

Public Document Pack

Mid Devon District Council

Environment Policy Development Group

Tuesday, 8 March 2022 at 5.30 pm
Phoenix Chambers, Phoenix House, Tiverton

Next ordinary meeting
Tuesday, 24 May 2022 at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE: - this meeting will take place at Phoenix House and members of the Public and Press are encouraged to attend via Zoom wherever possible. The Protocol for Hybrid Meetings explains how this will work. Please do not attend Phoenix House without contacting the committee clerk in advance, in order that numbers of people can be appropriately managed in physical meeting rooms.

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Membership

Cllr J Wright

Cllr E J Berry

Cllr W Burke

Cllr D R Coren

Cllr Miss J Norton

Cllr R F Radford

Cllr R L Stanley

Cllr L D Taylor

Cllr A Wilce

A G E N D A

Members are reminded of the need to make declarations of interest prior to any discussion which may take place

- 1 **Apologies and substitute Members**
To receive any apologies for absence and notices of appointment of substitute Members (if any).

- 2 **Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct**
Councillors are reminded of the requirement to declare any interest, including the type of interest, and reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.

- 3 **Public Question Time**
To receive any questions relating to items on the Agenda from members of the public and replies thereto.
Note: A maximum of 30 minutes is allowed for this item.

- 4 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** *(Pages 5 - 10)*
Members to consider whether to approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Group as a correct record.

- 5 **Chairman's Announcements**
To receive any announcements that the Chairman may wish to make.

- 6 **Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change**
Group to receive an update from the Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change.

- 7 **Climate and Sustainability Update** *(Pages 11 - 24)*
To receive a report from the Climate and Sustainability Specialist which documents progress against the Climate Action Plan.

- 8 **Electricity Distribution Network capacity for increased renewable energy** *(Pages 25 - 34)*
To receive an update on the Electricity Distribution Network Capacity for increased renewable energy from the Climate and Sustainability Specialist.

- 9 **Sustainable Procurement - Net Zero Advisory Group**
Group to receive an update on the work the Net Zero Advisory Group had completed on Sustainable Procurement.

- 10 **Chairmans Annual Report** *(Pages 35 - 38)*
To receive the Chairmans annual report.

- 11 **Work Plan** *(Pages 39 - 44)*
To receive the current work plan for the Environment PDG.

Members to agree and discuss additional items that they would like added to the work plan.

Stephen Walford
Chief Executive
Monday, 28 February 2022

Covid-19 and meetings

From 7 May 2021, the law requires all councils to hold formal meetings in person. However, the Council is also required to follow government guidance about safety during the pandemic. The Council will enable all people to continue to participate in meetings via Zoom.

You are strongly encouraged to participate via Zoom to keep everyone safe - there is limited capacity in meeting rooms if safety requirements are to be met. There are restrictions and conditions which apply to those in the building and the use of the building. You must not attend a meeting at Phoenix House without complying with the requirements in the new protocol for meetings. You must follow any directions you are given.

Please read the new meeting protocol which is available here: <https://democracy.middevon.gov.uk/documents/s23135/MeetingProtocolUpdateOct2021nextreviewFeb2022.pdf>

If you want to ask a question or speak, email your full name to Committee@middevon.gov.uk by no later than 4pm on the day before the meeting. This will ensure that your name is on the list to speak and will help us ensure that you are not missed – as you can imagine, it is easier to see and manage public speaking when everyone is physically present in the same room. Notification in this way will ensure the meeting runs as smoothly as possible.

If you would like a copy of the Agenda in another format (for example in large print) please contact Carole Oliphant on:

E-Mail: coliphant@middevon.gov.uk

Public Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.

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MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **ENVIRONMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP**
held on 11 January 2022 at 5.30 pm

Present

Councillors

J Wright (Chairman)
E J Berry, W Burke, D R Coren,
R F Radford, R L Stanley, L D Taylor and
B G J Warren

Also Present

Councillor(s)

Miss J Norton, R Evans, B Holdman, Mrs E J Lloyd,
B A Moore and C R Slade

Also Present

Officer(s):

Stephen Walford (Chief Executive), Andrew Busby (Corporate Manager for Property, Leisure and Climate Change), Andrew Jarrett (Deputy Chief Executive (S151)), Paul Deal (Corporate Manager for Finance), Matthew Page (Corporate Manager for People, Governance and Waste), Darren Beer (Operations Manager for Street Scene), Jason Ball (Climate and Sustainability Specialist), Clare Robathan (Policy and Research Officer) and Carole Oliphant (Member Services Officer)

38 **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (0.03.12)**

There were no apologies for absence. Cllr J Norton attended via ZOOM.

39 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT (0.03.21)**

Members were reminded of the need to declare interests where appropriate.

40 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (0.03.41)**

There were no questions from members of the public present.

41 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (0.03.45)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2021 were agreed as a true record and duly **SIGNED** by the Chairman.

42 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (0.04.55)**

The Chairman announced that he would move item 9 on the agenda to item 13

43 **CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (0.05.17)**

The Group received an update from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change who stated that the Christmas and New Year period had been busy for the Waste Service but that all waste had been collected in a timely manner.

He directed Members to the Council website and explained that it provided details of all recycling requirements and also recycling points within the District.

With regard to the recycling of pots and pans he explained that there was limited capacity on the waste lorries to introduce this kerbside collection but that they could be donated to charity or taken to the recycling centre.

44 **CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE (0.10.26)**

The Group had before it, and **NOTED**, a *report from the Climate and Sustainability Specialist which documented progress against the Climate Action Plan.

The Climate and Sustainability Specialist gave an overview of his report and highlighted:

- Upgrades to Social and Affordable Housing
- Research and costings were ongoing for changing the Council's transport fleet to electric
- Update on Devon Climate Emergency Response Group
- New content on website which included an interactive map and would be used for future Climate related press releases
- Update on a recent tree planting day
- Funding had been allocated for an additional 10 electric vehicle charging points which would be installed in 2022
- The Net Zero Advisory Group were working on Climate policy development

In response to questions asked he confirmed:

- The 10 additional electric vehicle charging points were to be funded by the Government and the Operator at no cost to the Council
- Changes to the transport fleet would occur when they required a change with small vans to be the first to go electric. Officers would look at the viability of greener alternatives when each set of vehicles come up for replacement
- The Council were not looking at offering free car parking for electric vehicles at this point
- The decarbonisation grants had been applied for and the Council should know if it had been successful by the end of January
- The recent conversion of houses at Lapford showed the type of decarbonisation that could be achieved with the Council's older housing stock
- The technical design of Post Hill was due to start shortly with the aim to make all social and affordable housing zero carbon
- That there were routes for individuals and Parish Councils to get electric vehicle charging points installed

Note: *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes.

45 **BUDGET OPTIONS FOR CLIMATE INVESTMENT (1.00.30)**

The Group had before it a *report from the Climate and Sustainability Specialist which outlined selected budget item proposals which could be prioritised to help move ahead with the Council's Climate Action Plan.

The Climate and Sustainability Specialist explained that Annex 1 of the report presented potential investment spending and Annex 2 presented potential preparation spending. He explained that Officers had put forward numerous proposals which had arisen as part of the ongoing Climate Action Plan which identified ways to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and support the wider Climate and Sustainability Programme.

Consideration was given to:

- Working with Parishes with regard to the planting of trees
- Officers to investigate the true savings of any upgrade to the vehicle live monitoring system
- Concerns from Members of where the funds would come from to support many of the initiatives
- The need for feasibility studies before undertaking large projects

It was therefore **RECOMENDED** to the Cabinet that the potential additional budget requirements linked to the climate investment opportunities set out in Annex 1 and 2 of this report be considered

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Note: *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes

46 **BEREAVEMENT SERVICES FEES AND CHARGES (1.38.06)**

The Group had before it the *report from the Corporate Manager for Property, Leisure and Climate Change presenting a review of the Bereavement Services Fees and Charges for 2022-2023.

The Officer explained that the Council's focus was on the best possible service and support to bereaved residents. The proposal was to increase fees by 2%.

It was therefore **RECOMMENDED** to the Cabinet that the proposed charges for 2022-2023 as set out in Table A be approved.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Notes:

- i. *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes
- ii. Cllr L Taylor requested that his abstention from voting be recorded

47 **WASTE AND RECYCLING OPTIONS (1.43.58)**

The Group had before it a *report from the Operations Manager Street Scene & Open Spaces which presented the finding from the waste trial which was carried out between July and October 2021.

The Officer explained that the trial had been completed to see if residual waste could be reduced and recycling increased. A survey of residents had been completed at the end of the trial. During the trial staff had been made available to resolve issues and educate residents and this helped residents to comply with the scheme.

Members were informed that Officers would need a long lead in time to address residents' concerns if the scheme were to go live and this would include engagement with landlords and tenants of houses of multiple occupancy.

During the trial the percentage of residual waste reduced and the percentage of wet recycling (food) had increased. Having the wheeled bins in the trial areas improved the street scene and reduced the amount of residual waste.

Consideration was given to:

- The use of soft enforcement in the first instance to educate residents on the correct recycling requirements
- Records were kept of repeated breaches and this could be used for hard enforcement (fines) if required
- The number of houses of multiple occupancy in Cullompton which would require engagement with landlords and tenants
- No increased instances of fly tipping had occurred during the trial
- Large households could be offered an additional residual bin but it would be done on a case by case basis and after engagement with Officers
- Concerns of Members that lived in rural areas that they could not drag wheelie bins up farm tracks and driveways and wanted an alternative solution for residual waste

It was therefore **RECOMMENDED** to the Cabinet that Option 2 be approved subject to Cabinet considering alternative solutions for residual waste for properties where wheeled bins might not be an option.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Note: *report previously circulated and attached to the minutes.

48 **MDDC DRAFT LITTER STRATEGY (2.39.22)**

The Group had before it the draft *Mid Devon District Council Litter Strategy presented by the Operations Manager Street Scene and Open Spaces.

The Officer explained many Members had been involved in the creation of the Strategy and that it detailed how the Council would educate and enforce. The aim was to engage with partners, the community and the public to reduce littering in the District.

Consideration was given to:

- Members concerns that you could not engage with some members of the public
- Members views that the Strategy needed to be measurable and achievable

It was therefore **RECOMMENDED** to the Cabinet that the Mid Devon District Council Litter Strategy in Appendix 1 be adopted.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

Note: *Strategy previously circulated and attached to the minutes

49 **CONTRACTED OUT ENFORCEMENT DUTIES (3.00.58)**

The Group had before it, and **NOTED**, a *report from the Operations Manager Street Scene and Open Spaces which contained a review of private/external enforcement.

The Officer explained that Members had requested in 2020 that the Council looked into external enforcement as the perception was that the Council did not actively enforce breaches.

He explained that Officers had actively engaged with a number of companies to provide quotations for both cost neutral and chargeable services.

It was therefore **AGREED** that Officers did not pursue further investigations on external enforcement at this time.

Note: *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes.

50 **MEETING MANAGEMENT**

The Chairman moved the following item from no 9 on the agenda.

51 **BUDGET UPDATE 2022/2023 (3.04.22)**

The Group had before it, and **NOTED**, the revised draft budget for 2022-2023.

The Cabinet Member for Finance explained that there was a £1.4m gap to close and that the budget was the Council's budget and not the Cabinets and he encouraged Members to contribute to the debate.

The Deputy Chief Executive (S151) explained that this was the second round of budget discussions and since the initial presentation of the draft budget that further savings had been identified along with the Governments Funding Settlement.

Consideration was given to:

- If the 3 weekly bin collections were adopted that the payback would take some time and additional financial modelling and monitoring would be required
- Corporate buildings maintenance was funded by ear marked reserves
- Members request of ongoing review of management and services

- Members discussed a range of options that were already being considered by Officers for budget savings
- No additional budget options were identified by Members of the PDG

Note: *Report previously circulated and attached to the minutes.

BUDGET UPDATE SHEET

Councillors were provided with a budget update sheet at the meeting.

52 **WORK PLAN (3.36.12)**

The Group had before it, and **NOTED**, the *Environment PDG Work Plan.

Note: *Work Plan previously circulated and attached to the minutes

(The meeting ended at 9.08 pm)

CHAIRMAN

ENVIRONMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

08 MARCH 2022

REPORT – CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr C R Slade - Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change.

Responsible Officer(s): Andrew Busby - Corporate Manager Property, Leisure & Climate Change.
Jason Ball, Climate and Sustainability Specialist.

Reason for Report: To receive an update on the Climate Change Action Plan from the Climate and Sustainability Specialist.

Recommendation: That the Environment PDG notes and accepts this report as an update on the Council's response to the Climate Emergency – documenting progress with the Climate Action Plan (to reduce the Council's carbon footprint) and the wider Climate and Sustainability Programme.

Financial Implications: The financial implications associated with this report are the overall costs of the Climate and Sustainability Programme, budgets specifically linked to the Council's Corporate Plan, Climate Strategy and Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Budget and Policy Framework: Budgets specifically linked to the Council's Corporate Plan, Climate Strategy and Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Legal Implications: Full Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 and as part of that commitment, the Council is to produce a carbon footprint in line with Environmental Reporting Guidelines published by HM Government. With regard to the Climate Emergency, the Environment Policy Development Group (PDG) is the initial owner of this policy activity and considers how best to determine the Council's own policy response(s) such as may then be subsequently recommended to Cabinet and Council. [Link to declaration decision.](#)

Risk Assessment: Progress on Performance Indicators (PI) is provided separately on the regular Performance and Risk Reports. There are 2 main risks (to the Council): 1) that the Council does not take sufficient actions to enable it to meet its Climate Emergency declaration ambitions; and 2) that the financial implications of Climate Change are not adequately measured and reflected in the Council's decision making.

Equality Impact Assessment: There are no equality impact assessment implications associated with this report.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: Please refer to **Annex A** which shows the Council's Corporate Plan Aims (Table 1) and Climate Strategy priorities (Table 2).

Impact on Climate Change: The role of the Climate and Sustainability Specialist in support of the corporate officer team is central to the Council's Climate and

Sustainability Programme by actions such as the development of strategic positions and delivery of projects through internal, community and partnership work.

1.0 Introduction / Background

1.1.1. The Council has declared a Climate Emergency and aims to be climate neutral by 2030. Climate neutrality is a term used to describe the achievement of a balance, for any given period, for carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released into or removed from the atmosphere; because of the actions taken by organisations, businesses and individuals. The goal of climate neutrality is to achieve a net zero climate impact.

1.1.2. This report is divided into **community** and **corporate** strands (some overlap is possible). Aligned with the recent climate change declaration by councils across Devon, climate action for the Council falls into two work streams:

- an internal organisation focus to cut corporate greenhouse gas emissions to net zero;
- the wider agenda to enable emission reductions across Mid Devon communities.

Clearly, the first is a process the Council can manage / monitor and control to a significant degree, as it relates to our own assets and operations. For the wider agenda linked to the whole Mid Devon area, we will work as a partner with local businesses, organisations, community groups and other residents to support the district's journey to achieve net zero.

1.1.3. Throughout each priority area within our Corporate Plan, there is a strong emphasis on local level sustainability. Environmental sustainability matters in all aspects of the Council's work, linked to everything from procurement to promoting nature recovery.

1.1.4. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist - leads the development of the Council's *Climate and Sustainability Programme*, working with colleagues and Councillors, particularly the Corporate Manager Property, Leisure & Climate Change; and Cllr Colin Slade - the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change.

2.0 Performance

2.1.1. Progress on Performance Indicators (PI) is provided separately.

2.1.2. Tables in this report's **Annex A** briefly summarise actions in relation to the Council's Corporate Plan *aims* and Climate Strategy *priorities*.

2.2. Climate Action Plan (CAP).

2.2.1. The Council's CAP collates projects and activities to address climate change (mitigation and adaptation). The Climate and Sustainability Specialist is coordinating a review of the Council's CAP to cost it, identify additional funding required, address gaps, and develop the plan.

2.2.2. The Corporate Management Team (and their officers) will maintain the CAP as a live management tool to enable budget planning and ensure a timely

cycle of reporting. Teams will prioritise the most imminent and impactful projects.

2.2.3. Estimated costs thus far for the Internal Structures and Processes workstream are £645,638.

2.2.4. Estimated costs thus far for actions within the *Housing Energy and Assets* work stream is £18,564,210. (This includes HRA planned works and estimates for retrofitting and decarbonising the Council's facility buildings.)

2.2.5. Estimated costs thus far for the *Transport and Vehicles* workstream are £418,000.

2.2.6. Estimated costs thus far for the *Community and Wider Context* workstream are £531,000.

2.2.7. Cost estimates may already be allocated within existing budgets, or may be additional; the CAP will show where additional funding is required in order to enable fundraising and budget planning.

2.2.8. **Caveats.** Robust caveats must be provided with any reporting on the CAP to cover factors such as estimation, forecast uncertainty and data gaps. Examples below.

- Analysis gap. We do not yet have a comprehensive list i.e. we have not identified all the projects required to reach Net Zero.
- Data gap. The majority of the CAP items require more information. Details will be enhanced by lead officers assigned to each prioritised project.
- Estimates. The majority of the costs are estimated. The majority of carbon savings are estimated, and not always based on an assessment.
- Forecasting. The further a project is planned, the less certain we can be about future costs.
- Scope. Many items show capital costs but do not always forecast running costs e.g. of new installations or vehicles, or disposal costs. Business cases for each project / activity must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis (do not assume projects have been approved simply by being listed as an option in the CAP).

3.0 Community and partnership activities

3.1. Devon Climate Emergency Response Group

3.1.1. The Council is a partner within Devon Climate Emergency Response Group (DCERG) and a signatory to the Devon Carbon Plan (DCP). The Climate and Sustainability Specialist role includes working with the DCERG Tactical Group and the over-arching Response Group (the Chief Executive also receives Response Group communications).

3.1.2. Partnership work serves 2 main purposes:

- Seek to ensure strong strategic alignment.
- To facilitate cooperation, learning and communication e.g. updates on current projects, consultation and the DCP.

- 3.1.3. The partnership will continue to implement the Interim Devon Carbon Plan and publish an updated Final Carbon Plan incorporating the actions from the Citizens' Assembly for August 2022. (The stage of publishing an updated Interim DCP has been removed.)
- 3.1.4. The Interim DCP has been, and continues to be, the subject of detailed public consultation.
- 3.1.5. The most recent public consultation stage was the [Devon Climate Assembly](#) (Citizen's Assembly) comprising a demographically representative sample of 70 Devon residents. [The report on Assembly results](#) was published 12th October 2021 and was circulated to all Council members.
- The resolutions respond to 3 challenging topics: retrofitting homes; the role of onshore wind power; and decarbonising transport (particularly with regard to encouraging less car use in Devon).
 - This is an important milestone for the Devon Climate Emergency partnership, as the assembly results inform the next iteration of the DCP.
 - The Council and fellow individual local authorities will now consult with their members (23/11/2021 - 27/01/2022) on how to respond to the Devon Climate Assembly, debating how to turn those resolutions into actions that will appear in the draft Final DCP.
- 3.1.6. Update: Cllr Colin Slade initiated debate via the Net Zero Action Group, with members given briefing paper on the Devon Climate Assembly outcomes and give their views to the Climate and Sustainability Specialist.
- 3.1.7. Views were fed back to the Devon Climate Emergency partnership. The reviewed responses now inform the next iteration of the DCP, and the interim DCP will be subject to public consultation.

3.2. Engagement: The Mid Devon climate and sustainability website. (Corporate Plan aim: env 10.)

- 3.2.1. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist curates our dedicated website www.SustainableMidDevon.org.uk as a Mid Devon community resource.
- 3.2.2. Community contributions of resources, news, events and ideas are welcomed from local parish and town councils, sustainability groups, eco champions, farmers and growers, etc.
- 3.2.3. The role of the website is to: 1) share updates on the Council's carbon reduction work; 2) provide information to residents, businesses, members and others; and 3) share and signpost resources, opportunities, events and local groups active on the climate, sustainability and biodiversity agenda.
- 3.2.4. An interactive [map](#) of Mid Devon sustainability resources and projects is now live, with an improved design.

3.3. Engagement: groups and partnerships. (Corporate Plan aim, env 10.)

- 3.3.1. Update: The Climate and Sustainability Specialist has continued outreach work through events, meetings and workshops, for example: preparations for the 2022 State of the District Debate (climate change themed); meetings and correspondence with partnerships e.g. Blackdown Hills AONB, Connecting the

Culm; work with eco champions and green groups e.g. Blackdown Hills Transition, Uffculme Green Team, Sustainable Bradninch, Sustainable Crediton and Sustainable Tiverton. For example: joining a team of Sustainable Tiverton volunteers aiming to use public artwork for a “Net Zero Vision” to inspire local communities.

- 3.3.2. Other recent work includes: helping to coordinate with Tiverton Tree Team, a display at Phoenix House reception area with ‘top tips’ for householders, COP26 workshops and post-event discussions, webinars with Newton St Cyres parish council, local enterprise liaison e.g. Planet and People CIC.
- 3.3.3. Liaison with parishes, ward members, and officers at Devon County Council / other local authorities has included: knowledge sharing, calls for project ideas e.g. tree planting and aftercare, biodiversity, energy saving campaigns, green innovation, EV chargepoints and other green transport.

3.4. Research and Expertise Support.

- 3.4.1. The Council now benefits from membership of South West Energy and Environment Group (SWEEG). This membership will give the Council discounted access to University of Exeter Consulting services, and officers can access data, past reports and fellow expertise through the network.

3.5. Strategic Project: Housing Advisors Programme. (CS priority: 1. CP aims: env02, env 05, h01, h02, h03, c04.)

- 3.5.1. The Forward Planning team secured £20k funding through the LGA’s Housing Advisors Programme to develop an assessment tool to model low carbon interventions and consider how they can be implemented at scale.
- 3.5.2. Update: project work has begun. We will develop this tool with University of Exeter Consulting. (Adding value via SWEEG membership.)

3.6. Strategy. Housing sustainability. (CS priority 2+3. CP aims h01, h03.)

- 3.6.1. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist supported the Mid Devon Housing Strategy project team to help consider how it will help deliver the Council’s 2030 Net Zero ambition and incorporate the aims and priorities of the Mid Devon Climate Strategy and the Corporate Plan. Strategy now published: involved in delivery and monitoring.

3.7. Strategic Project: Archetype housing - energy efficiency and low carbon performance. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env01, env02, c04.)

- 3.7.1. Prospect Way in Lapford. The housing team completed a retrofit demonstration project at a pair of Council-owned houses. This shows how we can achieve the lowest carbon footprint possible, with a reasonable available retrofit, for this archetype. We have a live data feed to monitor energy performance over 12 months (2022). This project will inform costed plans to improve the rest of the Council stock of this type.
- 3.7.2. The package included fabric improvements such as new double glazed windows and doors, wall cavity insulation, and loft insulation improved to

300mm. A carefully specified heat pump (reversible) feeds a coil heat exchanger for air to air winter heating and summer cooling. Fresh air is filtered and circulated around the home for consistent ambience.

3.7.3. Following this success, in future the Council's in-house team can deliver most of the works to save costs, with the main heat pump system installed by an external specialist contractor. Training is now being organised.

3.8. Bid update: Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env01, env02, c04.)

3.8.1. Update: The housing team aim to prepare a Wave 2 bid. Should they be successful, the team will then need to rapidly procure and coordinate the delivery of a formidable project.

3.9. Strategic Project: Electric Vehicle charging points. (CS priority: 3. CP aim: env 02.)

3.9.1. As part of the Council's Climate Strategy 2020-2024, the Council seeks to facilitate the roll-out of electric vehicle (EV) charger locations across the district. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist has worked with colleagues and councillors to develop and assess a list of potential EV charging locations (rapid chargers can top up a modern EV by 80% in 40 minutes). A report to Cabinet presented an evaluated set of 3 options for this, to facilitate decision-making and aiming to achieve at least 5 to 15 additional EV charging locations through procurement during 2021. Each of the current options would be powered by renewable electricity.

3.9.2. At their meeting on 13th May 2021, Cabinet decided to delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (S151), Cllr Colin Slade (Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change) and Cllr Andrew Moore (Cabinet Member for Finance) as follows: *RESOLVED that: delegated authority be given to the Deputy Chief Executive (151) and the Portfolio Holder(s) for the Environment & Climate Change and Finance, in consultation with Property Services to facilitate the installation of additional electric vehicle charging points on Council land and across the District.*

3.9.3. Current EV charger provision can be viewed on this map: www.goultralow.com/ev-charging-point-map/

3.9.4. Western Power Distribution (WPD) has been informed of the potential extra power capacity needs in Mid Devon, linked to this project. Published plans for WPD's Green Recovery scheme indicate support for 250% growth in EV rapid charging capacity within their network.

3.9.5. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist has coordinated teamwork to enable actions delegated by Cabinet. Work included partnership liaison, submitting documentation for legal advice, clarifying parking fee policy, assessing risks, and steering charger locations.

3.9.6. All 5 Council-owned locations for 10 fast charger points under the Deletti scheme are approved and the lead partner Devon County Council has prepared for procurement, installations will take place during 2022. The 5 locations are the car parks at: High Street and Market Street in Crediton; Forge Way at Cullompton; Westexe South and William Street in Tiverton.

4.0 Corporate activities

4.1. The Net Zero Advisory Group (NZAG). (CS priority: 1. CP aim: none.)

4.1.1. This advisory group set up after Cabinet approval on 23 April 2020 continues to consider topics including, but not limited to, climate and biodiversity. Chaired by Cllr Elizabeth Lloyd, NZAG meetings take place on alternate months to the Environment PDG to enable a regular feedback cycle.

4.1.2. The most recent meeting took place 08 February 2022. Discussion included:

- The need to move forward with a selection of opportunities to invest budget in addressing climate change. For example, the proposal for a 'Community Climate & Biodiversity Support Fund'.
- The Sustainable Procurement Review. How to further develop policies and procedures to support local sustainability and prosperity through decision making e.g. aligned to Doughnut Economics.
- How to promote and celebrate sustainable farming practices.

4.2. Working across service areas. (CS priorities: all. CP aims: all.)

4.2.1. As previously noted, the Climate and Sustainability Specialist agreed, in consultation with Andrew Jarrett, Andrew Busby and Councillor Colin Slade, to apply a Programme Management approach to develop and deliver the cross-cutting *Climate and Sustainability Programme*. This has now been initiated with the Corporate Management Team and will be developed.

4.2.2. Update: Recently the Climate and Sustainability Specialist has worked with and offered support to teams and officers e.g. Development Management, Forward Planning, Street Scene, Transport, Property Services.

4.3. Greener Procurement: Renewable Electricity. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env02.)

4.3.1. The LASER Framework delivers renewable electricity to 50% of corporate supply as of October 2021; with the other 50% to be secured during 2022.

4.4. Ongoing energy efficiency work at Council-owned facilities. (CS priority 2+3. CP aims env01, h01, h03.)

4.4.1. Spend-to-save projects include: occupancy-responsive lighting at Tiverton Multi Storey Car Park.

4.4.2. Phoenix House Building Management System will become remotely controllable. Phoenix House will have new occupancy-responsive light fittings to save money; emergency lighting included in solution; design in progress.

4.5. Project: Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS). (CS priority: 1, 2. CP aim: env01, env02, ec01.)

4.5.1. A brief update.

- Phase 1: Heat Decarbonisation Plan. Report completed: to assess and devise solutions for Phoenix House, and the 3 leisure centres.
- Phase 1: £310,821 grant being spent. **Works now completed:** to install energy efficiency and low-carbon improvements at the 3 leisure centres.
- Phase 2: no bid; grant fund exhausted within 2 weeks.
- Phase 3: bid submitted, update due very soon.

4.5.2. Update on Phase 3: Tim Powell - Property Services Corporate Projects Officer - submitted a bid on the day the fund opened to place us at the front of the queue (bid forms were accepted). The Heat Decarbonisation Plan (funded by Salix grants) helped to inform our Phase 3 bid detail.

- The grant would enable us to “decarbonise” heating at the Exe Valley and Lords Meadow Leisure Centres, primarily by replacing gas boilers with air-source heat pumps.
- Total bid value is £3,079,032, (of that £1,986,771 is for Exe Valley and £1,092,261 for Lords Meadow).
- Should we succeed, the grant does not require match funding, however the Council would be required to contribute the cost of what it would have been to replace gas boilers like-for-like. That value has been estimated at a total of £176,602 (£101,452 Exe Valley, £75,150 Lords Meadow).

4.5.3. Further assessments will be commissioned to inform future bids and works e.g. building fabric improvements.

4.6. Priority: tree planting and aftercare. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env07.)

4.6.1. We are working closely with Tiverton Tree Team, Sustainable Tiverton, Sustainable Crediton and others to engage the community in planting and aftercare. We continue to liaise with other landowners to expand planting on a wider scale where possible, and this is subject to future agreements.

4.6.2. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist identified funding opportunities and has agreed to work with Devon County Council as a delivery partner (subject to agreement and confirmation of details).

4.6.3. A new community orchard was planted at Mountbatten Way, Tiverton, on 4th December 2021, attended by the Council Chairman Cllr Ray Radford, and members Cllr Les Cruwys, Cllr Bob Evans, Cllr Ben Holdman and Cllr Colin Slade. We are grateful for neighbour cooperation and for the support of Tiverton Tree Team, Sustainable Tiverton and all volunteers.

4.6.4. Update: The team is planting over 600 trees on Council land (winter 2021-2022) and has outline plans to plant more in winter 2022-2023 subject to consultation. The Council has been awarded a grant through the Devon Emergency Tree Fund towards this winter’s trees and materials.

4.7. Project: Mid Devon District Council’s proposals for hydro-electric power on the River Exe at Tiverton. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env02.)

- 4.7.1. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist leads on this project, has set up a project board, and recently met with Environment Agency officers.
- 4.7.2. Western Power Distribution has been informed of the plan to connect 150kWp generation capacity.
- 4.7.3. Work is in progress to address the need for evidence and to resolve issues behind planning objections e.g. flood risk assessment modelling.

4.8. The Council's vehicle fleet. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: none).

- 4.8.1. The Transport Manager and the Climate and Sustainability Specialist authored a report to promote the adoption of Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEV) on the Council fleet when suitable vehicles were due for replacement. This would reduce Scope 1 emissions and save on fuel costs. Costed options were presented to relevant managers.
- 4.8.2. Further specialist-supported work between teams led to a decision and target to replace 8 small vans (diesel) with ULEV in 2022.
- 4.8.3. Operations Managers are now encouraged to adopt ULEV to the fleet. Costed options are considered on an ongoing basis. These are being facilitated by the Operations Manager - Street Scene and Open Spaces. A fleet transformation plan is being developed.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1. That the Environment PDG notes and accepts this report as an update on the Council's response to the Climate Emergency, documenting progress with the CAP (to reduce the Council's carbon footprint) and the wider Climate and Sustainability Programme.

Contact for more Information: Andrew Busby - Corporate Manager Property, Leisure and Climate Change: Email ABusby@MidDevon.gov.uk Tel: 01884 255255. Jason Ball - Climate and Sustainability Specialist: Email: JBall@MidDevon.gov.uk Tel: 01884 255255.

Circulation of the Report: Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change, Leadership Team.

List of Background Papers: The previous climate change and sustainability report provided to the [Environment Policy Development Group](#) on [11 January 2022](#). Link to [Report](#). Link to [Appendix A](#).

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ENVIRONMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

08 MARCH 2022

REPORT – CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE – ANNEX A

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr C R Slade - Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change.

Responsible Officer(s): Andrew Busby - Corporate Manager Property, Leisure & Climate Change. Jason Ball, Climate and Sustainability Specialist.

1.0 Performance

1.1. Performance Indicators

1.1.1. Progress on Performance Indicators (PI) is provided separately, on the regular Performance and Risk Reports.

1.1.2. The tables below summarise actions and progress in achieving the Council's Corporate Plan *aims* and Climate Strategy *priorities*.

Table 1 - Relevant Aims from the Corporate Plan (CP)

ref	Aim	Notes on actions taken
	Environment	
env 01	Encourage retro-fitting of measures to reduce energy usage in buildings.	<p>The Climate & Sustainability Specialist (C&S Specialist) continues to support teams with projects and improvements in practice, policy and strategy e.g. the Housing Strategy.</p> <p>Housing: ongoing effort with archetypes project; retrofit projects; bids for funding active or in preparation for next rounds. Ongoing operational: maintenance and improvement cycles, solar PV panels generating renewable power.</p> <p>Property: Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS): Confident in bid for 2022 project (leisure centres). The bid was informed by the 2021 heat decarbonisation study completed for Phoenix House and leisure centres. The previous £300k project to help decarbonise those facilities is now complete. Ongoing solar PV generation and export on Council facilities.</p> <p>Planning and Regeneration: The C&S Specialist works with teams to review Plans and Strategies.</p> <p>Forward Planning: C&S Specialist will help develop interim statements etc, to support Local Plan.</p>
env 02	Encourage "green" sources of energy, supply new policies and develop plans to decarbonise energy consumption in Mid Devon.	<p>C&S Specialist has encouraged Environment PDG to consider local renewable energy investments.</p> <p>Corporate Manager for Property Leisure and Climate Change has secured greener electricity procurement. All power supply to Council premises will be 100% renewable by October 2022.</p> <p>Solar PV for householders - the Council is part of the Solar Together Devon project.</p>

		<p>The Council has facilitated the Green Homes Grant and promoted community support, e.g. advice and funding promoted via Exeter Community Energy.</p> <p>Electric Vehicle charging points using renewable energy; the Council is facilitating more locations.</p>
env 03	Identify opportunities to work with landowners to secure additional hedgerow planting, biodiversity and reforestation.	Ongoing work with colleagues, parishes and landowners etc, for opportunities and proposals.
env 04	Consider promoting the designation of the Exe Valley as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).	The C&S Specialist will liaise with Policy Development Groups and officer teams e.g. Planning and Regeneration to examine this.
env 05	Encourage new housing and commercial developments to be “exemplars” in terms of increasing biodiversity and reducing carbon use.	<p>The C&S Specialist is working with colleagues to promote the importance and benefits of Net Zero performance buildings, sustainable materials, biodiversity net gain, resource protection etc.</p> <p>The C&S Specialist will continue to work on this aim with Forward Planning (statements and policy guidance) and others in the Planning and Regeneration section (e.g. input to Town Centre Plans, Neighbourhood Plans and Master Plans).</p>
env 06	Increase recycling rates and reduce the amounts of residual waste generated.	The C&S Specialist has worked with Street Scene to promote the <i>reduce-reuse-recycle</i> message to residents e.g. Mid Devon Show; and supported project work e.g. 1, 2, 3, <i>reduce-reuse-recycle</i> .
env 07	Explore large-scale tree-planting projects and re-wilding to enhance biodiversity and address carbon pressures.	<p>The C&S Specialist worked to position the Council as strategic partners to deliver tree planting through the Devon County Council’s Emergency Tree Fund, a grant provided by The Woodland Trust.</p> <p>Up to 1 hectare of Council land assessed for potential planting.</p> <p>The C&S Specialist proactively asked members, staff and parishes for planting proposals (ongoing).</p> <p>The C&S Specialist will work with others to seek external funding and partnership work to support nature recovery and habitat enhancements.</p>
env 08	Promote sustainable farming practices in partnership with local farmers, district and county councils; including research into best practice re better soil management and animal husbandry.	The C&S Specialist will support partnership work with land managers, and has begun to engage with farmers and others about the Mid Devon situation.
env 09	Work with parish and town councils to promote the development and retention of parks and play areas across the district.	Outwith the C&S Specialist role, but relevant to e.g. healthy lifestyles, green infrastructure, nature recovery, climate adaptation.
env 10	Support community activities that improve the environment	Ongoing outreach with groups, partnerships and at district, town and parish level to support activity. The new climate and sustainability website. The Housing team has given away free plug-in electricity monitors to social housing tenants.
Homes		
h 01	Introduce zero carbon policies for new development.	The C&S Specialist worked with the Housing Strategy team to embed and respond to Council’s aim for Net Zero and to help deliver on this priority.

h 02	Encourage the piloting of Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) and self-build opportunities.	Building Services team progress on Zed Pod modular housing with renewable energy installed to achieve Net Zero emissions. The Council is a supporter of the National Custom and Self Build Association and continues to invite proposals for custom and self-build projects.
h 03	Use new development as opportunities to help communities to become increasingly sustainable and self-sustaining at neighbourhood level (district heating, energy use, recycling / re-use systems etc.).	The C&S Specialist works with others e.g. Planning and Regeneration to help realise this aim. Provided input to help develop: Culm Garden Village Sustainability Strategy; Cullompton Town Centre Masterplan; Cullompton Heritage Action Zone ideas.
Economy		
ec 01	Promote zero carbon exemplar sites within commercial settings.	The C&S Specialist will work with others in the Property team and colleagues in Planning and Regeneration to realise this.
ec 02	Use car park pricing mechanism to effectively balance the needs of vehicular access with those of reducing car use.	This seems a natural next step after the 2021 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging units project.
ec 03	Promote the development of the farming economy and local food production.	Local sourcing and networks. (as above)
ec 04	Working in partnership with farmers to develop and grow markets on the principle of reducing carbon emissions and sustainability.	The C&S Specialist will work with others to seek funding, partnership work, and promote good practice exemplars.
Community		
c 01	Work with developers and DCC to deliver strategic cycle routes between settlements and key destinations.	The C&S Specialist will work with others in Planning and Regeneration to realise this.
c 02	Secure decent digital connectivity for all of Mid Devon.	The C&S Specialist will encourage this via Planning and Regeneration teams.
c 03	Work with education providers to secure appropriate post-16 provision within the district to minimise the need to commute out for A/T level studies.	The C&S Specialist will encourage this via Planning and Regeneration teams.
c 04	Promote new, more integrated approaches to promoting good health and healthier living especially in the context of planned new developments.	The C&S Specialist will encourage this via Planning and Regeneration teams.

Table 2 - Climate Strategy (CS) 2020-24 Key Priorities

	Key Priorities	Notes on actions taken
1	Increase climate knowledge, literacy and capacity at Mid Devon District Council.	Net Zero Advisory Group (NZAG) active. The C&S Specialist is working with the learning and communications teams.
2	Identify schemes that will put us on track for net zero carbon by 2030.	Ongoing work to facilitate and manage the Council's Climate Action Plan.
3	Enable and encourage the use of renewable energy locally.	Solar PV scheme. EV chargers.
4	Create a 'Community Climate & Biodiversity Support Fund'.	The NZAG has begun to consider how best to set up a grant.
5	Identify cycling and walking priorities and opportunities	The C&S Specialist will work with colleagues to seek funding and partnership opportunities. Must link into Devon level plans.
6	Review and update MDDC Procurement strategies.	The C&S Specialist has initiated a review, ongoing.

1.2. Monitoring the Council's Carbon Footprint.

- 1.2.1. The Council reports its 'Greenhouse Gas Inventory' or 'Carbon Footprint' which is an assessment of its climate change impact as an organisation, measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e). The tCO₂e is based on the Global Warming Potential (GWP) of different greenhouse gases over a 100-year period in comparison to carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- 1.2.2. Carbon Footprint assessments were carried out by the University of Exeter using internationally accepted methods, and cover Scopes 1, 2, and 3.
- 1.2.3. For the reporting period inclusive of April 2018 to March 2019: gross emissions were 20,372 tCO₂e. This was the 'baseline' year.
- 1.2.4. Net emissions are calculated based on reductions in greenhouse gas emissions linked to e.g. the generation of renewable energy. Net emissions will be estimated in retrospect for 2018-2019.

Table 3 - Mid Devon District Council - Carbon Footprint

Year	Gross (tCO ₂ e)	Net (tCO ₂ e)
Apr 2018 - Mar 2019	20,372	(TBC)
Apr 2019 - Mar 2020	19,754	19,439
Apr 2020 - Mar 2021	19,407	19,122

Contact for more Information: Andrew Busby - Corporate Manager Property, Leisure and Climate Change: Email ABusby@MidDevon.gov.uk Tel: 01884 255255. Jason Ball - Climate and Sustainability Specialist: Email: JBall@MidDevon.gov.uk Tel: 01884 255255.

Circulation of the Report: Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change; Leadership Team.

List of Background Papers: The previous climate change and sustainability report provided to the [Environment Policy Development Group](#) on [11 January 2022](#). Link to [Report](#). Link to [Appendix A](#).

Environment Policy Development Group 08 March 2022

Briefing Report: Local Electricity Supply Networks

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr C R Slade - Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change.

Responsible Officer(s): Andrew Busby - Corporate Manager Property, Leisure & Climate Change.
Jason Ball - Climate and Sustainability Specialist.

Reason for Report: To receive a briefing on local electricity supply networks and their role in supporting community and Council actions to address climate change.

Recommendation: That the Environment Policy Development Group (PDG) notes and accepts this report with regard to the Climate and Sustainability Programme.

Financial Implications: Financial implications associated with this report are the costs / budgets of the overall Climate and Sustainability Programme, specifically linked to the Council's Corporate Plan, Climate Strategy and Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Budget and Policy Framework: Budgets specifically linked to the Council's Corporate Plan, Climate Strategy and CAP.

Legal Implications: Full Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 and as part of that commitment, the Council is to produce a carbon footprint in line with Environmental Reporting Guidelines published by HM Government. With regard to the Climate Emergency, the Environment Policy Development Group (PDG) is the initial owner of this policy activity and considers how best to determine the Council's own policy response(s) such as may then be subsequently recommended to Cabinet and Council. [Link to declaration decision](#).

Risk Assessment: Progress on Performance Indicators (PI) is provided separately on the regular Performance and Risk Reports. There are 2 main risks (to the Council): 1) that the Council does not take sufficient actions to enable it to meet its Climate Emergency declaration ambitions; and 2) that the financial implications of Climate Change are not adequately measured and reflected in the Council's decision making.

Equality Impact Assessment: There are no equality impact assessment implications associated with this report.

Relationship to Corporate Plan: Briefing report only.

Impact on Climate Change: The role of the Climate and Sustainability Specialist in support of the corporate officer team is central to the Council's Climate and Sustainability Programme by actions such as the development of strategic positions and delivery of projects through internal, community and partnership work.

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1. The local electricity supply network's capacity to support actions to address climate change will depend on rapid and appropriate system transformation, infrastructure upgrades and maximal flexibility.
- 1.2. Notes are provided on strategic context and the current approach to address the predicted growth and greater complexity of supply and consumption patterns.
- 1.3. Can the local electricity system develop the right capabilities at sufficient pace to support Mid Devon's Net Zero aims? The simple answer is 'yes it can' but this report cannot forecast the future and relies on strategic assessments such as those by BEIS, noted later.

Assuming a strategically favourable environment for the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) this report's research suggests the local infrastructure system can accommodate renewable energy, decarbonisation and higher demand in a sound manner for the short-term and up to 2030; notably legislated and regulated mechanisms are in place to enable appropriate development 2030 to 2050.

- 1.4. Accurate and timely information management is a primary factor in enabling local system development.
- 1.5. Local authorities and communities / businesses can engage proactively with the DNO to influence and inform the future of the local electricity supply network: through consultation cycles; and by early communication about project / planning / development proposals, capacity assessments and connection applications.
- 1.6. Local authorities and communities / businesses with their own project proposals e.g. renewable generation, can work directly with the DNO to inform design and identify benefits and any need for system flexibility / support / reinforcement.

2.0 Context and guidance notes

- 2.1. As indicated further in this report, please note that the report largely comprises information from publications by WPD www.westernpower.co.uk with other sources used to provide local and national context. Key sources include: WPD web pages, publications and stakeholder workshop notes. For members' ease, the report focuses on those parts of those publications which it is considered will be of most interest to PDG members given the group's climate policy development role.
- 2.2. All sampled graphics, charts and tables are acknowledged. All rights e.g. copyright remain with the originators.
- 2.3. Content herein is intended as guidance only, and do not constitute technical or legal advice.
- 2.4. No proposals or recommendations are given.
- 2.5. Abbreviations
 - BEIS = The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
 - DNO (IDNO) = Distribution Network Operator (Independent DNO)
 - DSO = Distribution System Operator
 - ESO = Electricity System Operator
 - EV = electric vehicles (ULEV = ultra-low emissions vehicles)

- LCT = low carbon technology (to replace fossil-fuel technology)
- MW = megawatt (one million Watts)
- V2G = vehicle-to-grid (power drawn from charged vehicles onto the local grid as part of a smart system)

3.0 Local electricity supply networks

3.1. Structure and operation.

3.1.1. Western Power Distribution (WPD) is the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) including a Distribution System Operator (DSO) for our local electricity supply network, which connects electricity meters, the national level Grid Supply Point, and the regional / local generation and storage plants.

3.1.2. WPD is the UK's largest electricity distribution business, covering 90,000km of overhead cables, 135,000km of underground cable and 188,000 transformers, serving nearly 8 million customers across the South West of England, the Midlands, and South Wales. WPD recently became part of the [National Grid group](#).

3.2. Network Strategy.

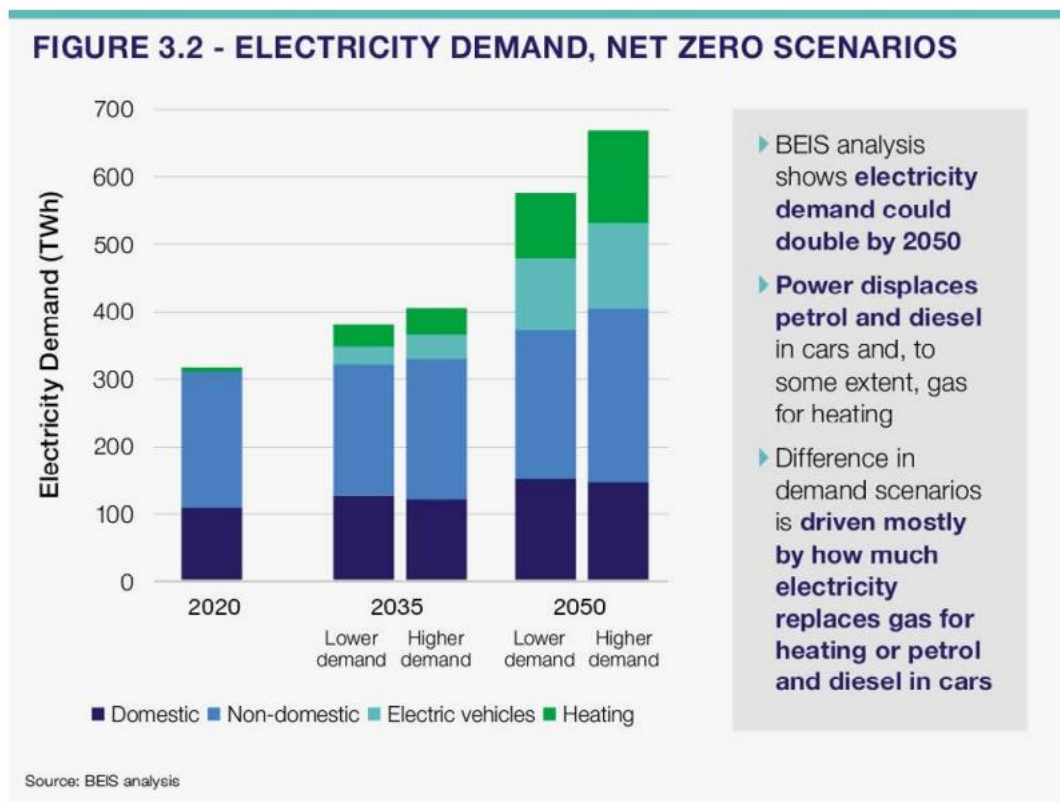
3.2.1. Network development strategy is closely related to the [UK's Net Zero Strategy](#). National strategic context calls for innovation and upgrade in electricity networks. Legally-binding targets, such as cutting Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 78% compared with 1990 levels by 2035, trigger a need for rapid change.

- Electricity is key to decarbonise heating. The BEIS Heat Team requires networks to be ready in advance of demand so residential and business users can switch heating systems from fossil fuel to heat pumps in a timely manner.
- Decarbonisation of transport and [the 2030 ban on new fossil-fuel cars](#) means the ULEV market will grow rapidly. A household's annual electricity demand could be doubled by the need to power an electric car.
- WPD predicts over 3 million electric vehicles, just within their operational area, by 2030.
- WPD predicts that, just within their operational area, around 500,000 new connections for low carbon technology (LCT) will be required every year; or around 2,000 per working day.
- WPD expects overall demand could exceed "original design assumptions" of the network.

3.2.2. Alongside [the 2020 Energy White Paper, Powering Our Net Zero Future](#), the BEIS report [Modelling 2050 – Electricity System Analysis](#) sets out the scale of the challenge: "Electricity will be increasingly important in supporting delivery of net zero, potentially providing around half of final energy demand as its use for heat and in transport increases."

To help understand how the system can produce more power whilst cutting greenhouse gas emissions, the *Modelling 2050* report assessed 2050 electricity system requirements and costs (using 2 Net Zero 2050 scenarios). However, it did not assess the cost of the transformations required to get there.

3.2.3. Figure 3.2.3 – Energy White Paper 2050 Net Zero scenarios. Taken from the UK Government 2020 [Energy White Paper, Powering Our Net Zero Future](#).



3.2.4. Legislation at national level requires regular capacity assessment. The National Grid’s annual [Electricity Capacity Report](#) is subject to scrutiny by a [Panel of Technical Experts](#) to assist the [BEIS](#) Secretary of State to set the parameters for Capacity Market auctions.

3.2.5. Ofgem [programmes](#) include regulation of the Electricity System Operator (ESO).

3.2.6. WPD publishes key strategic information [online](#) e.g. Distribution Future Energy Scenarios (DFES) to outline a range of credible futures; an operability framework to assess technical issues facing DNOs as they become DSOs; and flexibility commitments (evolution and adaptability).

3.3. Network Capacity.

3.3.1. The WPD online [network capacity map](#) illustrates data from the 6-monthly updated Long Term Development Statement (LTDS) to indicate the capability to connect large-scale developments to major substations. The “generation headroom” is the amount of generation available on the network without needing reinforcement (upgrade). The “reverse power capability” is the amount of generation that can go back through the transformer.

3.3.2. Map users e.g. planners and developers can view Mid Devon data by selecting from a list of local authority areas.

3.4. Growth strategy.

3.4.1. WPD announced plans for a [£6billion transformation and investment programme](#) and their [Green Recovery](#) web pages earmarked an extra £60m for development investment during 2021-2023. WPD devises plans alongside the regulator [Ofgem](#), the [Energy Networks Association](#) (ENA) and the industry.

3.5. Strategic analysis and stakeholder engagement.

3.5.1. Growth strategy is informed by WPD's continuous cycles of consultation from national to local levels in all sectors. Special projects e.g. [EPIC](#) include research into appropriate use of information from different sources.

3.5.2. The Council and other local / regional stakeholders receive invitations to participate in WPD consultation workshops and other events.

3.6. Implementing change.

3.6.1. The WPD [2023-2028 Business Plan](#) identifies commitments that include:

- "Drive the achievement of net zero across our regions sooner than 2050 in line with stakeholder plans (some areas as early as 2028), by ensuring network capacity is available."
- "Ensure customers are able to connect low carbon technologies quickly and easily, with the network being ready to support at least an additional 1.5 million electric vehicles and 600,000 heat pumps by 2028."
- "Actively support the expansion of green, renewable energy generation and help local communities to decarbonise and lower their bills, by connecting at least 30 community energy groups to the network each year."
- "Unlock capacity / avoid the need for reinforcement, by stimulating the development of flexibility markets."

3.6.2. WPD published interlinked [Business Plan documents](#) include a Connection Strategy, Climate Resilience Strategy, Innovation Strategy, Major Connections Strategy, Network Visibility Strategy, and a Net Zero Communities Strategy.

3.6.3. Operational tactics for upgrades include "touch once for 2050" as the motto for substations, aiming to address each in sequence with network redesigns triggered by high volumes of LCT connections.

3.6.4. Low Voltage mains upgrades will use thicker cables with a larger cross-section area. Cables of 70mm² were used in the 1930s-1960s, then 185mm² cables were used more recently, and the next stage of Low Voltage mains will use 300mm² cables. (Source: ©WPD workshop slides 17 November 2021.)

3.7. Flexibility and smart systems.

3.7.1. Flexibility of the electricity supply network enables efficient development and smart energy management. Flexibility means [making the best use of the existing network capacity](#), and by designing and optimising interactions between different elements of the interconnected generation, storage, distribution and consumption.

3.7.2. The Carbon Trust report [Flexibility in Great Britain](#) found:

- Flexibility will enable the development of a safe and secure net zero energy system that can operate cost-effectively in diverse situations such as dark, cold and windless days in winter or hot summers.
- A fully flexible energy system has the potential to deliver material net savings of between £9.6 billion and £16.7 billion per annum in 2050.

3.7.3. Examples of flexibility technologies include:

- Electricity storage
- Electric vehicles (EVs) – smart charging and vehicle-to-grid (V2G)

- Thermal energy storage (TES)
 - Demand side response (DSR) from domestic smart appliances and the non-domestic sector
 - Hydrogen electrolyzers and storage
- 3.7.4. Network development and investment is an opportunity to add flexibility to improve performance and resilience. WPD has published commitments to [increased future flexibility](#). WPD's Major Connections Strategy aims to provide an increasing number of flexible connection offers (core commitment 32) and to provide data to enable a better understanding of flexibility opportunities.
- 3.7.5. WPD's online [Network Flexibility Map](#) indicates where it seeks flexibility / may seek it in the future. The mapped status for all Mid Devon areas is 'closed' for years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (viewed December 2021).
- 3.7.6. National Grid ESO has launched a mobile app to help users time their consumption to match [low carbon intensity supply](#).
- 3.8.** The process to identify need and to secure connections.
- 3.8.1. WPD has a comprehensive [Connections](#) section online plus [resources](#) to aid the process. Consents / consultations might be required in some situations ([example](#)).
- 3.9.** Enabling the shift to low carbon technology (LCT).
- 3.9.1. WPD has published strategies and supporting guides at www.westernpower.co.uk/smarter-networks for LCTs e.g. heat pumps and EV.
- 3.9.2. WPD proposes to: simplify the process for LCT connections; to utilise flexible assets to improve prioritisation of connections; to facilitate co-creation of connection agreements. WPD will launch an improved customer portal to enable interactive work scheduling and progress monitoring.
- 3.10.** Capacity for electric vehicles (EV).
- 3.10.1. WPD and the industry are watchful of technological innovations and markets to inform likely future network needs. For example, the emergence of Megawatt Charging Systems (MCS) for battery powered Heavy Goods Vehicles, and the possible range of formats of vehicle charger hubs at different locations such as neighbourhoods or motorways.
- 3.10.2. WPD's [EV guidance section](#) includes a capacity [map](#) to indicate readiness for EV chargepoint connections. Map data for Mid Devon showed quantities of substations with different levels of capacity as follows: Extensive Capacity Available = 128; Capacity Available = 109; Some Capacity Available = 20 (*some capacity available which may need managed charging*). (Data updated May 2019 according to map; viewed December 2021.)
- 3.11.** Capacity for heat pumps (HP).
- 3.11.1. WPD has published [online resources](#) including its HP strategy and guidance on HP connections. WPD's approach to heat pump installation as outlined in its 2021 Heat Pump Strategy states:
- "With new build infrastructure the network is designed to cater for the necessary load so heat pump demands can be built into our initial network designs."

- “With retrofit installations of heat pumps the overall demand on the network will increase, perhaps to a level that was higher than the original design assumptions. Mains cables and transformers may need to be updated.”
- “A legacy design approach where service cables were looped and shared between two properties will need to be re-configured so that the house or building being installed with a heat pump will have its own unique service cable supply. Where this is the case and a HP is to be connected the looped service will be removed at no cost to the customer.”
- “It is expected that as old housing estates transition from fossil fuel heating to HPs that the existing circuits ... could be constrained, especially if HPs were to cluster. **This is why it is of the utmost importance that the DNOs are informed of HP installations** so as remedial action can be taken ahead of need.”

3.12. Enabling local renewable energy.

- 3.12.1. Please refer to the points on growth strategy, connection issues, and the need for early communication.
- 3.12.2. WPD is not responsible for generation but its work is essential to generation, storage and flexibility.
- 3.12.3. Regen’s 2020 report, [Local leadership to transform our energy system](#), suggests ways that DNOs, local authorities and other economic actors can work in partnership to invest strategically e.g. by funding upgrades in advance to enable greener future developments. The report also cited examples of Nottingham City Council using a levy to fund greener transport, and Swindon Borough Council investing in renewables via its subsidiary.
- 3.12.4. The power supply mix / carbon intensity in Mid Devon will simply follow the national / regional average unless Mid Devon and nearby districts host new and improved installations of renewable and low carbon generation and storage.
- 3.12.5. At a micro scale, both [storage](#) and renewable energy [generation](#) can be installed at existing and new built development, where network capacity exists or is capable of being upgraded to accommodate them.

3.13. Enabling community energy projects

- 3.13.1. Community experts and partnerships are seen as important for their roles in e.g. supporting and leading a wide range of beneficial activities, from better energy use and efficiency campaigns to low carbon tech adoption and renewable energy projects. The term ‘community energy projects’ refers to community-led renewable energy generation, demand reduction and supply projects, whether wholly owned / controlled by communities or through partnerships.
- 3.13.2. WPD’s operational area has 100MW of community-owned renewable generation capacity. Those interested in community energy should visit www.westernpower.co.uk/customers-and-community/community-energy for information and resources such as [animations](#).

4.0 What is the Local Authority role?

- 4.1. The Council has a duty to deliver on targets linked to the national Net Zero Strategy (Climate Change Act 2008).
- 4.2. Clear principles applied to Council policy and decision-making can help to realise and prioritise appropriate changes. (For example, applying the ‘fabric first’

principle to improve energy efficiency in buildings will tend to lower workloads for heating / cooling systems, which lessens pressure on local power systems.)

4.3. As a Local Planning Authority (LPA) the Council could:

- 4.3.1. Optimise planning policy and practices to make a difference to electricity supply networks at a local level. Prioritise and empower energy efficiency, energy decarbonisation and locally-generated renewable energy.
 - 4.3.2. Utilise the Local Plan to set progressive ambitions and expectations. (Climate Change will be the overriding priority for the 2023-2043 Local Plan.)
 - 4.3.3. Facilitate the early flow of information to the DNO about the district's likely future needs. Collaborate to inform DNO future energy scenarios and local energy plans.
 - 4.3.4. Encourage or require developers to submit, within relevant proposal packages, appropriate designs and DNO or IDNO assessments for the electricity network infrastructure requirements, in a timely manner.
 - 4.3.5. Encourage the DNO and developers to fund and schedule network infrastructure upgrades in a timely manner.
 - 4.3.6. Encourage or require local built developments to maximise energy efficiency and to include green power generation, future-proofing and smart infrastructure.
 - 4.3.7. Encourage or require retrofit and new energy installations (domestic and non-domestic) to include and appropriate flexibility technologies such as smart meters, responsive appliances and storage (both for heat and electrical power).
- 4.4.** Other ways the Council could promote progress toward a greener, smarter, more flexible local electricity network.
- 4.4.1. Keep WPD informed, and encourage others to do so, by participation in stakeholder engagement cycles.
 - 4.4.2. Consult with WPD, developers, businesses and communities to identify and adopt ways to accelerate progress.
 - 4.4.3. Seek partnership solutions to achieve strategic investment. This might include e.g. making infrastructure resilient to climate change impacts such as higher flood risk.
 - 4.4.4. Lead by example, and demonstrate with data, through the Council's approach to asset management.
- 4.5.** Council project management - looking ahead to check pricing and feasibility.
- 4.5.1. Checks on capacity are essential for new generation e.g. solar photovoltaic panels, or new demand e.g. heat pumps. Council officers should proactively investigate the costs and feasibility of installations likely to require connection or reinforcement, and must register applications for network connections as far in advance as feasible (e.g. connection assessment and prices recently requested from WPD for EV chargepoint locations).
- 4.6.** Proactive dialogue and participation in consultation.
- 4.6.1. The Council engages proactively with WPD about strategically important local needs as they emerge e.g. through Planning and economic development, community feedback and local projects - with particular regard to renewable power generation, energy storage, low-carbon technologies and flexibility (smart networks). Previously the Climate and Sustainability Specialist also responded to

the WPD's [Green Recovery](#) call for evidence in March 2021. WPD has been informed of major potential connection needs e.g. hydroelectric power.

- 4.6.2. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist recently attended connection workshops. A suggested improvement: for WPD capacity maps to provide more finely-resolved data, to indicate connection constraints and potential.
- 4.6.3. Officers should coordinate internally to manage the Council's relevant data and engagement. A quarterly internal cycle should enable a regular 6-monthly cycle of information requests and feedback to WPD (e.g. March and September).
- 4.6.4. An officer group call with our local WPD Distribution Manager will take place in Spring 2022: to work together to build a joined-up energy plan; to establish ongoing dialogue to help future-proof the local electricity network.

5.0 Challenges

- 5.1. The Climate Change Committee (CCC) advising the UK Government [has noted](#) that the UK Net Zero Strategy is well aligned with national targets, but gaps and uncertainties remain e.g. the funding frameworks necessary to realise them.
- 5.2. [The Climate Change Committee specifically noted](#) a number of relevant key issues to be resolved for the UK Net Zero Strategy including: "demand measures" i.e. reducing demand for high carbon activities; "price distortions that currently favour gas over electricity"; improving home energy efficiency; the rate of heat pump installations. [Article by the CCC](#).
- 5.3. Some recent consultee feedback to WPD (WPD: Local Investment Workshops: Summary Report. September / October 2021) highlighted concerns and challenges such as:
 - the timescale between applying for capacity and securing investment from developers with planning proposals;
 - the cost of connections for large-scale renewable energy (citing a shelved local authority project);
 - potential impacts due to a lack of capacity (citing experience of projects having to scale back or uninstall);
 - a perceived lack of clarity about how to identify and agree / verify local reinforcement needs;
 - potential for a lack of faith in capacity (whether founded on fact or myth) to discourage local investment in LCT and renewables; the need for informative outreach and resources such as more detailed online maps;
 - concerns that upgrades might be too reactive / proposal-led, rather than pre-emptively enabling development.

6.0 Caveats

- 6.1. The subject is complex and often highly specialised. Statements, evaluations and estimates are reported as found, and details are not fact-checked. Therefore this report relies to a great extent on the need for this industry to withstand external scrutiny by investors, government and the regulator [Ofgem](#).
- 6.2. Data and statistics are liable to change, as this field is highly dynamic.

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Climate and Sustainability Specialist: Email: JBall@MidDevon.gov.uk Tel: 01884 255255.

Circulation of the Report: Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change, Leadership Team.

List of Background Papers: None.

Environment PDG Annual Report

Chairman – Cllr Josh Wright

This has been my first year as Chair of the Environment PDG and what a steep learning curve it was. Cllr Barry Warren handed over the chairship in good order with a committee ready to be open and willing to debate the challenging issues for our community. Making sure it stayed that way was more challenging than I thought it would be. Following all the agenda items and making sure everyone had their say and kept on track took a great deal of concentration and is not as easy as some of our more experienced councillors make it look. I have now developed a few processes to help and would like to thank everyone for their patience and support as I took over the helm.

Our Environment PDG is clearly an important committee for Mid Devon and this is reflected in the wide range of policies discussed this year. The challenging times we have all experienced due to Covid restrictions over the last few years have been eased for many of us because of where we live. When out in the community many people mentioned how grateful they were for supportive communities, access to our beautiful countryside and the amenities we have in our villages and towns. I hope our residents have felt the work of the Environment PDG has reflected this appreciation for where we live.

Looking at the policies we have discussed this year has highlighted the challenge facing local authorities when striking a balance between sound finance and supporting key policies initiatives. I hope residents have felt that the wide ranging discussions we had during the committees reflected the full range of views of all our residents. The foundations we lay now over the next few years will have a big impact on our environment in Mid Devon for the foreseeable future. Ensuring that short term operational issues can be met as well as enabling the wider and more strategic issues to be delivered is the challenge facing the committee over the next few years. I really look forward to ensuring this committee faces this challenge head on and does not shy away from those difficult conversations and represents the views of all Mid Devon residents.

As we look forward, I hope the Group will consider an ambitious programme for the following year that continues to promote actions around climate change, sustainability and improvement to services that impact on our local environment.

I would like to thank all Members for their contributions this year and I look forward to working with you next year to further serve our local communities.

Importantly I would like to thank the Members and Officers for their contributions over the past year, as well as our Clerk, Carole Oliphant, thanks for keep everything organised and your kind support.

Action on Climate Change

Throughout the year the PDG received regular updates on climate change and net zero activity within the Council, and reviewed the progress of the Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Discussions within the PDG have considered a range of issues in relation to climate change, including: the number of electric charging points in the District; sustainable farming practices; increasing collection of pots and pans; grants that the Council has applied for with relation to climate change activity; decarbonisation of the council's housing stock; and green alternatives for the councils transport fleet.

At the start of the year members of the Net Zero Advisory Group (NZAG) brought a Motion recognising the action taken on climate change within the council. That Motion was deferred to the PDG to consider. Notably the Motion welcomed the ongoing work within the council, and recognised the need for a ring fenced budget to develop work on climate change. The PDG approved that Motion and requested that a future budget for climate change be created.

In January the PDG reviewed budget proposals that might be prioritised to help move ahead with the CAP. Members heard a number of proposals which identified ways to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and support the wider Climate and Sustainability Programme. As a result the PDG recommended that the potential additional budget requirements linked to the climate investment opportunities be considered.

The PDG will continue to monitor progress on the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, and receive regular updates on the activity of the NZAG (a summary of NZAG activity is attached the end of this report).

Presentation from Mary Quicke MBE

In March 2021 Members received an insightful overview of farming and climate change from local farmer Mary Quicke MBE. Mary Quicke MBE explained working practices on her farm and the importance of understanding the complex systems of sustainability. She talked about how the world had worked together to overcome the challenge of the pandemic, and that similar cooperation was going to be required to tackle climate change. The PDG agreed that it is time to challenge the normal systems of food production and for people to become conscientious consumers who are knowledgeable about how their food is produced and where it comes from.

Approval of the Public Spaces Protection (Dog Control) Order

The PDG has continued to review the revised Public Spaces Protection (Dog Control) Order (PSPO) after the PSPO expired in October 2020. The PDG last year recommended that the PSPO be redrafted to take account of public consultation responses and a revised version be brought in front of the PDG. In April the Group recommended that the fixed penalty for breach of the PSPO be set at the maximum permitted of £100 and in July we heard the responses to the consultation.

It became apparent that a couple of areas had been missed in the consultation, and it was agreed that the PSPO would be brought into force and that a variation adding the two areas would be brought back to the Environment PDG at a later date. In November we considered the proposed variation, and recommended that the Cabinet authorise the variation to include the two areas in the PSPO.

Approval of the Tree Policy

The PDG received the five yearly review of the Tree Policy. After discussion about which trees are subject to the policy, and when pruning of trees is allowed, Members requested an addition to the Policy so that it would be possible for some stock to be removed to allow the growth of new trees which would keep woodlands sustainable. Members subsequently approved the policy.

Moving to a three weekly waste collection

The November 2020 Environment PDG gave authorisation for a Recycling and Waste trial covering approximately 1000 properties to be carried out in Mid Devon. The Council carried out the trial between July and October 2021 to measure the effect of residual waste being collected at three weekly intervals. The trial was piloted over a three month period in both a rural and urban area to assess the impact of such a change being introduced in the district. The findings from the trial were presented to the PDG in January.

During the trial the percentage of residual waste reduced and the percentage of wet recycling (food) increased. Having wheeled bins in the trial areas improved the street scene and reduced the amount of residual waste. After discussion around the use of enforcement, whether houses would need additional bins, and concerns whether residents would have to drag wheelie bins up farm tracks and driveways, the PDG recommended that the council move to a three weekly waste collection, with food collected every week and recycling collected every two weeks, with bins provided by the Council.

Finalisation of the Litter Strategy

The PDG formed a Working Group to look at the creation and detail of the Litter Strategy and how the council would enforce and educate on the issue. The aim of the strategy is to engage with partners, the community and the public to reduce littering in the District. Following involvement by the Working Group, and discussion in the PDG about how to ensure the strategy is measurable and achievable, the PDG recommended that the Mid Devon District Council Litter Strategy be adopted.

Engagement with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change

Throughout the year the PDG has heard regular updates from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change and considered ways to improve services. In discussion with the Cabinet Member, Members heard and considered the impact of staffing on the waste service, and how the workforce was facing pressure on the front line services due to vacancies, especially for HGV drivers. Members also raised the unacceptable wait for bulky waste collections in some areas of the district, and asked that rapid car charging opportunities were relayed to the Town and Parishes.

Budget – identifying potential savings

Discussions on the budget throughout the year looked at how to close the current deficit within the council, and to identify any potential savings. The PDG discussed a range of options being considered by officers for budget savings, as well as the potential savings from the three weekly bin trial.

Net Zero Advisory Group 2021-2022 Annual Summary

The Net Zero Advisory Group (NZAG) is an advisory group under the Environment PDG and it group continues to consider topics including, but not limited to, climate

and biodiversity. Chaired by Cllr Elizabeth Lloyd, NZAG meetings take place on alternate months to the Environment PDG to enable a regular feedback cycle. The group provides a valuable informal forum to look into topic detail, support and adopt work elements of the PDG, and help disseminate information between Members.

During 2021-2022 NZAG activity and discussion included:

- The Council's Climate Action Plan.
- Monitoring the Council's Carbon Footprint, and our trajectory of actual emissions versus annual target emissions.
- The need to move forward with a selection of opportunities to invest budget in addressing climate change. For example, the proposal for a 'Community Climate & Biodiversity Support Fund'.
- The Sustainable Procurement Review – the Corporate Manager for Finance and Procurement briefed and updated the NZAG in December.
- Ways to increase climate knowledge, literacy and capacity at Mid Devon District Council.
- How to further develop organisational culture, policies and procedures to support local sustainability and prosperity through decision making, for example aligned to Doughnut Economics.
- Policy to support communities and individuals to reduce their climate impact, and to reduce areas of the Council's carbon footprint, such as: policies to maximise the environmental and social benefits of home/blended working; and policies to accelerate the improvement of energy performance in buildings.
- Planning policies and practice in relation to heritage, and policies to promote sustainable construction and retrofit.
- Examples of sustainability work by other authorities.
- How to promote and celebrate sustainable farming practices in Mid Devon.
- Community/parish wildlife projects, tree aftercare, citizen science etc.
- Council practice for Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and the potential for 'amenity' (in relation to legislation and best practice) to include the contribution of trees to benefits such as biodiversity support and carbon capture.

ENVIRONMENT PDG WORK PLAN 2022-2023 - 2022 TO 2022

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Theme	Officer Responsible	Comments
24th May 2022				
24.05.22	Election of Chairman To elect a Chairman for the Municipal Year			
24.05.22	Election of Vice Chairman To elect a Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year			
24.05.22	Start Time of Meetings To agree the start time of meetings for the Municipal Year			
24.05.22	Climate Change Action Plan Update To receive an update on actions taken for the Climate Change Action Plan		Jason Ball	
24.05.22	Revenue and Outturn Report To consider a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (S151) presenting the Revenue and Capital Outturn report, previously considered by Cabinet on 17 th May 2022.		Paul Deal	
24.05.22	Sustainable Farming Members to discuss the issue and to provide a steer to Officers on how the PDG wishes to proceed to investigate the subject.		Jason Ball	

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Theme	Officer Responsible	Comments
24.05.22	Performance and Risk Outturn Report To consider the Performance and Risk Outturn report which was presented to the Cabinet on 17 th May 2022.		Matthew Page	
24.05.22	Work plan for 2022-2023 & Work Programming Session Members to receive the Work plan for 2022-2023 and to discuss items and projects that they would like to add to the work plan		Clare Robathan	
19th July 2022				
19.07.22 19.08.22 Page 40	Play Area Safety Inspection Policy To receive the 3 yearly review of the Play Area Safety Inspection Policy		Andrew Busby	
19.07.22	Climate Change Action Plan update To receive an update on actions taken for the Climate Change Action Plan		Jason Ball	
19.07.22	Work Plan To receive the current work plan for the Environment PDG. Members to agree and discuss additional items that they would like added to the Work plan		Clare Robathan	

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Theme	Officer Responsible	Comments
13th September 2022				
13.09.22	Climate Change Action Plan update To receive an update on actions taken for the Climate Change Action Plan		Jason Ball	
13.09.22	Work Plan To receive the current work plan for the Environment PDG. Members to agree and discuss additional items that they would like added to the Work plan		Clare Robathan	
15th November 2022				
15.11.22	Medium Term Financial Plan - General Fund (GF), Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme To consider the updated Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) which covers the period 2023/2024 to 2027/2028 and options available in order for the Council to set a balanced budget.		Andrew Jarrett	
8.11.22	Climate Change Action Plan update To receive an update on actions taken for the Climate Change Action Plan		Jason Ball	

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Theme	Officer Responsible	Comments
8.11.22	<p>Work Plan To receive the current work plan for the Environment PDG.</p> <p>Members to agree and discuss additional items that they would like added to the Work plan</p>		Clare Robathan	
10th January 2023				
10.01.23	<p>Budget Update To receive a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (S151) reviewing the revised draft budget changes identified and discussing further changes required in order for the Council to move towards a balanced budget for 2023/2024</p>		Andrew Jarrett	
10.01.23	<p>Climate Change Action Plan update To receive an update on actions taken for the Climate Change Action Plan</p>		Jason Ball	
10.01.23	<p>Work Plan To receive the current work plan for the Environment PDG.</p> <p>Members to agree and discuss additional items that they would like added to the Work plan</p>		Clare Robathan	

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Theme	Officer Responsible	Comments
14th March 2023				
14.03.23 4.04.23	Environment Educational Enforcement Policy To receive the 3 yearly review of the Environment Educational Enforcement Policy		Simon Newcombe	
14.03.23	Climate Change Action Plan update To receive an update on actions taken for the Climate Change Action Plan		Jason Ball	
14.03.23	Work Plan To receive the current work plan for the Environment PDG. Members to agree and discuss additional items that they would like added to the Work plan		Clare Robathan	

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