

## ENVIRONMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

19 JULY 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. The Environment Policy Development Group (PDG) is responsible for developing relevant council policies; considering how best to implement the Council's approved policies; and for making informed recommendations to Cabinet on the matter. [Link to declaration decision.](#)

**Risk Assessment:** Progress on Performance Indicators (PI) is provided separately by 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 impacts associated with this report. (No recommendations.) Specific projects and policies are subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty. (Assessing the equality impacts of proposed changes to policies, procedures and practices is not only a legal requirement, but also a positive opportunity for authorities to make better decisions based on robust evidence.)

**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 (C&S) 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 climate change declaration 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 C&S 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*.

2.1.3. Corporate Plan mid-point actions have been reviewed between the Corporate Manager Property, Leisure & Climate Change and the Portfolio Holder.

## **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 C&S Specialist coordinated a CAP review to develop and extend it to 2030, identify costs, additional funding needs, and coverage levels (and to address gaps).

- 2.2.2. Corporate Management Team (and their officers) have been tasked with maintaining the CAP as a live management tool to enable budget planning and ensure a timely cycle of reporting. Teams will prioritise the most imminent opportunities and impactful projects.
- 2.2.3. The CAP comprises both **corporate** and **community** work streams.
- 2.2.4. Estimated costs thus far (July 2022) total £146,027,543 split as follows:
- £532,638 in potential actions for *Internal Structures and Processes*.
  - £138,520,450 for actions within the *Housing Energy and Assets* strand. (This includes HRA planned works and estimates to retrofit and decarbonise the Council's facility buildings.)
  - £6,342,455 for the *Transport and Vehicles* strand.
  - £542,000 for the *Community and Wider Context* strand.
- 2.2.5. Cost estimates may already be allocated within existing budgets, or may be additional; the CAP format shows where additional funding is required in order to enable fundraising and budget planning.
- 2.2.6. Proposals could save an estimated 61,415 tCO<sub>2</sub>e up to 2030 (approximately 22,792 tCO<sub>2</sub>e on the Corporate carbon footprint work stream and 38,623 tCO<sub>2</sub>e on the Community work stream).
- 2.2.7. **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. (Corporate impact.)
  - 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).
- 2.2.8. Update: CMT and Operations Managers now have a monthly group call for Q&A and support. The CAP will be published annually on the Sustainable Mid Devon website.

### 3.0 Community and partnership activities

#### 3.1. Devon Climate Emergency

- 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 C&S 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 continues to develop and implement the Interim Devon Carbon Plan (iDCP) which is subject to ongoing public consultation.

3.1.4. The most recent public consultation stage followed up the 2021 [Devon Climate Assembly](#) (Citizen's Assembly) whose Resolutions responded to 3 challenging topics: retrofitting homes; the role of onshore wind power; and decarbonising transport (particularly with regard to encouraging less car use).

The C&S Specialist circulated [the Assembly report](#) and consultation materials to all Council Members and Cllr Colin Slade initiated the response debate via NZAG, with member views given to the C&S Specialist. Views from across the partnership informed [DCE responses](#) to the Climate Assembly [open to public consultation](#) in March and April 2022 (now closed).

3.1.5. Consultation results inform the next iteration. The draft Final DCP will be published in August 2022; partners are encouraged to endorse it.

3.1.6. Devolution recently raised the possibility of a Devon *county deal*. Climate was central, so ideas were discussed (at short notice) by Chief Executives and the DCE Tactical Group. The C&S Specialist liaised with Portfolio Holder Cllr Colin Slade, Chairperson of Environment PDG Cllr Josh Wright and the Chairperson of NZAG Cllr Elizabeth Lloyd to coordinate our feedback on proposals. All partner ideas on net-zero were reviewed and a shortlist submitted to the Devon County Council Economy and Enterprise team who are leading the process. These were considered by Team Devon and a final application has been submitted to government.

3.1.7. Devon Climate Emergency published a [Carbon Footprint for Devon](#) (split into district data). This relies on national datasets published 2 years in arrears - so the latest report is for 2019.

Note: A useful resource for Mid Devon communities - the Impact Tool [estimates a community's Carbon Footprint](#) and provides an interactive graphic for local authority areas including [Mid Devon](#).

3.1.8. Update: The C&S Specialist joined Sustainable Tiverton's work with local people and artists to create a "Net Zero Vision" public artwork to inspire community ideas and actions for a low carbon future. This is part of a Devon Climate Emergency project. The mural is now being created at Tiverton – hosted on a Council-owned wall near the Pannier Market.

## 3.2. Engagement: State of the District Debate 2022 – Mid Devon's Communities and Climate Change.

3.2.1. On 5th April the Council hosted a public [State of the District Debate](#) online. The theme chosen by the Leader of the Council was *Mid Devon's Communities and Climate Change*, and the aim was to listen to community

perspectives on ways to address climate change. Over 50 people from local households, businesses, farms, community groups engaged in the debate.

- 3.2.2. The event was preceded by extensive officer preparations and engagement with local environment champions. The C&S Specialist would like to thank all who organised, shaped and joined in with the debate, particularly 'topic specialists' who gave their time and expertise to benefit the debate.
- 3.2.3. Mid Devon environment champions included home energy advisor Tara Bowers, organic farmer Liz Bowles, campaigner Roger Stickland and we learned of green projects at Heathcoat Fabrics Ltd, presented by Energy Manager Alison Kitchener and Environment Manager Victoria Pelaou.
- 3.2.4. Guest speaker Mukti Mitchell from Carbon Savvy shared his top ten tips for choosing (and enjoying) a range of ways to cut carbon in our everyday lives.
- 3.2.5. Update: The C&S Specialist will support the Portfolio Holder and officers to take forward arising actions by Council and in partnership with the community.

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

- 3.3.1. The Climate and Sustainability Specialist curates our dedicated website [www.SustainableMidDevon.org.uk](http://www.SustainableMidDevon.org.uk) as a Mid Devon community resource. 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 ecological agenda.
- 3.3.2. Community contributions of resources, news, events and ideas are welcomed from parish and town councils, sustainability groups, eco champions, businesses, farmers and growers, etc.
- 3.3.3. Recent updates include *Tips for Tackling Climate Change*, a better interactive [map](#) of Mid Devon sustainability resources, a Platinum Jubilee themed article.
- 3.3.4. New materials will include: sustainable farming resources and signposting.

### **3.4. Engagement: groups and partnerships. (Corporate Plan aim, env 10.)**

- 3.4.1. Update: The C&S Specialist has continued outreach work through events, meetings and workshops, for example: the Council stand at the **Mid Devon Show** Saturday 23 July will feature our recycling truck and team, a sustainable farming adviser, an active travel and lifestyles promotion, a carbon footprint game and a low-carbon housing promotion.
- 3.4.2. Other recent work: promoting e.g. activities, retrofit grants, local energy advisors (ECOE) and local volunteering such as the Repair Cafes; Devon County Show (29 June) with Recycle Devon and the Devon Climate Emergency team; promoting Visit Mid Devon business workshops e.g. 18 May featured local supply chains; 2022 State of the District Debate (climate change themed); meetings and correspondence with partnerships e.g. Blackdown Hills AONB and Connecting the Culm (steering group and workshops); work with eco champions and green groups e.g. Blackdown Hills Transition, Uffculme Green Team, Sustainable Bradninch, Sustainable Crediton and Sustainable Tiverton; liaison with Tiverton Tree Team, a display

at Phoenix House reception area with 'top tips' for householders, COP26 workshops and post-event discussions, inter-authority webinars, and local enterprise liaison e.g. educators; green/active travel; farmers and growers.

- 3.4.3. 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.

### **3.5. Research and Expertise Support.**

- 3.5.1. The Council now benefits from membership of South West Energy and Environment Group (SWEED). Membership gives the Council discounted access to University of Exeter Consulting services, and officers can access data, past reports and fellow expertise through the network.

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

- 3.6.1. 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.
- 3.6.2. Update: project complete. Arron Beecham - Principal Housing Enabling & Forward Planning Officer – and the C&S Specialist worked to develop this tool with University of Exeter Consulting. (Adding value via SWEED membership.) An extra workshop on its use will be held for key planning officers.

### **3.7. Strategy. Housing sustainability. (CS priority 2+3. CP aims env 01, env 02, env 05, h01, h03.)**

- 3.7.1. Mid Devon Housing Strategy published: the C&S Specialist is now involved in delivery and monitoring.
- 3.7.2. Zed Pods: under way. The C&S Specialist has helped to promote projects.
- 3.7.3. Post Hill Passivhaus: the C&S Specialist offered support to the project team in relation to climate and sustainability benefits and opportunities. The Council opened a consultation for its Post Hill proposals for a [Passivhaus affordable and social rent development](#). Officers and architects met interested locals during April (the C&S Specialist joined one of the evenings).
- 3.7.4. The C&S Specialist and the Development Management Manager ran a workshop (12 May 2022) for parish and town councillors on sustainable housing and developments. Feedback included interest in community renewables, rural EV chargers, and public transport.
- 3.7.5. Update: The C&S Specialist has begun work with the Fwd Planning team and Development Management team on the interim Planning Policy Statement on Climate Change.

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



- 3.8.1. 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.
- 3.8.2. 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.
- 3.8.3. 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 organised.

**3.9. Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env01, env02, c04.)**

- 3.9.1. Update: bid rejected.

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

- 3.10.1. As part of the Council's Climate Strategy 2020-2024, the Council seeks to facilitate the roll-out of electric vehicle (EV) chargepoints across the district. Current EV charger provision can be viewed on this map: [www.goultralow.com/ev-charging-point-map/](http://www.goultralow.com/ev-charging-point-map/)
- 3.10.2. The C&S Specialist worked with colleagues and councillors to develop and assess a list of potential EV locations for fast chargers or rapid chargers (rapid chargers can top up a modern EV by 80% in 40 minutes). A report to Cabinet presented 3 main options to facilitate decision-making. Each of the options would be powered by renewable electricity. Cabinet on 13th May 2021 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.*
- 3.10.3. The C&S Specialist coordinated teamwork to enable actions delegated by Cabinet e.g. partner liaison, officer liaison, seeking legal team advice on agreements and the lease, clarifying fee policy, assessing viability risks, and finalising charger locations. Western Power Distribution (WPD) was informed of potential extra capacity needs.
- 3.10.4. All 5 Council-owned candidate sites for 10 fast charger points under the Deletti scheme were approved, and funding was secured. These car parks are: High Street and Market Street in Crediton; Forge Way at Cullompton; Westexe South and William St in Tiverton. The Environment and Enforcement

Manager is involved in the project and future priorities. The C&S Specialist supported Devon County Council in procurement, now completed.

3.10.5. Update: The installation phase should start in summer 2022. Gamma Energy won the contract to install and operate the charger units. The operator will hold a lease and shall be responsible for installation, power supply, customer service, operation, care and repairs; the Council will earn a percentage of unit income.

3.10.6. Update: Officers seek to expand on partnership opportunities.

#### **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 21 June 2022. Discussion included:

- The interim planning policy statement: Climate Change.
- How to promote and celebrate sustainable farming practices.
- The importance of Community Engagement.
- The ongoing need to prioritise a selection of ways to invest budget in addressing climate change.

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

4.2.1. As previously noted, the C&S Specialist, in consultation with Andrew Jarrett, Andrew Busby and Councillor Colin Slade, agreed to apply a Programme Management approach to develop and deliver the cross-cutting *Climate and Sustainability Programme*. This continues to develop with the Corporate Management Team and operations managers.

4.2.2. Recent work included:

- C&S Specialist continues to work with and offer support to teams and officers e.g. Development Management, Forward Planning, Economy, Street Scene, Transport, Property Services.
- At the request of Development Management Manager the C&S Specialist initiated regular training workshops for planning officers.
- The C&S Specialist facilitated between MDDC officers and Exeter Community Energy (ECOE) to trigger staff workshops with energy advisors. This fed into cooperative outreach 'roadshows' in parishes.

4.2.3. Update: More energy advisor roadshows to come.

##### **4.3. Climate knowledge, literacy and capacity. (CS priority: 1.)**

4.3.1. The C&S Specialist and the Training Manager have booked to undertake Carbon Literacy 'trainer' level certification, and will then develop materials to deliver training to Members and officers (early autumn).



4.3.2. Details of other climate and sustainability learning materials and workshops e.g. by bodies such as Carbon Savvy, LGiU and the LGA have been circulated to Council members and officers.

#### **4.4. Greener Procurement: Electricity. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env02.)**

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

4.4.2. Update: Corporate Manager Property, Leisure and Climate Change will confirm LASER's date for the switch to 100%. The aim is to secure supply ahead of current market volatility.

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

4.5.1. Spend-to-save projects include lighting and water saving projects. (See also: PSDS below.) Occupancy-responsive lighting has been installed at Tiverton Multi Storey Car Park. Water use monitoring systems are being investigated.

4.5.2. Update: Phoenix House is being fitted with new occupancy-responsive light fittings to save money; emergency lighting included in solution; installation in phases.

4.5.3. Update: Coming soon - Phoenix House Building Management System will become remotely controllable.

4.5.4. Update: We have initiated a LASER energy data analysis service, which will indicate consumption issues / faults and identify opportunities for savings.

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

4.6.1. 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 funded works. **Completed:** low-carbon technology and responsive low-energy lighting at the 3 leisure centres.
- Phase 2: no bid; grant fund exhausted within 2 weeks.

4.6.2. Update: Phase 3 [bid successful](#) - the £2.8m project was approved and has started. Overview:

- Tim Powell - Property Services Corporate Projects Officer - submitted a bid on the day the fund opened. The Heat Decarbonisation Plan funded by a previous Salix grant helped to inform detail.
- The project is to "decarbonise" heating 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).

- The grant did not require match funding but the Council was required to contribute what it would have cost to replace gas boilers like-for-like, estimated at £176,602 (£101,452 Exe Valley, £75,150 Lords Meadow).

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

#### **4.7. Priority: tree planting and aftercare. (CS priority: 2. CP aim: env07.)**

4.7.1. Property Services continue to work closely with Tiverton Tree Team, Sustainable Tiverton, Sustainable Cridton and others to engage the community in planting and aftercare.

4.7.2. The C&S Specialist secured a role for the Council as a strategic delivery partner for Devon County Council's [Emergency Tree Fund](#) generously financed by the Woodland Trust. The Council was awarded a grant of £2,511.77 through the fund towards last winter's trees and materials. We are grateful for the help of local volunteers who helped the Council to plant 615 trees on Council land by March 2022.

4.7.3. The officer team has outline plans to plant more trees in winter 2022-2023 subject to consultation. We continue to liaise with other landowners to expand planting on a wider scale where possible, subject to future agreements.

4.7.4. On 15th April, Tiverton Tree Team launched Tiverton Community Orchard hosted on Council land at Mountbatten Way (planted December 2021). [The event](#) was attended by Cllr Ray Radford in his official capacity as Chairman of the Council, also Cllr Les Cruwys, Cllr Ben Holdman, Cllr Elizabeth Slade, Cllr Colin Slade and the C&S Specialist.

4.7.5. We are grateful for the neighbour cooperation and for the support of Tiverton Tree Team and Sustainable Tiverton volunteers. (Tiverton Tree Team has an online fundraiser for their work including the community orchard project.)

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

4.8.1. The C&S Specialist has set up a project board and met with Environment Agency officers. Western Power Distribution has been informed of the plan to connect 150kWp generation capacity.

4.8.2. Work is in progress to address the need for evidence and to resolve issues behind planning objections e.g. flood risk assessment modelling. An update will be provided at the next Environment PDG.

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

4.9.1. To reduce fleet emissions (Scope 1) in line with Council Net Zero 2030 policy and to save on fuel costs, the Transport Manager and the Climate and Sustainability Specialist wrote a 2021 report to promote adoption of Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEV) onto Council fleet when suitable vehicles were due for replacement; or when new vehicles are taken on. Relevant managers and the Deputy Chief Executive were consulted on costed options, prioritising small and medium payload vans (and looking ahead to larger vehicles).

- 4.9.2. Further specialist-supported work between teams led to a decision to replace 8 small vans (diesel) with ULEV in 2022\*.
- 4.9.3. The C&S Specialist highlighted this decision and presented outline costs to the January 2022 Environment PDG (Budget Options for Climate Investment).
- 4.9.4. Managers are now encouraged to adopt ULEV to the fleet, and asked to assess all fleet decisions to ensure alignment with Net Zero policy. Cost and supply constraints apply. Options are considered on an ongoing basis, facilitated by the Operations Manager - Street Scene and Open Spaces.
- 4.9.5. Update: \*This order grew to 10 electric vehicle replacements. Property Services has been tasked with EV charger installation.

## **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](mailto:ABusby@MidDevon.gov.uk) Tel: 01884 255255. Jason Ball - Climate and Sustainability Specialist: Email: [JBall@MidDevon.gov.uk](mailto: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 [24 May 2022](#).