

THIS ITEM IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(Please note that "Information Only" reports do not require Integrated Impact Assessments, Legal or Finance Comments as no decision is being taken)

Title of meeting:	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Green Recovery
Subject:	Carbon Strategy Refresh
Date of meeting:	9 th February 2022
Report by:	Kristina Downey, Principal Strategy Adviser- Carbon Management
Wards affected:	n/a

1. Requested by

Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Green Recovery

2. Purpose

- 2.1 To provide information on the actions taken to update the existing climate change strategy.

3. Information Requested

- 3.1 In 2020, Portsmouth City Council last published their Climate Emergency Strategy. Since then, then independent external reviews have been undertaken and a revised edition is being prepared to reflect best-practice.
- 3.2 Due to the near-term targets committed to by Portsmouth City Council, annual revisions of parts of the Strategy are recommended. This will enable better action planning and monitoring of results. Therefore, the revised Strategy will be designed to be multitiered to support a faster process of publication.
- 3.3 The over-arching part of the Strategy will be high-level but in an accessible language, detailing climate change in Portsmouth, our role, principles and approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation. This part of the Strategy will therefore not require frequent update.
- 3.4 The over-arching part of the Strategy will then be supported by separate carbon reduction strategies for both the Council on an organisational level and Portsmouth on a city level. These supporting sub-Strategies will include the methodology and results of the latest carbon inventory, and details of the proposed actions to reduce carbon emissions. Each of these will be updated annually.

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Sub-Strategy 1: Portsmouth City Council

- 3.5 It is intended that the Council's Strategy will be in two versions. The first is intended to be an internal document that will be highly detailed to provide assurance of data and reporting quality. The second is intended to be a summary for public consumption in a more accessible format.
- 3.6 In between publications, the Council's strategy will be supported by a 'live' tracker of carbon mitigation opportunities that will be investigated for their feasibility, carbon reduction potential, costs and co-benefits (with particular emphasis on cross-cutting issues in Portsmouth such as air quality and socio-economic inequalities). This tracker is intended to aid opportunity identification, funding support, and accountability.
- 3.7 It is intended that by the end of Q1 2022, a Council carbon inventory will be available for the financial year 2020/2021, with an associated strategy for 2022/23. From April 2022, work will begin on collating the 2021/2022 carbon inventory and developing the associated action plan.
- 3.8 It is likely that some data from the Council's inventory may be limited due to absence of data collection mechanisms (such as details of staff commuting) or of limited quality due to the age of the data (such as types and area of green space owned by the Council).

Sub-Strategy 2: Portsmouth City

- 3.9 The development of the Portsmouth City carbon reduction strategy will be led by the Climate Action Board, through support and engagement with key partners and stakeholders including Portsmouth City Council.
- 3.10 Discussions are underway as to the form and content of this Strategy, but it may have similar aspects to that of the Councils.

Other Strategies

- 3.11 Whilst climate change mitigation is intended to be addressed, it is noted that climate change resilience and adaptation does not yet have a holistic strategy that describes the climate change risks and potential impacts to both Portsmouth City Council operations and the wider city.
- 3.11 It is therefore intended, that a further Climate Change Adaptation Strategy is developed and regularly updated to reflect resilience-building activities. It is expected that this Strategy will aid risk or opportunity identification, funding support and accountability.

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Signed by
Paddy May
Corporate Strategy Manager

Appendices:

No appendices

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location