

Council

24 March 2022

Report of Director of Regulatory Services

VISION DERBYSHIRE CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY: 2022-2025

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents the final draft of the Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022-2025 for discussion and seeks approval of the Strategy so that officers can continue to contribute to discussions intended to help reduce carbon emissions throughout the county.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022-2025 is approved.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The Corporate Plan 2020-24 identified climate change as a key strategic priority under the theme 'Place - keeping the Derbyshire Dales clean green & safe'. The recommendations in this report support the specific aim to 'Achieve net zero carbon emissions from District Council operations by 2030' and 'Work with partners across the county and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies'

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Members are well aware of the Vision Derbyshire partnership. At a meeting of the Vision Derbyshire Leaders and Chief Executives in February 2021 it was agreed that a countywide strategic group should be formed to give oversight and direction for the delivery of climate change activities across the boroughs and districts of Derbyshire. This group first met in July 2021 and Derbyshire Dales District Council is represented on it by the Director of Regulatory Services.
- 1.2 A separate group consisting of climate change portfolio holders/lead members has also been formed and Derbyshire Dales District Council is represented on this group by the chair of the Council's Climate Change Working Group.

- 1.3 As the officer group formed it was recognised that whilst its purpose was clear – to work towards a net zero county – it required a strategic framework in order to concentrate its work and ensure that its efforts were neither duplicating or frustrating work that was already being undertaken by partners or in other associated groups, such as the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities' Energy Partnership. As such it was agreed that one of the early tasks for the Vision Derbyshire Climate Group was to produce its own strategy.

2 REPORT

- 2.1 The Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022-2025 is now in final draft form and is attached as appendix 1 to this report. The Strategy has been developed through collaborative working between Derbyshire County Council and all the district and borough councils across Derbyshire. As part of this development the draft document has been made available to members of our Climate Change Working Group and to relevant officers. All comments received on the Strategy have been fed back through the Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Group to assist with its development.
- 2.2 The Strategy is not intended to replace the individual plans held by all Derbyshire authorities to reduce their own carbon footprints, but instead concentrates on the influence that those authorities can have in reducing emissions in the wider county, whilst recognising issues relating to estates, operations and services. As such it identifies a number of priority areas in which joint working is expected to add value. These are: strengthening the low carbon economy; decarbonising Derbyshire's housing; sustainable transport, travel and infrastructure; and waste and resources. The Strategy specifies a vision and priorities for each of these areas of work.
- 2.3 It is recognised that at this stage the Strategy is necessarily a high level document. It is intended to underpin the visions and priorities with a detailed action plan that will cover all the collaborative work to be undertaken in these areas. This action plan is still being developed, but hopefully Members will recognise that Derbyshire Dales District Council is already working successfully in some of these areas, such as the ongoing delivery of Green Homes Grants to decarbonise homes and the programme of works to reduce emissions from our own operations. As the Vision Derbyshire action plan emerges it is expected that we will continue to consult with Members, initially through the Climate Change Working Group.
- 2.4 Each member council of the Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Group has now been asked to review and hopefully approve the final draft Strategy so that the partnership can move on to finalise and publish it. It is then hoped that the Strategy will be considered at a meeting of the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee in April.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

3.1 Legal

The adoption of this plan is required by Council. The legal risk is low.

3.2 Financial

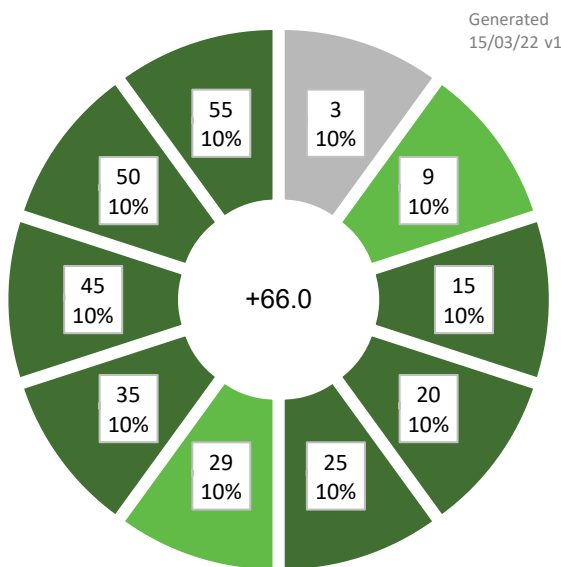
Officer costs to develop, implement and monitor the Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022-2025 is within the revenue budget. Therefore, at this stage the financial risk is assessed as low.

The report states that the strategy is intended to underpin the visions and priorities with a detailed action plan that will cover all the collaborative work to be undertaken in these areas. As this detailed action plan is developed, it will be necessary to assess the financial implications and risks of proposed actions, and to seek approval at that time for any expenditure that has not been included in the revenue budget or capital programme.

4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

5 CLIMATE CHANGE



DDDC has committed to being a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 (7 years and 9 months away).

5.1 The purpose of the draft Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022-2025 is to promote positive change in relation to carbon emissions for the whole county through partnership working. At this stage the Strategy sets out broad areas within which the partner agencies can work, but does not include a detailed action plan with quantifiable emissions reductions. Therefore it is considered that the Strategy has a positive impact in principle in all areas covered by the Climate Change Impact Assessment tool, but does not warrant the highest scores until those principles can be supported by quantified targets and achievements.

6 CONTACT INFORMATION

6.1 Tim Braund, Director of Regulatory Services, Tel: 01629 761118, Email: tim.braund@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

8 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Final Draft Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022-2025