

Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	21 October 2020
Title of Report:	Climate Emergency Action Plan I and Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan I – Progress Reports
Lead Member:	Councillor Sue Dann (Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene)
Lead Strategic Director:	Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author:	Paul Barnard (Service Director Strategic Planning and Infrastructure)
Contact Email:	Paul.Barnard@Plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	CEAPCCRP-YI
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To fulfil the Cabinet request (16th Dec 2019) that the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) and the Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan 2019-2024 (CCRP) are referred to the Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee to enable a detailed review of the commitments and actions.

10 months into the first year plans (1 of 11), whilst compromised by the impact of Covid-19, progress has continued apace. Each of the action plan progress reports attached, describes the key deliverables as well as some of the key challenges faced over this period. Year 1 of each plan is firmly in the Emergency repose phase of the three phases for tackling the climate emergency. In many cases, year 1 progress has been swift because actions were designed to kick start the approach to carbon reduction. This meant that many actions were initiators (review and assess) rather than specific deliverers of emission activity. This is consistent with the three phases of the strategic approach.

Management and Stakeholder Action

Year 1 CEAP action plan has been proactively managed and stakeholders engaged. These include:

- 1 Meeting of the Plymouth Net Zero Executive
- 3 meetings of the Plymouth Net Zero Carbon Action Group (PNZCAG)
- 20 meetings of the Climate Emergency Secretariat

CEAP stakeholders include: University of Plymouth; Plymouth Marjon University; University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust; Babcock International; Plymouth City Bus; Devon and Cornwall Police and Plymouth Science Park

Year 1 CCRP action plan has been proactively managed and departments engaged. These include:

- 2 meetings of the Climate Emergency Board
- 1 meeting of the Climate Emergency Forum
- 3 meetings of the City Council Net Zero Carbon Action Group (CCNZCAG) and
- 20 Climate Emergency Secretariat

CCRP (CCNZCAG) departments includes: Hard and Soft Facilities Management; Street Services; Human Resources; Finance; Procurement; Chief Executives Office; Strategic Planning and Infrastructure; Education Participation and Skills; and the Green Champions.

Additional activities and funding bids

In addition to the CEAP and CCRP actions that have been delivered this year, supplementary activities have been undertaken by the City Council to support the Climate Emergency response:

- A bid to the LGA Design in the Public Sector initiative was successful and will be used to support work on the mobility hub project which will promote a shift towards greener modes of transport within Plymouth.
- A funding bid has been submitted to the LGA Net Zero Innovation Programme in conjunction with Plymouth Energy Community and Plymouth University to fund a joint piece of research into the feasibility of creating a local carbon offsetting fund for Plymouth.
- The Plymouth Climate Challenge Live was launched in September 2020 in partnership with Crowdfunder UK to identify community projects to tackle climate change.
- A bid was submitted for an OLEV grant of £225,000 for the installation on 50 on-street electric vehicle charge points, which has been successful.
- A Green Home Grants funding bid was submitted which has been successful in bringing £3.3 million to fund energy efficiency improvement for low income households across the city. This will contribute to helping local SME's to capitalise on the green recovery.
- And a funding bid to the Green Retrofit Homes Programme has been successful, securing £300,000 to retrofit 630 measures for vulnerable, fuel poor households across the city.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. Note the progress made in year 1 of the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) (App A)
2. Note the progress made in year 1 of the Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan (CCRP) (App B)
3. Note also that additional activities and funding bids which do not form part of the CEAP/CCRP actions approved in December 2019, have been undertaken by the City Council to support the Climate Emergency response.

Alternative options considered and rejected

Previous options considered and this process was agreed.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The actions in the CCRP are consistent with the themes and values of the Corporate Plan 2018-22 and it seeks to deliver against these expectations.

The actions in the CEAP are also consistent with the outcomes in the Plymouth Plan. There is a total of 14 references to climate change in the Plymouth Plan. There is also a whole policy devoted to climate change: "Policy GRO7 - Reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change" which sets out a range of measures based around the aim to halve carbon emissions on 2005 levels by 2034.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan both set out the strategic direction and necessary focus for the Council and its partners in relation to climate change issues for the 11 years of the plans, with a detailed focus on the next two years. As both the documents are strategic in nature the finance and resourcing implications will be assessed against each individual action as they are progressed. As the Corporate Plan starts to take shape the Council will need to consider the financial implications arising from the delivery. Budgets will need to be reassessed and capacity released to enable delivery.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

The Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan will drive the efforts to ensure Plymouth is playing its part in meeting net zero carbon by 2030 and will therefore have a very positive environmental outcome.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

The City Council promotes a fairer, more equal Plymouth by investing in communities, putting citizens at the heart of decision making, promoting independence and reducing health and social inequality. By embedding this commitment within the Corporate Plan the City Council is acknowledging the importance of ensuring all communities have an opportunity to thrive in a zero carbon world.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Climate Emergency Action Plan - Progress report - Scrutiny 21 October 2020 Final							
B	Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan - Progress report - Scrutiny 21 October 2020 Final							

Background papers: *Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Paul Barnard 09/10/2020											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 09/10/2020											
Cabinet Member approval: <i>Approved verbally by Cllr Sue Dann</i>											
Date approved: 09/10/2020											