

Council notes:

- The Climate and Ecological Emergency Programme and its component documents set out where the city needs to go and what it seeks to achieve but not at this stage how this is to be accomplished.
- Addressing the poor energy performance of our current buildings, particularly homes, that will save energy, reduce carbon emissions and alleviate fuel poverty is crucial to achieving Bristol's adopted 2030 Climate Emergency resolutions
- Addressing the energy performance of buildings in Bristol is essential to deliver our 2030 climate emergency and fuel poverty objectives.
- That progress has been made on the Council's corporate estate, and acknowledges that it is on track to meet its 2025 carbon-neutrality target.
- The up-grading of the huge majority of our domestic buildings has been sporadic and piecemeal to date, due to poor and short-term Government policy. Technical and financial advice can be accessed but multifaceted interventions are challenging and a disincentive.
- Acknowledges that long-term policy objectives and funding is needed to support the decarbonisation of buildings through the UK.
- Full Council notes there is a current scheme - the Green Homes Grant - but that it is time-limited and has significant flaws.
- The easier, more currently cost-effective measures such as loft and cavity-fill insulation, draught-proofing and smarter boilers have been much, though patchily, carried out - but are not enough where they are in place, and there are too many places where they are not
- Retro-fitting by Bristol City Council is directed to our large social housing stock and advice is rightly focused on people experiencing fuel poverty.
- The revenue-saving benefits from capital investment may be simply calculated over time where the owner is the occupier but this is a more complicated model for publicly-managed social housing and even more so in the Private Rented Sector. Full Council acknowledges that the Green Homes Grant Scheme is available for private rented properties, but acknowledges the flaws in this scheme.
- Energy providers and bankers can manage initial investment for home-owners, and some do, as with the Green Deal model for larger investors. Landlords can recover investment through rent but there are poorly-adopted schemes for energy-saving passports and sales premiums for home-owners.
- That the energy advice service is already operating in Bristol, mainly by the Centre for Sustainable Energy – a telephone advice service – and Bristol Tenant's Energy Advice Centre.

Council intends:

- To assemble the details of a service by which every household in the city will be able to access appropriate support with home energy efficiency and renewable technology. The service will encourage a greater uptake of energy efficiency measures in Bristol; lowering emissions and energy bills, as well as promoting the creation of low-carbon skills and employment in the area.
- To extend the scope of the council's work to deliver our 2030 resolutions, to consider its role in encouraging all households, including individual private house owners, to appreciate the value to themselves, let alone society, of an investment to secure long-term savings, particularly when the calculated return falls outside their personal occupation period.
- To look beyond the good work in fuel poverty mitigation and capital schemes within our own housing stock and the wider Heat Network to be a hub for general advice and a facilitator for delivering beneficial schemes

This Council agrees

- That reducing domestic energy consumption, and the resultant carbon emissions, should be encouraged within Bristol by widening the advice and support on offer to incorporate every household in the city.

This council resolves:

- ~~• To request the mayor to instruct officers to explore the feasibility of expanding the scope of work carried out by officers across the council including the setting up of a team to focus support on a wider range of households in Bristol to have access to green energy and to reduce their energy use to help Bristol to becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030. The scope of the study should be as wide as needed but should at least include technical and financial advice, practical on-site consultation and implementation support, all or any of which might be provided in-house or through commercial agencies.~~
- To request a report on the work being undertaken by the City Leap project to support a wider range of households in Bristol to have access to green energy and to reduce their energy use to help Bristol to becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030. The report should at least include technical and financial advice, and practical on-site consultation and implementation support, and any other additional support that could be made available.
- ~~• To request the mayor to instruct officers to build a business case to create a comprehensive service offer and methodology for directing appropriate and tailored support to every household in the city. The business case will consider the level of resourcing currently available to BCC, and consider options to increase capacity; including the exploration of strategic partnerships to provide the comprehensive service and offer~~
- To request a report into the existing advice services and funding schemes for appropriate and tailored support to every household in the city, and consider options to increase capacity; including the exploration of strategic partnerships to provide the comprehensive service and offer
- ~~To request the mayor to instruct officers~~ to explore a programme for developing a local, highly-skilled workforce to deliver low-carbon, energy efficiency installations within the city. However, Council notes this area is devolved to WECA's Employment and Skills plan.
- Request a report on the existing methods of and future potential for financing the capital cost of low-carbon technologies for private housing tenures, through the provision of grants, and to call on the Mayor to lobby the Government for long-term, reliable, supportive policy and funding to support the decarbonisation of domestic and commercial properties, with a focus on providing help for financing the cost of low-carbon technologies for private housing tenures.
- ~~• To request that a further report on progress is requested to be brought back to the council within the next six months~~
- To request that a report on the progress made on the aforementioned points is compiled at the nearest opportunity.