

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	9 February 2021
Title:	The County Council's internal carbon reduction programme
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

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1. The decision:

- 1.1 That progress on the carbon reduction programme be noted, including the recent award to the County Council of £29.8m of Government funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme launched by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
- 1.2 That Cabinet note the estimated scale of the carbon reduction and climate resilience challenges to be faced by the County Council as an organisation and support further research required to improve the accuracy of the data. A more detailed report including proposals for progressive targets in the context of a long-term strategy will be brought back for consideration in due course.
- 1.3 That Cabinet support the principle of annual reporting of the County Council's Scope 1, 2 and certain scope 3 carbon emissions in accordance with the internationally recognised Greenhouse Gas Protocol definitions.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1 This report sets out the more comprehensive scope to be considered for the measurement of the County Council's carbon emissions, the complexities of obtaining accurate carbon data and the initial estimate of annual total organisational emissions in excess of 200,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year.
- 2.2 It reports on the recent successful award of £29.8m Government decarbonisation funding and the 6.8% carbon reduction impact these

initiatives, together with the recent adoption of a renewable energy tariff, are forecast to achieve against the overall total emissions over the coming year.

- 2.3 It sets out initial considerations for a long-term strategy to achieving net zero emissions over the next three decades, together with the estimated carbon sequestration equivalent that could be required.
- 2.4 Initial findings are reported on the risk exposure of the County Council estate to the potential impacts of a global average 2°C rise, including the proportion of certain sectors vulnerable to future heatwaves and flooding. Further detail on climate resilience will be reported to a future meeting.
- 2.5 The report concludes with some reflections on what the challenge of becoming a net-zero carbon organisation will mean for the County Council and the long-term thinking that will be needed across all aspects of the organisation to achieve this over the next thirty years.
- 2.6 The final section outlines the next steps for the coming year.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1 None

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None.

4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not Applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

9 February 2021

**Councillor Keith Mans
Chairman of Cabinet**