

MANAGING THE ENVIRONMENT PDG

8 MARCH 2016

Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan - 2016-2020

Cabinet Member: Cllr Neil Davey

Responsible Officer: Head of Housing and Property Services Nick Sanderson

Reason for this report: To provide Members with the updated Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan for consideration.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet review, note and endorse the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan

Relationship to Corporate Plan: The report highlights the Corporate Plan objectives with regard to the environment and climate change and advises on the Policy, Plans and Strategies in place to fulfil these objectives.

Financial Implications: There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. There may be investment promoted to achieve objectives but this will be grant aided or on spend to save initiative.

Legal Implications: There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. Some or parts of individual policy, strategy and plans are mandatory as indicated.

Risk Assessment: Individual policy, plans and strategies are under regular review to ensure compliance where necessary and mitigate risk.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Strategy and Action Plan is a compilation and summary of existing relevant documents and actions across the Council and statement on central government policy and guidance.

The document has been updated as previously agreed to ensure its currency reflecting other updates and emerging guidance.

2.0 Central Government Position

- 2.1 The Paris Agreement following the 2015 United Nations Conference on Climate Change of 195 countries to holding the increase in global temperature to well below 2 deg. C and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 deg. C

The government has also committed to support Mission Innovation. This is a commitment of 20 leading governments to seek to double their clean energy research and development investment over five years. New investments would be focused on transformational clean energy technology innovations that can be scalable to varying economic and energy market conditions that exist in participating countries and in the broader world.

- 2.2 The Green Deal funding mechanism (provided by the Energy Act 2011) to facilitate the installation energy efficiency measures in homes and businesses has ceased. Reasons cited for this are the low take up and concerns about industry standards.

The government will work with the building industry and consumer groups on a new value for money approach. Future schemes must provide better value for money, supporting the goal of insulating a million more homes over the term of the government.

The decision has no impact on existing Green Deal arrangement.

3.0 Mid Devon Updated and New Related Policy, Plans and Strategy

The following new or updated documents support addressing climate change and carbon reduction.

Corporate Plan 2016-2020 (draft)
Mid Devon Core Strategy 2007-2026
Local Plan Review
Forward Planning/Local Plan documents
HECA – 2015 Further Update
Green Infrastructure Assessment
Housing Strategy (draft)
Asset Management Plan (draft)

4.0 Achievements from 2012-2015 Corporate Plan and 2014-2017 Climate Change Action Plan

Increase the recycling rate – the rate is increasing and exceeds 50%

Reducing Carbon Footprint of our offices and leisure centres – the arrangement the Council have with Anesco Energy Services (South) Ltd is realising energy savings in these buildings and that project is being built on when opportunity allows during planned maintenance and replacement. The investment with solar PV on these buildings is also reaping rewards.

Adopt a Low Emissions Strategy – this is rolled on from the previous Corporate Plan and remains an action although low emissions improvements are being driven by Local Plan policy and the ECO Stars initiative. It should be understood that carbon reduction is an indirect benefit of reduced low emission which major on improved air quality.

Replacement of fleet with more eco-friendly vehicles - fleet replacement is ongoing as appropriate and current recycling vehicles meet Euro 6.

Prepare action plan for maintenance of open space – this remains an action to be completed.

Reducing Fuel Poverty on Council Housing Stock – investment is ongoing and in addition to the extensive Solar PV installations include replacement boilers,

controls and insulation, air-source heat pumps, solar thermal, trials of air to air heat pumps and consideration of other and emerging technology. Efforts are also being concentrated in providing a main gas supply to all the Housing Stock as the preferred source of energy.

Private Sector Housing is actively supporting that sector where they're able to do so. Actions include giving advice directly or via partners, enabling improvements via the former Green Deal and any replacement funding opportunity that may become available.

A Green Infrastructure Assessment has been completed and forms part of the local plan evidence (it is not a specific plan or policy as originally intended).

The Eco Stars initiative in addition to the refuse vehicles and taxi operators has many local to national outside vehicle operators who use the roads in Mid Devon signed up to operating vehicles with lower emissions.

Mid Devon actively participate with the Low Emissions Partnership network to deliver improved air quality

4.0 Annex A lists relevant policy, strategy and plans and their link to the Strategy.

Annex A

Policy/Plan or Area of Work	Responsible Service	Mandatory Requirement?	Links to Strategy?
Mid Devon Core Strategy, adopted 2007-2026	Forward Planning	Not a legal requirement but there are government guidelines to be followed	Bio and Geodiversity The built and urban environment
Policy AL/IN/6 : Carbon footprint reduction	Forward Planning	Not a legal requirement but there are government guidelines to be followed	The reduction of the use of natural resources and energy consumption
Policy DM/3: Sustainable development	Forward Planning	Not a legal requirement but there are government guidelines to be followed	The built and urban environment
Mid Devon Local Plan Review 2013 - 2033	Forward Planning	Not a legal requirement but there are government guidelines to be followed	Bio and Geodiversity The built and urban environment The reduction of the use of natural resources and energy consumption Sustainability Managing the Council's environmental impact
Green Infrastructure Assessment	Forward Planning	Not a legal requirement but there are government guidelines to be followed	Bio and Geodiversity The built and urban environment Sustainability All land and water quality
Green Travel Plan (no policy)	Environmental Services	Non mandatory	Managing the Council's environmental impact Transport
Private Sector Housing Policy	Private Sector Housing	Elements of this policy are mandatory	The built and urban environment The reduction of the use of natural resources and energy consumption

Policy Sustainability	Procurement	EU Regulations are law for spend over £173k on supplies and services. £4.3M on works. Guidance is followed for spend under this threshold.	Sustainability Managing the Council's environmental impact
Corporate Plan 2016-2020. Increase recycling and reduce waste	Environmental Services	Non mandatory	Waste management
Corporate Plan 2016-2020: Reduce our carbon footprint	Housing and Property Services	Non mandatory but government guidelines for reporting greenhouse gas emissions	Sustainability Managing the Council's environmental impact The reduction of the use of natural resources and energy consumption
Corporate Plan 2016-2020: Protect the natural environment	Environmental Services Housing & Property Services	Non mandatory	Managing the Council's environmental impact Transport
Corporate Plan 2016-2020: Planning and enhancing the built environment	Development Management	Non mandatory	Managing the Council's environmental impact
Air Monitoring (no policy)	Environmental Health	Mandatory	Transport
Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing policy	Licensing	Internal requirement only	Transport
Housing Strategy Reducing fuel poverty on our housing stock	Housing & Property Services	Government guidelines	Managing the Council's environmental impact The reduction of the use of natural resources and energy consumption
Asset Management Plan	Property Services	Government guidelines	Managing the Council's environmental impact The reduction of the use of natural resources and energy consumption

Contact for more Information: Nick Sanderson, Head of Housing & Property Services or Steve Densham, Development Services Manager, 01884 234921, sdensham@middevon.gov.uk