Next steps to be identified and progressed.	L
9. Street scene route optimisation completed	Refuse and recycling routes to be optimised to ensure carbon consumption is as low as possible	S
10. Mini recycling centres	To refurbish the mini recycling centres in the area to encourage use	M
11. Geothermal heat project	Continue to work collaboratively with YNY LEP and Third Energy Ltd to understand the feasibility of geothermal heat in the area.	M
12. Strategic communications and community/partnership engagement	A communication plan will be created to engage with residents and businesses in the Ryedale area to inform and support, where possible, the reduction in their carbon footprint.	M

6.5 Significant progress has been made in delivering activity and achieving the actions of the Climate Change Action Plan. It is anticipated that if the actions are fulfilled when they are due, then there will be a carbon emission reduction of 5 % from that measured for the 2018/2019 financial year, each year for the next 5 years. The emissions for each financial year will be reported in the June following the end of that financial year. This target is based on the assumption no additional assets will be purchased during this time period.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The following implications have been identified:

a) Financial

The climate change budget of £50k pa will be used to progress key activities such as the grant schemes. If a project requires significant investment beyond the

available budget then a business case will be presented to members for investment on a case-by-case basis.

- b) Legal  
No specific legal issues are currently envisaged, however, if there are any they will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental and Climate Change, Crime & Disorder)  
Staff participation in Working Group meetings and in working on actions in their respective teams. All work conducted will be to improve the environment and reduce climate change.

## **8.0 NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 The Corporate Working Group will continue to meet quarterly to review and support Ryedale District Council to deliver the Climate Change Action Plan.

### **Programme Director for Economic Development, Business and Partnerships Phillip Spurr**

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**Background Papers:**  
Appendix A Climate Change Action Plan

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

- 1 An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty, [SR15 Full Report Low Res.pdf \(ipcc.ch\)](#), Accessed 9th August 2021.