

# Chichester District Council

Council

25 January 2022

## Climate Emergency Detailed Action Plan – first annual progress report

### 1. Contacts

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### 2. Recommendations

#### 2.1 That the Council notes this report.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 In January 2021 the Council approved a Climate Emergency Detailed Action Plan. This report is the annual progress report to Full Council as required by action 3.4 within the plan.
- 3.2 The October 2021 meeting of the Environment Panel requested the following two actions: 1) that it was set out within the plan, those actions over which CDC had control and those where it has influence; 2) the cost of sustainability actions. This report seeks to meet those requests.
- 3.3. All actions within the action plan have been assigned a letter that relates to Figure 1 in Appendix 1, which has been taken from a report entitled “Local Authorities and the Sixth Carbon Budget” published by the Climate Change Committee, the government’s advisers on meeting the U.K.’s carbon budgets. The assigned categories for each action range from direct control by the Council over carbon emissions to least control where our role is engaging and communicating only.
- 3.4 Information on the cost to the Council of its sustainability actions is provided in paragraph 4.3 below.
- 3.5 This report sets out the council’s second greenhouse gas emissions inventory or “footprint” for the period 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 and progress

towards the council's target of a 10% year-on-year reduction from the 2018-2019 base year, covering scopes 1 and 2 and selected Scope 3 categories until year-end 2025 i.e. Scopes 1 and 2 cover direct fuel use and electricity use and our Scope 3 categories are certain leased assets, business mileage and emissions associated with the extraction, production and distribution of fuels and electricity. Full information is in Appendix 2. Performance against target is given in paragraph 4.2 below.

- 3.5 The action plan also includes an area-wide target of a 10% reduction year on year until 2025 with year 2019 as the start point. Government data published annually in June is used to assess progress towards this target. There is always a time lag in receiving these figures which is due to the complexity of the data gathering process and because priority is given to assembling the national emission figures before disaggregating emission figures to local authority areas. Therefore, the most recent figures are for 2019. This is the base line for the target. The Council will have access to 2020 data in June 2022 and progress towards the target will be included for the first time in a quarterly report to Environmental Panel and next year's annual report to Council. A graph showing the 2019 figures (baseline year figures) is shown in Appendix 3.

#### **4. Key Points**

- 4.1 Progress on actions: colour coding is used to show if actions within the plan are underway (green), may not be initiated/completed on time (amber), or are not expected to be initiated/completed on time (red). See Appendix 1. The plan has 29 green actions, nil amber actions and four red actions. Three of the four actions that have not been initiated on time relate to the Low Carbon Chichester Fund and was due to a change in parent company ownership of the company supplying the fund and consequent changes to the legal agreements. Progress on this has now been made. Details are given in Appendix 1 under Action 6.1. The fourth delayed action relates to the writing of a report on the feasibility of establishing on-going District-wide fund for sustainability related improvements. However, the Government's Covid green recovery agenda has meant that there has been ample availability of funds in the short-term and the focus has been on ensuring CDC does not miss these opportunities.
- 4.2 Regarding the council's carbon reduction target, the latest reporting period (October 2019 to September 2020) includes lockdowns due to Covid, the first of which occurred in March 2020. There was also a significant increase in the amount of renewable electricity on the national grid in this reporting period compared to the base year. Together these factors led to a 16% reduction in emissions in scopes 1 and 2 and selected scope 3 categories. This exceeds the target of 10%. See Appendix 2 for details. Data on the next reporting year will be available in a quarterly report to Environment Panel.
- 4.3 Since the start of 2021 the council has been maintaining a record of the additional costs incurred to achieve environmental goals above a business-as-usual scenario. These costs currently stand at just under £3,600,000, of which £1,082,500 is funded by CDC, £2,349,000 is grant funded and the remainder

are joint CDC and grant-funded projects. In terms of officer time, currently only that of the Carbon Reduction Project Manager can be quantified, although several officers spend significant time on projects.

**5. Proposal**

5.1 That progress on delivery of the Action Plan is noted.

**6. Resource and Legal Implications**

6.1 None beyond staff resources allocated to this work.

**7. Community Impact and Corporate Risks**

7.1 None arising from this report.

**8. Other Implications**

<b>Are there any implications for the following?</b>		
	Yes	No
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>		X
<b>Climate Change and Biodiversity</b> The action plan is designed to address climate change & some of the actions within it have intended benefits for biodiversity.	X	
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b>		X
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help</b>		X
<b>General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</b>		X
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Fuel poverty is addressed by the plan.	X	

**9. Appendices**

9.1 Appendix 1 – The latest progress report on the Climate Emergency Action Plan marked with CDC’s degree of influence.

9.2 Appendix 2 – CDC greenhouse gas emissions inventory for 2019-2020

9.3 Appendix 3 – Chichester District emissions for 2019.

**10. Background Papers**

10.1 None