

Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission

9th January 2020



Report of: Zoe Willcox, Director: Development of Place

Title: Update on the Mayor's Climate Emergency Action Plan and development of the One City Climate Strategy

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Scrutiny Commission are asked to:

- * note the progress of the key actions in the Mayor's Climate Emergency Action Plan
- * note the work being undertaken to develop the One City Climate Strategy



1. Summary

The Mayor published his Climate Emergency Action Plan in July 2019. This set out a range of activities taking place in the Council and how the Council was contributing to the wider action in the city. This report provides an update on the Key Actions in that plan.

The key area of activity has been the development of the One City Climate Strategy. This is being led by the One City Environmental Sustainability Board, involving a range of stakeholders and delivery partners. The strategy is due to be considered for approval by the Environmental Sustainability Board on 26th February and by the City Council Cabinet on 3rd March 2020.

The work on the evidence base and strategy is progressing rapidly and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting through a presentation.

2. Policy Context

The UK Government has set a statutory target for the UK to be net-zero carbon by 2050.

The Mayor of Bristol has declared a Climate Emergency and set the Goal for Bristol as a city to be Carbon Neutral by 2030 for all emissions, both direct energy and transport (Scope 1&2) emissions and consumption based (Scope 3¹) emissions and become a climate resilient city.

The Mayor has also created the One City Approach and the City Office with its thematic boards, including the Environmental Sustainability Board.

The Mayor has committed to developing a One City Climate Strategy.

2. Update on the Mayor's Climate Emergency Action Plan

The Mayor reported to Full Council in July on the action being taken in response to the Climate Emergency. Initial progress on the implementation of this plan was reported to Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission in September 2019. The following table provides an further update for the Commission.

¹ The Scope of emissions are defined in the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and further details are given in the Mayor's Climate Emergency Action Plan.

| Key Action | Update |
|--|--|
| <p>Call on government for increased powers and resources and to lead through national policies, taxation etc</p> <p>Call on government to review the societal impacts of achieving net-zero carbon</p> | <p>The Mayor is the Climate Change portfolio holder for the Core Cities Cabinet and has led the production of the Core Cities Climate Emergency Declaration. LINK</p> |
| <p>Develop and deliver a One City Climate Strategy, working with City Office Partners</p> | <p>The Mayor has provided resources for the development of the One City Climate Strategy which is being led by the Environmental Sustainability Board – see later in this paper for details.</p> |
| <p>Deliver a climate change public engagement programme</p> | <p>Work is underway to develop a new website to provide citizens with useful information and an engagement plan is being developed. This includes supporting the Bristol Green Capital Partnership to develop a bid to the National Lottery Community Fund: Climate Action Fund along with a range of community partners.</p> |
| <p>Urge all public sector organisations in Bristol to commit to at least 30% of their fleet using non-fossil fuel by 2026</p> | <p>This request has been made and we are collating the information on the public sector fleet at the moment. Currently 5% of the BCC are EV, more are on order and plans are being developed to increase the proportion of EV vehicles as further suitable models become available and charging infrastructure can be installed.</p> |
| <p>Commit to the Council being carbon neutral for our direct (Scope 1 & 2) emissions by 2025</p> | <p>This commitment has been made and a plan is being developed to ensure it can be delivered in the most sustainable way possible.</p> |
| <p>Quantify the Council's indirect (Scope 3) emissions</p> | <p>Consultants have been commissioned to undertake a high level estimate and to work with colleagues to develop a plan to reduce it. This work is on-going and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.</p> |
| <p>Train city leaders, councillors and council staff in climate change to enable them to respond to the climate emergency in everything they do</p> | <p>BCC is participating in a UK pilot project with Government and the Carbon Disclosure Project to create materials which can be used by local government across the UK. Training materials have now been provided to us and BCC will be testing them in the new year and designing a programme of training to follow.</p> |
| <p>Deliver significant low carbon energy infrastructure in the city</p> | <p>The key to this is the City Leap Energy Partnership and procurement is progressing well and is being reported to scrutiny separately.</p> |

3. Development of the One City Climate Strategy

Creating a Carbon Neutral and Climate Resilient City will require action by the whole city, therefore a One City Climate Strategy is being developed. The Environmental Sustainability Board set the objectives for the strategy to:

- Stimulate action
- Widen ownership
- Build capacity
- Inspire and develop over time.

The One City Climate Strategy needs to be based on sound evidence. The Mayor has therefore invested council resources to create this evidence base. It includes:

1. Baseline study – anticipated reductions in future carbon emissions to 2030 – published July 2019.
2. An analysis of what would need to happen for Bristol to be net-zero greenhouse gas emissions for energy and local transport (Scope 1 and 2) by 2030.
3. An analysis of the indirect/consumption based (Scope 3) emissions.
4. An assessment of the Climate Resilience of the city.

This work has been contracted to consultants who are working to a very tight timetable and it will be completed in January. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

The Councillor Cross Party Working Group will also be reviewing the evidence base and contributing to the development of the Council's contribution to the One City Climate Strategy.

The evidence base will be reviewed by the Independent Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change. This committee is made up of experts from academia, business, communities and the public sector.

The One City Climate Strategy will be a strategic document which brings together a wide range of city partners to face the climate emergency together and provide a clear framework for detailed action planning. This more detailed action planning will be through the statutory and non-statutory plans of a wide range of agencies, such as the City Council. This will ensure that we embed climate action across the city.