

**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)

<b>Title of meeting:</b>	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Green Recovery
<b>Subject:</b>	Response to Motion on Decarbonising Portsmouth, November 2020.
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
<b>Report by:</b>	Kelly Nash, Corporate Performance Manager
<b>Wards affected:</b>	n/a

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**1. Requested by**

Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Green Recovery

**2. Purpose**

- 2.1 To set out the actions taken in response to the Action of Decarbonising Portsmouth Notice of Motion at Full Council on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**3. Information Requested**

- 3.1 On 9<sup>th</sup> November, a Motion was carried at Full Council on the topic of decarbonising Portsmouth. The full motion is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 As a result of this, a number of actions will now be taken, as set out below.
- 3.3 **Action 1. To identify and allocate the necessary funding for a full carbon audit from an appropriately qualified and experienced external organisation to provide a baseline of carbon emissions across the city to be completed by April 2022:** In order to look at carbon emissions for the whole city, Portsmouth City Council is using the SCATTER cities tool to establish a position. This is a tool that has been funded by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and developed in collaboration with Nottingham City Council, GMCA, the Antithesis Group and the Tyndall Centre. This tool uses available data to generate local authority level data about carbon emissions and key sources to enable development of plans. The tool generates a Greenhouse Gas Emissions inventory following the Global Protocol for city-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions for local areas. This will provide a baseline for us to be able to track against and also provide comparative data.

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- 3.4 Action 2. Develop and agree a framework for measuring changes in carbon emissions across the city including full carbon audits of all planned projects, programmes and developments to inform decision making and contribute to forecasting and planning to be completed by February 2022; and Action 3. Agree key indicators to inform regular and formal reporting of changes in carbon emissions after consultation with leading local authorities and other experts by February 2022:** This work is underway and the methodology for this framework will be presented to the Climate Change and Green Recovery decision meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022. This will include consideration of how changes will be captured and reported in the future.
- 3.5 Action 4. Apply the information gathered to provide a detailed action plan showing how Portsmouth will achieve net zero carbon emissions across the city by 2030. To be overseen by the Climate Action Board and the Cabinet with the plan being completed by July 2022 for submission to Full Council by way of update:** The Climate Action Board is currently in a process of considering how it will be working in the future and Portsmouth City Council is linking with them closely on this. As part of these considerations, discussions are underway about the development of a plan in partnership.

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Signed by  
Paddy May  
Corporate Strategy Manager

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1 - Motion carried at Council, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**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

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***Appendix 1 - Motion carried by Council, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021***

On 19 March 2019 Portsmouth City Council agreed to declare a climate emergency for Portsmouth to accelerate our progress to achieving net zero carbon emissions as a city by 2030.

Specifically the following actions were agreed:-

1. Declare a 'Climate Emergency' then ask partners to sign up including local business, schools and community groups.
2. Pledge to achieve net zero carbon emissions in Portsmouth by 2030, considering, both production and consumption of emissions according to the Standard provided by the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol
3. Require the Leader of the Council to report back to the Council within six months with an action plan, detailing how the Council will work with partners across the City and with central government to ensure that Portsmouth's net carbon emissions (Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions as defined by the GHG Protocol) are reduced to zero by 2030.
4. Provide an annual report on Portsmouth GHG emissions, what is working and what is more challenging and progress towards achieving net zero-carbon emissions.  
Whilst a number of actions have been taken and some work has been done to green the city, particularly to reduce the carbon footprint of the city council itself, it is apparent that far too little has been done to achieve the rapid step changes that are needed in response to the global crisis we all face.

In particular, two years have passed without any progress in establishing the baseline measurement of carbon generation across the city so that the impact of new projects, programmes and developments (positive and negative) can be accurately assessed and so that we can measure the overall progress of the Portsmouth area to zero carbon by 2030. As in all other programmes for change, measurement is of key importance. If we cannot measure we cannot manage.

The enquiries we have made about progress with developing a clear framework for measuring carbon levels across Portsmouth reveal a few obstacles including the Covid pandemic. Whilst the affect of Covid on deployment and workloads is understood surely the urgent nature of the climate crisis should have seen the necessary resources found and deployed.

During November 2021, COP26 is taking place in Glasgow. While global leaders congregate to discuss strategies and plans to achieve a net zero carbon future, the summit presents an opportunity for local authorities and political leaders to reflect on what more can be done on climate change.

Full Council therefore calls upon the Cabinet to take immediate action as follows:

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1. To identify and allocate the necessary funding for a full carbon audit from an appropriately qualified and experienced external organisation to provide a baseline of carbon emissions across the city to be completed by April 2022.
2. Develop and agree a framework for measuring changes in carbon emissions across the city including full carbon audits of all planned projects, programmes and developments to inform decision making and contribute to forecasting and planning to be completed by February 2022.
3. Agree key indicators to inform regular and formal reporting of changes in carbon emissions after consultation with leading local authorities and other experts by February 2022.
4. Apply the information gathered to provide a detailed action plan showing how Portsmouth will achieve net zero carbon emissions across the city by 2030. To be overseen by the Climate Action Board and the Cabinet with the plan being completed by July 2022 for submission to Full Council by way of update.