

Teignbridge District Council
Full Council
July 26th 2022
Part i

Part 1 Carbon Action Plan

Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan and its implementation.

Recommendation(s)

The Council RESOLVES to:

- (1) Approve the Carbon Action Plan, and
- (2) Approve the implementation of the Carbon Action Plan.

Financial Implications

See 3.1 below. All actions will be subject to future business case appraisals.

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Legal Implications

The Part 1 Carbon Action Plan fulfils a non-statutory obligation to reduce the Council's Carbon footprint

Paul Woodhead Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

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Risk Assessment

Risks associated with targets, policies and actions contained within the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan will be assessed as part of future business case appraisals.

William Elliott

Climate Change Officer

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Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

Environmental implications associated with the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan are

identified in Section 3.4 of the report.

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Executive Member

Councillor Jackie Hook – Executive Member for Climate Change, Coastal Protection, and Flooding

Appendices/Background Papers

Appendix A – Part 1 Carbon Action Plan

[Agenda for Full Council on Thursday, 18th April, 2019, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#)

[Agenda for Full Council on Tuesday, 24th September, 2019, 10.00 am - Teignbridge District Council](#)

1. Introduction/Background

At Full Council on the 18th April 2019, a Notice of Motion was presented and debated calling on the Council to take action to achieve a carbon neutral district by 2025. The Council has also set the objective of working towards a carbon neutral district as part of the Council's Strategy under Action on Climate. Since the Notice of Motion, the Authority has amongst other things:

- Measured its organisational carbon footprint covering three financial years from 2018/19.
- Secured £3.1 million of grant funding under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.
- Mobilised a package of decarbonisation works covering four of the Council's top five buildings by carbon emissions.
- Appointed a Climate Change Officer.

- Supported the development of the Devon Carbon Plan.
- Engaged with community groups including Action on Climate in Teignbridge.
- Provided updates on progress against Action on Climate to Full Council and Overview and Scrutiny.

Carbon Action Plans form an important component of local authority climate action; they help to create consensus across organisations by setting a common set of objectives to work towards achieving net zero emissions. The following report seeks the approval of Full Council to adopt the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan included in Appendix A.

2. Summary of Carbon Action Plan

To expedite the development and implementation of the Carbon Action Plan, we have split the Carbon Action Plan into two parts. The Part 1 Carbon Action Plan contained in Appendix A covers emissions falling within our financial control boundary; this includes:

- Direct emissions associated with heating and powering our buildings;
- Direct emissions associated with fuelling our vehicle fleet; and,
- Indirect emissions associated with the staff commuting, business mileage, and the procurement of goods, services, and construction projects.

Following adoption of the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan by Full Council, work will commence on developing the Part 2 Carbon Action plan, which will cover actions the Authority can implement to reduce emissions across the wider district.

The format of the Part 1 Plan aligns with the Council's organisational carbon footprint. The Part 1 Plan contains a series of Actions, Targets, and Policies. Whilst policies will be binding beyond adoption of the Part 1 Plan, all Actions and Targets will be subject to officer capacity and where necessary, the development of detailed business cases.

The Part 1 Plan draws on elements of the Science Based Targets Initiative Corporate Manual. It contains four policies, which will set standards for phasing out fossil fuel consumption in buildings that the Council owns and operates, set net zero and low carbon standards for new dwellings and commercial buildings that we construct, and set standards for quantifying and reducing embodied carbon in new building projects.

The 39 actions included within the plan will help to enhance data capture, increase the scope of emissions reporting, increase in-house expertise in low carbon concepts, work towards becoming a carbon literate organisation, and identify where there is further work to enhance our net zero strategy.

The 11 targets included within the plan will set aspirations for phasing out the supply of natural gas, increasing the supply of renewable energy, increasing energy efficiency in accommodation leased from private sector landlords, increasing internal recycling rates, and increasing supply chain engagement to reduce indirect emissions.

The plan proposes a target of achieving net zero scope 1 and 2 emissions across the buildings that we own and operate by 2030, and a target of achieving net zero supply chain emissions by 2050 at the very latest. A date for achieving a net zero vehicle fleet will be considered as part of the Depot masterplan and fleet decarbonisation strategy review.

A working group of officers has been consulted on the plan to help ensure deliverability of actions, policies and targets contained within the plan.

Beyond adoption of the part 1 Carbon Action Plan, the main delivery priorities in the lead up to 2025 include:

- the implementation of a renewed energy efficiency programme focusing first on our top five sites by energy consumption in support of Action 1.
- the development of a business case to decarbonise Broadmeadow Sports Centre in support of Target 1.
- the development of a business case to increase the supply of onsite renewable energy in support of Target 2.

- supporting the Devon Energy Collective to deliver new and additional renewable energy capacity in Devon in support of Target 4.
- the development of the depot master plan and fleet decarbonisation plan in support of actions 4 and 5.
- to engage with our top five suppliers and implement a carbon literacy training programme in support of Target 10.
- subject to the development of business cases and officer capacity, to assess and align progress towards adhering to carbon budgets proposed by the Science Based Targets Initiative.
- identify opportunities where we can lobby the Government for additional resources.
- to develop and implement the Part 2 Carbon Action Plan, covering emissions across the wider district.

3. Implications, Risk Management and Climate Change Impact

3.1 Financial

The delivery of targets, actions and policies contained within the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan will be subject to the future development of business cases.

3.2 Legal

The Part 1 Carbon Action Plan fulfils a non-statutory obligation to reduce the Council's carbon footprint.

3.3 Risks

Financial and operational risks will be assessed as part of future business case development. Failure to implement and deliver the Carbon Action Plan will likely result in increased carbon emissions and reduce our ability to limit cumulative emissions in alignment with carbon budgets set by the Science Based Targets Initiative.

3.4 Environmental/Climate Change Impact

Actions, policies, and targets contained within the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan will guide the Authority to reduce its organisational carbon footprint in advance

of national policy and identify opportunities to increase its resilience to the future effects of climate change.

4. Alternative Options

Alternatives to developing and maintaining a Carbon Action Plan include:

- Defaulting to a “business-as-usual” approach where we allow for national policy to dictate actions to reduce our carbon footprint. This approach has been discounted given that it will likely result in drawing down excessively against limited global carbon budgets and reduce the Authority’s ability to influence and reduce emissions across the wider district.
- Not implementing a Carbon Action Plan and implement measures on an ad-hoc basis. This approach has been discounted as it will hinder continuity across the Authority and risk sustaining elevated carbon emissions year-on-year. The majority of our public sector partners across the Southwest have already adopted Carbon Action Plans, and as such there is a reputational risk to the Authority if the Carbon Action Plan is not implemented.

5. Conclusion

The first part of the Council’s Carbon Action Plan, the Part 1 Carbon Action Plan, has been developed in consultation with officers across the Authority. It contains actions, targets and policies seeking to align with the Devon Carbon Plan, and will set the Authority on a course towards decarbonising both its direct scope 1 and 2 carbon footprint and our indirect supply chain carbon footprint.