

**Public**  
**Key Decision - Yes**

## **HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Title/Subject Matter:** **Annual Climate Report and Action Plan Update**

**Meeting/Date:** Overview and Scrutiny, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Executive Portfolio:** Councillor Lara Davenport-Ray, Executive Councillor for Climate Transformation & Workforce

**Report by:** Harriet Robinson, Climate Coordinator, Climate, Transformation and Workforce

**Ward(s) affected:** All

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Overview and Scrutiny Environment, Community and Partnerships Panel is invited to note and comment on details of delivery the Annual Climate Report from 2024/25.

The Panel is also invited to comment on the updated Climate Action Plan in Appendix 6 and the amendment of actions in Appendix 7.

## **Executive Summary:**

This report presents the Annual Climate Report of 2024/25 and an updated Climate Action Plan. This covers all Climate-related activities undertaken during the months of April 2024 to March 2025. It outlines the progress made towards achieving a carbon net zero Council by 2040 as set out in the Council's Climate Strategy and Action Plan.

## **Recommendation(s):**

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny panel are invited to note and comment on details of the delivery of the Climate Annual Report and approve the updated Climate Action Plan.

## **RECOMMENDED**

It is requested that the panel:

1. Comment on the delivery of the Annual Climate Report for 2024/2025
2. Note the progress made by the Council and its partners towards achieving Carbon Net Zero by 2040
3. Note that work towards the Council's Climate aspirations are embedded as Business As Usual (BAU) and that moving forward, updates on delivery activity will be provided through the Councils performance monitoring framework, with informal Member briefings as required.
4. Approve the update Climate Action Plan in Appendix 6 of the document entitled 'Appendices Annual Climate Review Report 2024-25'

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### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to show Climate progress towards HDC reaching its carbon net zero goals.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In October 2022 the Council passed a **Cost of Living and Climate Change Motion**. This recognised the importance and positive impact of action benefiting the climate and environment in tackling the rising costs of living by reducing consumption of natural resources, shifting to renewables, and producing less carbon emissions. The Council proactively tackles the Climate Crisis and ecological emergency, working closely with partners, and leading by example to be a net carbon zero Council by 2040, and support Huntingdonshire to achieve the same goal.

### **3. OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 3.1 Not relevant

#### **4. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS**

- 4.1 Risks include projects overrunning, inaccurate carbon emission reduction measurement, inadequate monitoring of project and failure of project delivery

#### **5. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

- 5.1 The Council aims towards achieving its goal of carbon net zero by 2040.

#### **6. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES**

*(See Corporate Plan)*

- Corporate Plan – Create a Better Huntingdon for future generations by lowering carbon emissions
7. Climate Strategy – be a positive example to others by reducing our own emissions and adapting our service to the changed Climate, an enabler to support action within our communities and across our partners and an encourager to ensure all efforts help to deliver our ambition of a Carbon Net Zero Council by 2040
- 7.1 HDC's Place Strategy – Huntingdonshire Futures sets out a vision to make Huntingdonshire a better place to live, work and visit over the next 30 years. The Council has started to work with local communities to bring this strategy to life and 'environmental innovation' is one of the 5 journeys agreed within the strategy's adoption. A link to this strategy is in Appendix 4 of this document

#### **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no legal implications of note.

#### **9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 A project support officer has been recruited to support Climate and Biodiversity work for a period of 12 months.

#### **10. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The work that has been undertaken will directly contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions and carbon emissions.

#### **11. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 None

**12. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS**

12.1 The paper allows an opportunity for the Overview and Scrutiny panel to understand progress made towards the Council reaching its Carbon Net Zero targets.

**13. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED**

Appendix 1 – link to the Original Climate Action Plan

Appendix 2 – link to Climate Strategy

**14. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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Appendix 1 – Original Climate Action Plan

[Climate Strategy - Action Plan](#)

Appendix 2 – Climate Strategy

[Climate Strategy Appendix 1](#)

Appendix 3 – Annual Climate Report 2023/24

Last year's [Annual Climate Report 2024](#)

Appendix 4 – Huntingdonshire Futures Place Strategy: [Place Strategy - Appendix 3.pdf](#)