



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 & Greening the City's Decision Meeting.
Subject:	Portsmouth Business Decarbonisation
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Kimberly Barrett, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Greening the City
Date of meeting:	11 March 2024
Report by:	Kristina Downey, Principal Strategy Advisor for Climate Change
Wards affected:	N/A

1. Requested by

1.1 Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Greening the City.

2. Purpose

2.1 To provide a summary of a new Portsmouth City Council (**PCC**) initiative to support our supply chain and local businesses to decarbonise.

3. Information Requested

3.1 In November 2023, a new Climate Change Strategy was published and detailed strategic priority areas for climate action.

3.2 To support decarbonisation within our organisational emissions, key actions included:

- *"Reduce emissions in all scopes to meet net zero carbon in 2030"*
- *"Seeking funding for carbon reduction activities from internal and external sources"*

3.3 To support decarbonisation within Portsmouth city, key strategic priority areas and actions included:

- Business and the green economy
 - *"Identifying training requirements and opportunities to enhance skills, knowledge, and the local supply chain in our community to match net zero carbon ambitions."*
- Engagement and partnerships
 - *"Providing support for businesses to access decarbonisation initiatives."*

3.4 Funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund, spending under the 2023/24 allocation for E29: Supporting decarbonisation & improving natural environment will see the



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purchase of 90 licences to a digital decarbonisation platform, [Zellar](#), and further support to Shaping Portsmouth's' work towards decarbonisation of businesses in the city.

- 3.5 The platform licences will provide a year's support to help businesses understand their carbon footprint, create reports that will help them meet sustainability requirements from tenders, show business available grants, and actions they can take.
- 3.6 In support from PCCs' Procurement and Economic Development Teams, the licences will initially be targeted towards businesses that are both on PCC's supply chain but also operate in Portsmouth. The licences will build long-term capacity and capabilities of businesses to calculate their carbon footprints and build knowledge of energy-saving options and grants.
- 3.7 It is anticipated that these licences will support the decarbonisation of PCC but also the wider city. The co-benefits of decarbonisation should also be noted too, of improving air quality, saving money by reducing purchasing of expensive fossil fuels, and therefore business survivorship.
- 3.8 Any remaining licences will be offered to the Portsmouth supply chains of organisations within the Portsmouth Green Partnership group, and then freely to any other Portsmouth businesses.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 Portsmouth businesses will be recruited shortly, and the initiative will be monitored for its success and carbon that has been avoided over the following year.

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Signed by
Paddy May
Corporate Strategy Manager

Appendices: None

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