

Scrutiny Report



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: July 2023

Subject Climate Change Plan Annual Report 22-23

Author Scrutiny Advisor

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

| Invitee: | Area / Role / Subject |
|-----------------------|---|
| Paul Jones | Director of Environment and Sustainability |
| Silvia Gonzales-Lopez | Head of Environment and Public Protection |
| Laura Waldron | Programme Manager – Climate Change |
| Ross Cudlipp | Service Manager – Climate Change |
| Cllr Yvonne Forsey | Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Bio-diversity |

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked:

1. To consider whether information submitted is adequate in providing understanding of the work being undertaken and progress being made.
2. To scrutinise and review progress demonstrated against the six Key Delivery Themes and their priorities.
3. To provide comment and recommendations on the Climate Change Plan Annual Report.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 This is the first performance monitoring report for the Climate Change Plan.
- 2.2 In 2021, [Newport City Council declared an Ecological and Climate Emergency](#). This specified a clear Organisational Climate Change Plan would be developed in consultation with Newport City residents.

- 2.3 A Climate Change Project Board was created to oversee the development of the plan and staff and managers from across the Council were involved in the writing of a consultation draft of the plan using the [Route Map for Decarbonisation](#) as a framework. The consultation took place during November and December 2021 and responses were reviewed and the plan amended accordingly.
- 2.4 In March 2022, [Cabinet agreed the Organisational Climate Change Plan](#) which sets out the themes, priorities, actions and milestones for the period. Newport City Council [Organisational Climate Change Plan](#) (Appendix 2) spans the period 2022-27.

Previous Consideration of this item

- 2.5 This is the first time that the Committee will scrutinise the performance of the Climate Change Plan.
- 2.6 The Climate Change Plan was brought to the Committee on the [23rd September 2023](#) as an introductory, informational report to inform Committee and begin the reporting process.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 The Climate Change Annual Report 22-23 is affixed as Appendix 1. The report includes:
- Foreword
 - Background
 - Development of Year 2 Action Plans
 - Projects and Case Studies
 - Annual Carbon Reporting
 - Glossary
 - 2023/24 Action Plans
- 3.2 It is worth noting that the carbon reporting figures included within the report are currently provisional.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

- 4.1 **Role of the Committee**

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Assess and make comment on
 - Whether information included is adequate in providing an understanding of the Climate Change Plan
 - The performance as demonstrated within the Climate Change Plan Annual Report 22-23.
 - Any areas within the report that the committee feel require more information or further clarification within the report.
- Conclusions:
 - Is the committee satisfied that the report adequately demonstrates performance for the period specified?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the inclusion of general information, case studies and specific technical information?
 - Does committee feel that any further information needs to be included?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?

4.2 Suggested Lines of Enquiry

The Committee may wish to query:

- How many buildings does the Council own that are without solar energy that could support it? Is anything being done to address this?
- Will the Committee have sight of any new policies that are developed under this plan?
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4.3 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

| 5 Ways of Working | Types of Questions to consider: |
|--|--|
| Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs. | What consideration have you given to the long term trends that could affect your proposal or; how could your proposal impact these trends? |
| | How will the needs of your service users potentially change in the future? |
| Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse. | What is the objective (or the desired outcome) of this proposal? |
| | How are you addressing these issues to prevent a future problem? |
| | How have the decisions, so far, come about? What alternatives were considered? |
| Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other | Are there any other organisations providing similar / complementary services? |
| | Have you consulted with the health board, third sector, emergency services, businesses and anyone else you think might be impacted? |

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| objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies. | What practical steps will you take to integrate your project with existing plans and strategies of other public organisations to help us all contribute fully to the seven national well-being goals? |
| Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself). | Who have you been working with? Why? Who have you collaborated with in finding out more about this problem and potential solutions? |
| | How are you co-working with other sectors? |
| | How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work? |
| Involvement The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves. | How have you involved the people who are being impacted by this decision? |
| | How have you taken into account the diverse communities in your decision making? |
| | How have you used different / alternative methods to reach people and involve them? |
| | How will you communicate the outcome of your decision? |

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

| Well-being Objective | 1 – Economy, Education and Skills | 2 – Newport's Environment and Infrastructure | 3 – Preventative and Equitable Community and Social Care | 4 – An Inclusive, Fair and Sustainable Council |
|----------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Aims: | Newport is a thriving and growing city that offers excellent education and aspires to provide opportunities for all. | A city that seeks to protect and enhance our environment whilst reducing our carbon footprint and preparing for a sustainable and digital future. | Newport is a supportive city where communities and care are at the heart of what we do. | Newport City Council is an inclusive organisation that places social value, fairness and sustainability at its core. |

5.1 The Climate Change Plan Annual Report 22-23 has strong links to Wellbeing Objective 2 and 4.

6. Background Papers

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan 22-27](#)
- [Ecological and Climate Emergency declaration](#)

- [Route Map for Decarbonisation](#)
- [Organisational Climate Change Plan](#)

Report Completed: July 2023