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AGENDA CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL

Date: Tuesday, 4 July 2023

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

Members:

Councillor Mrs T L Ellis (Chairman)

Councillor H P Davis (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Ms C Bainbridge

Mrs L E Clubley

M R Daniells

S Dugan

J M Englefield

Deputies: Mrs J Needham



1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 17 January 2023.

3. Chairman's Announcements

4. Declarations of Interest and Disclosures of Advice or Directions

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in accordance with the Standing Orders and Council's Code of Conduct and disclosures of advice or directions received from Group Leaders or Political Groups, in accordance with Council's Constitution.

5. Deputations

To receive any deputations of which notice has been lodged.

6. Carbon Footprint 2022/23 (Pages 9 - 10)

To receive a presentation by the Policy, Resources and Engagement Officer providing details on the Council's Carbon Footprint for 2022/23.

7. Climate Change Action Plan Update - Annual Review 2022/23 (Pages 11 - 30)

To consider an update from the Policy, Resources and Engagement Manager on prevailing climate change matters, including the Annual Review of the Climate Change Action Plan 2022/23.

8. Opportunities Plan (Pages 31 - 32)

To receive a presentation providing an overview of the Council's Opportunities Plan and how the Year 1 project proposals relate to the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel.

9. Executive Business (Pages 33 - 34)

To consider any items of business dealt with by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel, that falls under the remit of Climate Change Scrutiny Panel. This will include any decisions taken by individual Members during the same time period.

10. Climate Change Scrutiny Panel Priorities

Samell

To provide an opportunity for Members to consider the scrutiny priorities for the Climate Change Panel.



Chief Executive Officer Civic Offices www.fareham.gov.uk 23 June 2023

> For further information please contact: Democratic Services, Civic Offices, Fareham, PO16 7AZ Tel:01329 236100

democraticservices@fareham.gov.uk



Minutes of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 17 January 2023

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs T L Ellis (Chairman)

Councillor N R Gregory (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: MR Daniells, HP Davis, Ms C Bainbridge, Mrs LE Clubley and

S Dugan

Also Present:



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies of absence received at this meeting.

2. MINUTES

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel held on the 18 October 2022 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcement –

Firstly, I should like to welcome all present and especially Councillor Harry Davis as this is his first Climate Change Scrutiny Panel since becoming elected in October 2022.

I was pleased to see the Government launch its £18m 'It All Adds Up' energy saving campaign at the end of last year. The campaign features tips on simple, low or no-cost actions that households can take to immediately cut energy use and save money while ensuring people are able to stay safe and warm this winter. The Government's website also provides more detailed information on larger 'spend to save' improvements such as heat pumps or solar panels as well as grants available to eligible households.

Given the current weather, ironically at a time when arctic ice melt is being highlighted it is hoped that as energy costs hit people's pockets this will focus residents and business into taking very serious and prompt measures.

We look forward to hearing from the Head Building Control Partnership during this meeting on the potential impact new measures being brought in will have on future builds, through the planning and building control process, to hasten progress towards our net zero goals and hit the less than 2% (preferably nearer 1.5%) global warming target agreed in the Paris agreement by 2050.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

No declarations of interest were received at the meeting.

5. **DEPUTATIONS**

A deputation was received from Anne Stephenson from Fareham and Gosport Friends of the Earth.

6. BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP SERVICE UPDATE

The Panel received a presentation from the Head of Building Control Partnership. The presentation provided an overview of the building regulations that are being introduced by the government to reduce the carbon footprint of new and existing buildings and the impact these new regulations will have on the Council's development projects.

Members asked for reassurance that existing properties across the Borough will be required to have the same energy standards as new builds and what will be done to achieve this. The Head of Building Control Partnership addressed the Panel to explain that the Building Regulations generally require similar standards to be applied to extensions and alterations to properties, but it is likely that incentives and grants will also be introduced by central Government to encourage homeowners to bring their properties in line with the targets set by Government. This will be a further challenge as some new low carbon technologies will rely on a package of thermal upgrades to the fabric of buildings to ensure they are effective, together with improved information for building users on how the systems operate.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the contents of the presentation.

7. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SCOPING REPORT

The Panel received a scoping report from the Director of Planning and Regeneration asking them to consider the report as part of an invitation to request that officers from Hampshire County Council attend a future meeting of the Panel to explain the County's plans for carbon neutrality by 2050.

Members asked that in addition to the objectives set out in the scoping report attached at Appendix A to the report, Hampshire County Council are also asked to provide details on the collaborative work taking place with Fareham Borough Council and other local authorities across Hampshire, to help meet their target of net zero by 2050. In particular, with regards to cycle routes and infrastructure and public transport links.

RESOLVED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel considered the scoping report attached at Appendix A to the report.

8. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Panel received a presentation from the Policy, Resource and Engagement Manager on prevailing climate change matters. The presentation provided an overview of the main areas of progress that have been made since the last update to the Panel in October 2022.

A question was asked by Members on the efficiency of solar panels as several the measures being proposed in carbon reduction by the Council have a dependency on this technology. The Policy, Resource and Engagement Manager advised that although the technology is still developing and improving all the time, the feedback that has been received from residents within the Borough that have recently had solar panels installed into their properties through the Governments Warmer Homes Scheme has been positive.

RESOLVED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel note the contents of the presentation.

9. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

There were no items of Executive Business for the Panel to consider.

10. CLIMATE CHANGE SCRUTINY PANEL PRIORITIES

The Chairman asked that Members of the Panel consider the scrutiny priorities for the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel.

Members asked for officers to consider a future Panel agenda item relating to the operation of both the Fareham and Holly Hill Leisure Centres, through the Council's operator Everyone Active to provide an overview of the feasibility studies undertaken for reducing energy use in both Leisure Centres. The Director of Planning and Regeneration addressed the Panel to confirm that this would be added to the list of priorities for the next municipal year 2023/24.

RESOLVED that the Panel considered the Scrutiny Priorities for the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 8.14 pm).



Presentation to Climate Change Panel

Date 04 July 2023

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: COUNCIL'S CARBON FOOTPRINT 2022/23

SUMMARY

The fourth annual calculation of the Council's carbon footprint has been completed and compares emission data for 2022/23 against the baseline year of 2019/20.

Carbon emissions are measured in tCO2e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent). This is a measure of how much gas contributes to global warming, relative to carbon dioxide.

The Council's total carbon emissions figure for 2022/23 was 3059.58 tCO2e. This represents a decrease of 598.81 tCO2e (16.4%) between 2019/20 and 2022/23.

A number of factors including reduced electricity consumption, the use of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil, and the gradual decarbonisation of the electricity network have contributed to the overall reduction in emissions. However, there has been an increase in Gas consumption at a number of sites mainly due to the relatively cold winter we had this year.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Panel note the contents of the presentation.



Report to Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

Date 04 July 2023

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE - Annual Review

2022/23

SUMMARY

The Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) was approved by the 7 June 2020 Executive. The Plan has three key areas; it outlines how the Council will reduce the carbon emissions of its services, how it will assist the wider borough in mitigating climate change, and how it will respond to climate change by protecting Fareham's communities through adaptation and resilience.

The second annual review of the CCAP is found in Appendix A. This is a public facing document designed to be accessible and engaging to residents.

The document will provide an overview of the main areas of progress that have been made since the last annual review, which was presented to the 12 July 2022 Climate Change Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel note and comment on the contents of the review document in Appendix A.

INTRODUCTION

1. This report presents the second annual review (Appendix A) of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP).

BACKGROUND

- 2. In September 2019, the Council announced its commitment to becoming carbon neutral in our operations by 2030. To achieve this, a Climate Change Action Plan was developed which was overseen by a Member Working Group and then approved by the Executive on 7 June 2020.
- 3. The CCAP contains over 40 projects which primarily focus on reducing the Council's own operational emissions. However, a number of projects reflect the Council's leadership role in encouraging emission reductions across the wider Borough where we can, as well as those that aim to help the Borough adapt to and become more resilient to the changes brought by climate change.
- 4. Appendix A contains the second annual review of the CCAP. The document is designed to be public facing and both accessible and engaging to residents, that:
 - Explains how the Council calculates its carbon footprint and the baseline carbon footprint of 3658.39 tCO2e for 2019/20;
 - Provides an overview of the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) and the types of projects involved;
 - Updates readers on the top level achievements made during 2022/23.
 - Discusses the Council's carbon footprint calculation of 3059.58 tCO2e for 2022/23 whilst highlighting some of the reasons behind the overall reduction;
 - Highlights the projects and actions planned to take place over the next 12 months.
- 5. The document also signposts readers to useful sources of information related to climate change alongside funding opportunities for energy improvements to low income households living in energy inefficient housing.
- 6. Members are asked to note and comment on the contents of the review document.

RISK ASSESSMENT

7. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report

CONCLUSION

8. This report presents the second annual review of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan, which can be found in Appendix A.

Appendices: A: Climate Change Action Plan – Annual Review 2022/23

Enquiries: For further information on this report please contact Alexander Jolley. (Tel: 01329 824470)
&C-150520-r -sad.docx

Appendix A

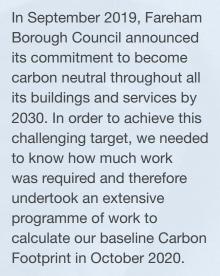
Climate Change Action Plan 2022/23



Foreword

Executive Member for Planning and Development Cllr Simon Martin

Welcome to the second annual update on the progress of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP).



In June 2021 we published our first Action Plan which focused predominantly on reducing the Council's operational carbon footprint. This plan tries to find ways we can lower the carbon emissions created when we provide services to our customers.

However, it is important to note that these only account for around 0.9% of the Borough's total emissions, so there is plenty of work still to do.

We recognise our leadership role and will support and encourage broader change across Fareham with both businesses and residents where we can.

Hampshire County Council has responsibility for the delivery of many service areas and we will work in partnership with them and other organisations where appropriate, given their commitment for the whole of the County to become carbon neutral by 2050.

In addition, the Council wants to help ensure that the Borough can respond to the local changes that climate change will bring.

This annual report will outline the carbon reduction measures we have completed during the last year as well as an overview of how much we have reduced our emissions by. It will also lay out the plans we have for the coming year/s both for the Council buildings and services and the local Fareham community.

Reducing carbon emissions in Fareham is a high priority for us and for me and I am pleased to see the results of the work so far and our plans for the future.



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www.fareham.gov.uk/climatechange

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All information in this document is correct at time of publishing.

The Council's carbon footprint – where we started



In order to fulfil our commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2030, it was important that we first knew the emissions we were releasing. The Council underwent an extensive programme of work to calculate the emissions we were generating through our operations over the course of the year 2019/20.

Why are we concerned about Climate Change in Fareham?

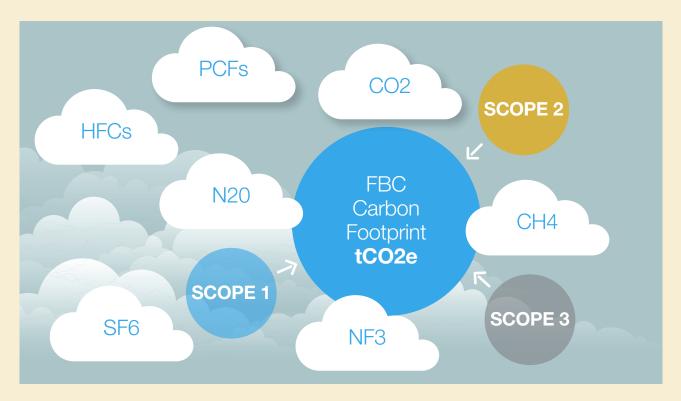
While climate change is a global issue Fareham will likely experience:

- Hotter, drier summers
- Wetter, warmer and stormier winters
- An increased risk of flooding, including at the coast due to sea level rises

In line with Government guidance, we calculate our carbon emissions in tCO2e, which means 'tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalence'.

There are a number of greenhouse gasses that are emitted during our operations each with their own warming potential. tCO2e converts all of these into the warming that would be created by the equivalent amount of CO2 and combines these into a single carbon footprint figure. (See infographic on following page).

"The Council underwent an extensive programme of work to calculate the emissions..."

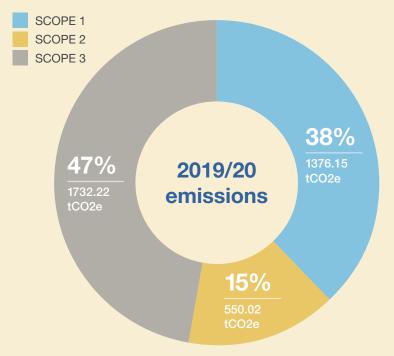


Our total carbon footprint is made up of three different scopes each of which relate to how much control we have over them:

SCOPE 1
Direct emissions
such as fuel usage

SCOPE 2
Indirect emissions
in our control such
as electricity usage
at Council owned
buildings

SCOPE 3
Indirect emissions
out of our direct
control such as gas
usage at leisure
centres



In 2019/20 when we first calculated our emissions, our carbon footprint for that year was **3658 tCO2e** and we use this figure as our baseline for measuring progress towards carbon neutrality.

You can read more about our carbon footprint at www.fareham.gov.uk/ climatechange

Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)

Our Climate Change Action Plan was approved in July 2021 and sets out the projects we think we need to complete to help us on our journey to becoming carbon neutral, as well as supporting the wider Borough where we can.

What's in the Action Plan?

The Plan contains over 40 projects. The main focus of these is on reducing the Council's operational carbon footprint, but we also

recognise our leadership role in encouraging emissions across the wider borough and will support this where we can. We also have a role in making sure the Borough can adapt to and be resilient to the changes brought by climate change.

The projects come under three main areas.



Reducing the Council's carbon footprint

Projects include:

- Understanding our vehicle replacement and charging point options
- Switching to green energy suppliers
- Developing plans for making our buildings more energy efficient





Borough wide carbon reductions

Projects include:

- Providing advice and facilities on reducing waste and encouraging recycling
- Delivering a community solar panel project with Hampshire County Council
- Advertising Government funding options for energy savings to the wider community





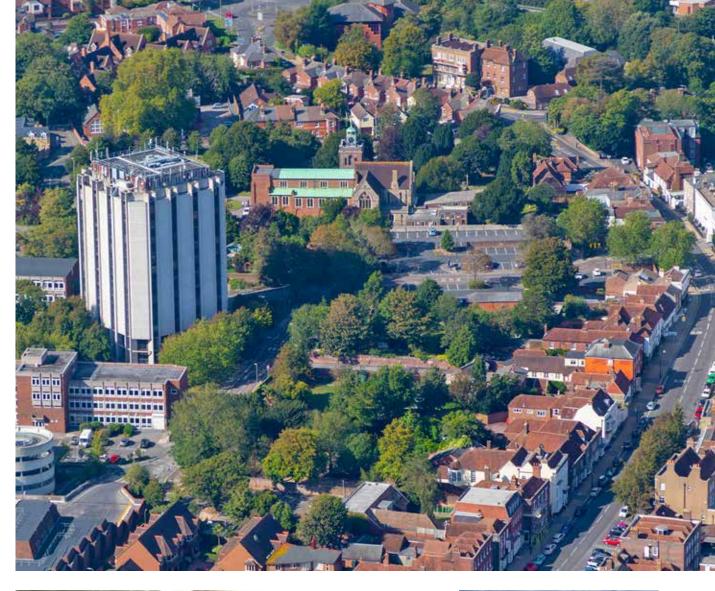
Responding to climate change and protecting Fareham's communities

Projects include:

- Exploring sustainable planting in our flower beds
- Support wetland projects and creation of natural habitats
- Protecting trees through the use of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)



You can read the Climate Change Action Plan in full at www.fareham.gov.uk/climatechange







"We also have a role in making sure the Borough can adapt to and be resilient to the changes brought by climate change."

What the Council has achieved in the last year

We are proud of the progress we have made in the year 2022/23, with the implementation of many projects designed to reduce the Council's own carbon emissions as well as helping our wider community with education and support.

Reducing the carbon footprint in the delivery of our services

In February 2022, we converted our garden waste collection vehicles to operate using a biofuel, hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) instead of diesel. Following the success of the trial, we also converted our small diesel vehicles to operate using HVO.

Diesel is a significant contributor to the Council's carbon emissions with fleet fuel contributing over 39% of our direct emissions in 2022/23. HVO produces significantly less carbon than diesel and continuing to run the garden waste and small vehicles on HVO in 2022/23 reduced the Council's annual carbon footprint by approximately 299 tCO2e.

We have approved a rolling vehicle replacement programme for the Council's vehicle fleet over the next 5 years. As part of the programme the Council will look to procure 15 electric vans and one electric small Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV). To accommodate these we will look to install a number of electric vehicle

charging points at our Depot

site as well as explore the feasibility of distributing some of these at strategic sites across the Borough. It is estimated that by 2027/28 the programme will have reduced the Council's carbon footprint by 40 tCO2e.

The Council launched a staff campaign, 'Small Change Big Difference', which focused on getting employees to think laterally about climate change and how together small changes in our individual behaviour can collectively make a big difference. Some of the changes have focused on turning devices off at the end of the day and using the stairs where possible. This has contributed to a 9.7

tCO2e reduction in electricity emissions in our Civic Offices.

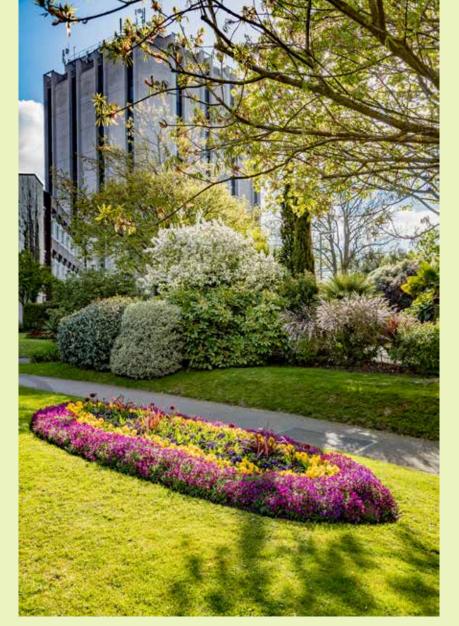
Helping to reduce wider carbon emissions where we can across the Borough

The Council successfully implemented a total of 177 energy efficiency improvements to 159 properties in our housing stock. Funded in part by a government scheme known as LAD2, the measures focused on solar panels, loft insulation, and upgrading electric storage heaters helping to improve the comfort and reduce energy bills of Council tenants.

The Council started working with a number of other Councils



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to offset losses that have occurred at other sites where intertidal habitats are in decline.

The Council worked with Gosport and Fareham Friends of the Earth to install a new wildlife meadow at Fareham Cemetery.

Abbey Meadows saw 180 trees planted as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.



as part of the Warmer Homes consortium in 2022/23. The scheme provides free energy saving measures to low-income households with poor performing homes. The scheme has delivered 78 private low-income households with energy saving measures worth nearly £450,000.

We have continued to work with the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) who offer low income and vulnerable residents a completely free of charge service that provides energy and debt advice alongside a range of measures such as free small energy saving devices and funding for insulation.

In May 2022, £30,000 of funding was allocated to

carbon reduction measures across the Council's community centres. The measures installed range from small energy saving products such as LED lightbulbs to larger measures such as replacing old energy inefficient appliances.

Helping the Borough respond to the changes brought by Climate Change

The Council no longer uses peat in its landscaping and gardening works and has a programme of sustainable planting across the borough.

Coastal Partners are in the process of conducting a Coastal Management Study at Hook Lake investigating opportunities for habitat creation

"The Warmer
Homes scheme
has delivered 78
private low-income
households with
energy saving
measures worth
nearly £450,000."

The Council's Carbon footprint – where we are now

Council total carbon footprint in 2022/23 is 3059.58 tCO2e which is 598.81 tCO2e less than 2019/20, a 16.37% reduction.

2019/20

Council total carbon footprint

3658.39 tCO2e

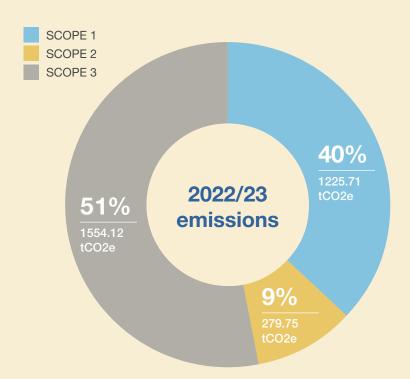
2022/23

Council total carbon footprint

3059.58 tCO2e

598.81 tCO2e less

16.37% reduction





Why has our carbon footprint changed?



There are a number of reasons why our Carbon Footprint reduced during 2022/23.



Scope 1 emissions

Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil was used in our Garden Waste and Small Vehicle fleet throughout 2022/23 reducing emissions significantly. We also used less gas in the Civic Offices compared to last year.



Scope 2 emissions

Less electricity was used in the Civic Offices in 2022/23. This is due to the introduction of LED lighting to some floors and also the staff campaign focusing on reducing electricity usage within the building. There was also a reduction in the electricity used in the car parks.



Impact of the weather

We have seen an increase in Depot and Housing gas usage. This is mainly due to the relatively cold winter we had this year.



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Tackling our carbon challenges over the next 12 months

Like other organisations, there are a number of key challenges we face in order to achieve our commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.



Vehicle fuel emissions

We are continuing to use HVO in part of our fleet as a low emission fuel. However, due to the relatively high cost of the fuel, we are not able to rollout HVO across the whole fleet. Although the market for smaller electric vehicles is becoming quite developed, larger vehicles such as Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) are our biggest emitters but electric versions remain expensive and relatively untested.

In 2023/24 we plan to:

- Introduce more electric vehicles into our vehicle fleet, including the infrastructure required
- Roll out electric vehicle charging provision at key locations across the Borough
- Update our rolling vehicle replacement programme.





"...the Civic
Offices were built
before energy
efficiency was a
serious design
consideration."



Decarbonising our buildings

Opened in 1975, the Civic
Offices were built before energy
efficiency was a serious design
consideration. Heating and
providing energy to the Civic
and our Depot are significant
proportions of our Scope 1 and
2 emissions. Emissions from our
leisure centres and community
centres also contribute to our
Scope 3 footprint.

In 2023/24 we plan to:

- Continue to use hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) in a 1/3 of our vehicle fleet
- Apply for Government funding to improve the energy efficiency of our Leisure Centres
- Complete a feasibility study for a 3.5MW Solar Farm in the Borough and assess the potential on other Council controlled sites.



In 2023/24 we plan to:

- We plan to rollout HVO in our vehicle fleet at Solent Airport and also in the Council Mayoral car
- Install a bog garden at Park Lane in partnership with Friends of the Earth to increase biodiversity in the area
- Identify Biodiversity Net Gain projects within the Borough.





Energy generation and offsetting

We are continuing to explore options for generating our own green electricity, such as solar panels on Council owned buildings to reduce energy costs and possibly offset carbon emissions.

In 2023/24 we plan to:

- Continue with solar energy schemes on existing Council buildings and new capital projects
- Explore the feasibility of delivering a Solar Farm on Council land



Programme to carbon neutral by 2030

One of the most important projects over the next 12-months will be developing timelines for reducing our Scope 1 and 2 emissions. This will include the costs involved in achieving our commitment to carbon neutral by 2030.

Interested in air quality?

You can find out more about air quality in Fareham and what the Council has done to help improve it at **www.fareham.gov.uk/licensing_and_inspections/air_quality/intro.aspx**

Find out more and get involved

We have a dedicated set of climate pages on our website www.fareham.gov.uk/ climatechange where you can find a range of advice and support on the following topics:



Understanding climate change

Simple information on the science behind climate change and its potential impact on Fareham



Calculating your carbon footprint

This is often the most useful first step when working out what you can do reduce your own carbon footprint



Climate Change toolkit

We have created a number of guides aimed at different audiences



Residents

Get ideas for reducing your carbon footprint whether you are a beginner or a climate hero



Community groups

Guidance and links to advice on how to plan climate activities in your community



Businesses

resources, particularly for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) on options for reducing your company's carbon footprint

Get in touch

If you have any questions about our Climate Change Action Plan please get in touch by emailing us climatechange@fareham.gov.uk, phoning 01329 236 100 or visiting us at the Civic Offices.





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Presentation to Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

Date: 4 July 2023

Report of: Chief Executive Officer

Subject: OPPORTUNITIES PLAN 2023-2027

SUMMARY

The Executive Leader delivered the Budget presentation for 2023/2024 at the full Council meeting on 24 February 2023. During the presentation it was acknowledged that the Medium-Term Financial Strategy forecast a future funding gap of £2.4m by 2026/27.

Since this time, there has been considerable activity to develop a new Opportunities Plan of projects to close the gap.

This presentation provides an overview of the way in which the Opportunities Plan has been developed and the significant Year 1 project proposals that relate to the Scrutiny Panel area.

An update on the full Opportunities Plan and finalised Year 1 project proposals will be presented at the Executive on 4 September 2023 for their agreement.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are invited to note the contents of the presentation and make any comments or further proposals for consideration as part of the Opportunities Plan.



Report to Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

Date: 04 June 2023

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

SUMMARY

One of the key functions of this Scrutiny Panel is to hold the Executive Portfolio Holder and senior Officers to account in delivery of the service and the Improvement Actions identified in the Council's Corporate Priorities and Corporate Vision.

Members are therefore invited to consider the items of business which fall under the remit of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel and have been dealt with by the Executive. This also includes any decisions taken by individual Executive Members.

The remit of the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel is defined as decisions pertaining to the performance, monitoring, review and updates of the Climate Change Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that Members consider the items of Business discharged by the Executive since the last meeting of the Panel and make any comments or raise any questions for clarification.