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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 11</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020</b>	<b>CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>ALLISON THOMAS, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – SERVICE DELIVERY</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>MATTHEW HOLFORD, HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, <a href="mailto:matthew.holford@southderbyshire.gov.uk">matthew.holford@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a>, 01283 595856</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLANNING</b>	
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE:</b>

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## **1. Recommendations**

- 1.1. That the Council approves a Climate and Environment Strategy and a Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 - 2024.

## **2. Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1. To advise Committee of the baseline carbon emissions from Council activities and to provide Committee with data showing the extent of carbon savings necessary to meet the Climate Emergency aspirations.
- 2.2. To advise Committee on the current estimated carbon emissions from all sources across South Derbyshire and to provide Committee with data showing the extent of emissions reductions necessary to achieve carbon neutrality across the District by 2050.
- 2.3. To seek approval for a Climate and Environment Strategy and of a Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 - 2024.

## **3. Detail**

### **Background**

- 3.1. At full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019 the following pledges were made in declaring a Climate Emergency:
  - Declare a Climate Emergency;
  - Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030 and achieve Carbon Neutrality before the Government target of 2050;
  - Call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target realistic;
  - Work with partners across the District and region to deliver this goal through all relevant strategies;

- Report back to Council within six months and have a standard Environmental and Development Service Committee agenda item on Environmental Improvements the Council is taking to address this emergency.
- 3.2. The proposed Climate and Environment Strategy and Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 – 2024 represent the Council's first response to the Climate Emergency declaration.
  - 3.3. The Action Plan should be seen as the start of a work in progress. Since the Climate Emergency declaration in June 2019, officers have spent considerable amounts of time developing a process for mapping and measuring all significant activities and emissions which are contributing to the carbon footprint of all Council activities. This has been followed by a process of collating relevant data about all of the relevant activities and emissions and then converting these into a calculation of the total carbon equivalent (CO<sub>2e</sub>). This process was completed in late November 2019.
  - 3.4. The current annual CO<sub>2e</sub> emission from South Derbyshire District Council is approximately 2,500 tonnes per annum (2018-19 baseline).
  - 3.5. A summary of the sources of these CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions is provided on page 8 of the Climate and Environment Strategy.
  - 3.6. Since the Carbon Emergency declaration, an online tool called SCATTER has also been published. This provides an estimate of the overall carbon emissions from all sources across South Derbyshire.
  - 3.7. Based on the data published in SCATTER the total carbon emissions across South Derbyshire is approximately 806,000 tonnes per annum. South Derbyshire District Council therefore contributes approximately 0.3% of the overall carbon emissions from the whole of the District.
  - 3.8. A summary of the estimated sources of carbon emissions in South Derbyshire is provided at section page 8-9 of the Climate and Environment Strategy.
  - 3.9. The actions described in the Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 – 2024 contain a summary of the existing commitments which have been made since South Derbyshire District Council produced the baseline CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions in late 2019. The Action Plan also contains a range of other Actions which are being actively considered to enable the Council to reduce its own emissions and to influence the wider community.
  - 3.10. The contents of the Action Plan represent a very early statement of intent which will need to be built upon significantly in order for the Council to meet the Climate Emergency aspirations.
  - 3.11. The newly adopted Corporate Plan contains the following key aims;

***Tackle climate change***

- *Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030.*
  - *Work with residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon footprint.*
- 3.12. The delivery of the Climate and Environment Strategy and Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 – 2024 will therefore feature strongly in the ongoing reporting

processes to members over the course of the 2020-2024 South Derbyshire Corporate Plan.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1. The Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 – 2024 provides an early estimation of the financial and other resources estimated to be necessary to deliver the Plan, as well as estimates of the potential carbon savings that may be possible.
- 4.2. It is proposed to bring a separate report to a future Committee meeting to outline how these potentially very significant resources will be met.

#### **5. Corporate Implications**

##### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1. The response to the Climate Emergency is likely to require additional staffing and third party support as the Action Plan matures. This will be the subject of a separate report.

##### **Legal Implications**

- 5.2. It is not currently a legal duty to produce a Climate Emergency Action Plan and to deliver on its commitments. However, given the significant strength of public support for action on climate change it is entirely possible that some form of statutory duty on local authorities to act will emerge soon.

##### **Corporate Plan Implications**

- 5.3. The proposals align with the key aim within the draft Corporate Plan to “Tackle Climate Change” as well as the two key actions within this aim to “Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030” and to “Work with residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon footprint”.

##### **Risk Impact**

- 5.4. The proposals will have a beneficial mitigating action against the corporate risk of “Managing the environmental impact of incidents across the District”.

#### **6. Community Impact**

##### **Consultation**

- 6.1. The proposed Climate and Environment Action Plan will be the subject of detailed consultation over the next 12 months.

##### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

- 6.2. None.

##### **Social Value Impact**

- 6.3. Beneficial.

##### **Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.4. Beneficial.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1. The Climate and Environment Strategy provides an overview of the challenges and opportunities presented by the Climate Emergency declaration.
- 7.2. The Climate and Environment Action Plan 2020 – 2024 provides an early indication of the Council's current activities but will be built upon significantly over the next 12 months.
- 7.3. The Strategy and the Action Plan are two cornerstones to enable the Council to progress towards the delivery of two of its Corporate Plan aims.

## **8. Background Papers**

Environment and Development Services Committee, 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

Environment and Development Services Committee, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Council, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Environment and Development Services Committee, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.