

CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Thursday, 16 July 2020

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting

9 July 2020

PART 1

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting. **(Pages 3 - 6)**
3. Declarations of Interests.
4. Remit/Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee.
5. SMDC Climate Change Update. **(Pages 7 - 14)**
6. SMDC Procurement Strategy Development - discussion. **(Pages 15 - 22)**
7. Climate Action Group Update.
8. Work Programme.

MARK TRILLO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

Membership of Climate Change Sub-Committee

Councillor J Aberley	Councillor I Herdman
Councillor B A Hughes	Councillor J T Jones
Councillor L A Malyon	Councillor I Plant
Councillor D Price	Councillor D Shaw
Councillor P Taylor	Councillor R Ward
Councillor N Yates	Mr G Cornell
Mr M Jones	Mr N Williams
Mr G Worth	

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STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

THURSDAY, 30 JANUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillor J Aberley (Chair)

Councillors J Aberley, Cornell, I Herdman, Jones, D Price, P Taylor, Williams, Worth and N Yates

ALSO PRESENT: G Cornell, M Jones, N Williams, G Worth, M Hawkesworth, M Worth, Councillors J Davies, P Elkin, K Flunder, B Johnson, J Porter and S Scalise

IN ATTENDANCE:

Forrester
P Trafford
M Trillo

Head of Democratic & Community Services
Member & Community Services Officer
Executive Director (People) and Monitoring
Officer

APOLOGIES: Councillors J T Jones and I Plant

9 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2019 be **APPROVED** as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations made.

11 **PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME**

Mark Forrester outlined the intended approach to the Work Programme, identifying 6 main issues as follows:-

1. The Natural Environment;
2. Travel / Transport;
3. Industry & Agriculture;
4. Housing;
5. Energy;
6. The Council.

The aim was to cover all 6 of the above by the end of June 2020, which would inevitably mean some months with 2 meetings. There were likely to be practical difficulties in synchronizing all external consultants to specific dates and so flexibility was essential. With that in mind, the Work Programme enclosed with the agenda was agreed.

Climate Change Sub-Committee - 30 January 2020

Cllr. Flunder detailed the approach to the same subject from a Staffordshire County Council (SCC) perspective. There were clear parallels in the approach from both authorities. Most Staffordshire authorities were represented at Climate Change meetings at county level. The Chair felt that it would be appropriate to have the SCC update as a standing agenda item for future meetings.

Members suggested various contacts / organisations to be invited to specific meetings. The process of inviting organisations and setting dates was to commence as soon as possible.

12 UPDATE FROM STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

SMDC Portfolio Holder for Climate Change – Cllr. Joe Porter – updated members on progress to date, advising that a report was to be published shortly illustrating the current picture. The Council was working towards a ‘Carbon Neutrality Strategy’, which this sub-committee would feed into. A strong partnership had been forged with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) who had a Green Infrastructure Strategy. Stewardship of the Council’s 12 Country Parks had been transferred to SWT.

Professor Zoe Robinson NTF PFHEA, of Keele University, had presented 2 lectures on 16 December 2019, to which all interested parties had been invited. She was to present further lectures on 25 February 2020 for anyone who missed out, with SMDC staff also to be invited. Zoe was happy to help with her expertise as and when required.

Cllr. Porter was conducting a tour of Town & Parish Councils (so far Cheddleton, Brown Edge & Leek, with Biddulph & Cheadle arranged during February). He was happy to visit any others as requested.

The current focus within SMDC was in the Assets department, looking at the vehicle fleet and the Procurement Strategy.

Imminent meetings were to take place with Lafarge (air quality) and the Midlands Energy Hub (sustainable energy).

An Officers Team had been set up and was looking to secure better data on emissions. A Climate Change Fund was a ‘work in progress’.

13 UPDATE FROM CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

Mike Jones (MJ) – Climate Action Group (CAG) Representative – identified that, with various organisations approaching the same topic, there were inevitable duplications and suggested that a ‘Blog’ be set up with updates then available for all to see. CAG had established 6 working groups, each of which met on a monthly basis. They were looking to obtain funding from ‘Community Organisers’ of up to £5,000. It was felt that there was a need to clarify exactly what was (and wasn’t) recyclable for better public knowledge. There was to be a ‘HUG’ event held at the Foxlowe during the summer. Mike wondered whether SMDC were able to help with funding for the ‘Water Refill Scheme’, which started on 22 February 2020.

Climate Change Sub-Committee - 30 January 2020

SMDC Executive Director Mark Trillo confirmed that, in conjunction with Alliance Environmental Services, campaigns were imminent to educate and inform the public on recycling practice. Enquiries were welcomed regarding the Water Refill Scheme and he thanked members for their suggestions regarding procurement.

It was generally agreed that good communications were key to making progress, with social media proving to be very useful elsewhere.

George Worth asked whether it would be possible to install recycling bins in schools. Cllr. Sav Scalise – Portfolio Holder for the Environment – confirmed that previous problems with contamination had led to some recycling bins having to be removed. However, a change to the current recycling collection system was imminent to ‘co-mingle’ paper in with the recycling bins, leading to less journeys for the refuse wagons and saving fuel. The amount of paper collected had reduced from 8,000 tons p.a. to 800. Trials were ongoing at some councils to introduce electric vehicles onto the fleet but this was some way off due to cost and the necessary charging infrastructure. With regard to single-use plastics, alternatives were available. There was a need to push central government into a deadline to ban its use.

MJ asked, with regard to the 5 pledges made by SMDC in July 2019 as part of its declaration of Climate Emergency, whether any progress had been made on 2 specific ones:-

- Call on The Government to provide guidance, powers and resources to make carbon neutrality possible by writing to local MPs and all relevant government departments; and
- Ensure that all Council Bodies and Scrutiny Panels consider the impact of climate change and the environment when making decisions and reviewing Council policies and strategies.

Mark Forrester – SMDC Democratic & Community Services Manager – confirmed that a start had been made on the 1st pledge shown above, with detail to be contained in the Climate Change report shortly to be issued. With regard to the 2nd pledge, there was a ‘Sustainability’ section inbuilt to every SMDC report, with a pro-forma drawn together to guide the officer writing the report. Professor Zoe Robinson had agreed to give training to managers on how to assess the sustainability implications when preparing reports.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

_____ Chairman _____ Date

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Information Digest



To: Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Date: 3 June 2020

Climate Change Update

**Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Biodiversity
Councillor Joe Porter**

**Head of Democratic & Community Services
Mark Forrester**

1. Reason for the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress since the Council declared a climate emergency and to outline a series of key actions for 2020/2021.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the actions taken to date.
- 2.2 To note the proposed actions for 2020/21 set out in 7.7.1 – 7.7.8 (below).

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The Council declared a climate emergency on 10th July 2019 and committed to work with partners across the district and region towards making the Staffordshire Moorlands carbon neutral by 2030.
- 3.2 Following the passing of the motion and subsequent creation of a new Cabinet post with specific responsibility for driving the Council's climate change agenda an initial plan was developed.
- 3.3 A Climate Change sub-committee has been established and agreed terms of reference and a work programme.
- 3.4 Work has been undertaken by the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and officers to organise training sessions, secure Council and district data, consider key tools to inform and support Council targets, identify opportunities across Council service areas to take action, and to start to develop joint work and partnerships with other local authorities and organisations.
- 3.5 A series of key actions are proposed for 2020/21 and are outlined in the report. It is proposed that, given the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic, priority consideration is given to progressing those actions which can support a green recovery to the effects of the pandemic.

4. How this report links to Corporate Priorities

- 4.1 Corporate Plan Aim: To protect and improve the environment and respond to the climate emergency – Objective meeting the challenges of climate change.

5. Alternative Options

- 5.1 To note the proposed actions at 2.1 and 2.2 above. (Recommended)
- 5.2 To amend the proposed actions.
- 5.3 To take no action. (Not recommended)

6. Implications

6.1 Community Safety - (Crime and Disorder Act 1998)

No specific implications

6.2 Workforce

No specific issues from the report and recommendation.

6.3 Equality and Diversity/Equality Impact Assessment

No specific issues from the report.

6.4 Financial Considerations

The financial implications of any proposed actions will be considered as part of development of the business case for identified projects, or as part of the strategic reviews outlined at section 7.6 of the report, and included within the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

6.5 Legal

No specific implications

6.6 Climate Change

The report sets out the approach to development of the Council's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

6.7 Consultation

A significant level of staff, stakeholder and community engagement is expected to take place in the process of developing the climate change plan delivering organisational change and project activity.

6.8 Risk Assessment

The expectations of the Council's ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the District could far exceed the Council's current powers and resources.

The Council, as with High Peak Borough Council and many other Councils, is seeking to achieve carbon neutrality 20 years sooner than the current UK target date of 2050 – given the key role of Government policy this adds to the challenge.

When setting the Council's climate action plan, including CO2 reduction targets and trajectory, the Council will have to make

some significant assumptions about the impact of future regulatory change and other Government policy interventions.

The Council has not had for some years a specialist officer dedicated to the climate change/sustainability agenda. In relation to specific projects the Council will need to access technical expertise. This could be addressed through partnership work with other authorities and tapping into Government supported initiatives.

Mark Trillo

Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer

**Web Links and
Background Papers**

Committee and other reports referred to within the report

Contact details

Mark Forrester
Head of Democratic & Community Services
mark.forrester@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk

7. Detail

- 7.1 The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Paris Agreement commits the global community to take action to “hold the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C”. Cumulative emissions of CO₂ from human activity are the principal driver of long-term global warming. It is the relationship between CO₂ and global temperatures which means that staying within a given temperature threshold requires that only a certain total quantity of CO₂ is released to the atmosphere. This is the global carbon budget.
- 7.2 The UK Climate Change Act now legislates for a commitment to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, with five yearly carbon budgets to set actions and review progress.
- 7.3 On 10th July 2019 recognising the serious threat posed by climate change, the responsibility our institutions, businesses and communities have to eliminate net CO₂ emissions and also the need to take immediate measures to prepare for climate change impacts, Staffordshire Moorlands District Council declared a climate emergency.
- 7.4 Based on analysis by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, Staffordshire Moorland’s ‘fair’ contribution towards the Paris Climate Change Agreement would be to:
1. Stay within a maximum cumulative carbon dioxide emissions budget of 5.0 million tonnes (MtCO₂) for the period of 2020 to 2100. At 2017 CO₂ emission levels, Staffordshire Moorlands would use this entire budget within 7 years from 2020.

2. Initiate an immediate programme of CO2 mitigation to deliver cuts in emissions averaging a minimum of -12.4% per year to deliver a Paris aligned carbon budget. These annual reductions in emissions require national and local action, and could be part of a wider collaboration with other local authorities.
 3. Reach zero or near zero carbon no later than 2043.
- 7.5 Since the declaration of a climate emergency by the Council a number of 'enabling' actions have taken place:
- 7.5.1 Training: (1) Four climate science lectures delivered by Keele University to Members, Parish Councils and Council staff; (2) The Council has an agreement with Keele University to provide training for staff.
 - 7.5.2 Data: (1) The Council has access to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy estimates of carbon emissions by sector (2005 – 2017); (2) The Council has data for fleet vehicles, staff travel and energy supplies but further work is required before detailed analysis of this can take place.
 - 7.5.3 Tools: The Council has access to: (1) Carbon budget tool - produced by the Tyndall Centre and funded by the government this tool identifies the District Carbon budget and CO2 reduction trajectory to align with the UK commitment; (2) SCATTER – a tool being developed to model locally the impact of policy measures by key sectors (business, transport, housing etc.); (3) A form has been created for the Modern Gov. report management system for managers to use to set out the climate change implications of all report recommendations.
 - 7.5.4 Powers, blocks and enablers: All Heads of Service have contributed to an initial assessment of the powers the Council has, the opportunities, the blocks, the potential enablers and the potential for the Council to take action now to reduce greenhouse gases and respond to climate change. Some of the key issues identified are outlined in 7.6 below.
 - 7.5.5 Partnership and Engagement: Discussions involving the Portfolio Holder have taken place and meetings held to lay the foundations for future partnership and joint work on climate change, including the following: 1) Attended a meeting of the Climate Action Group; (2) Spoken to a meeting of the Parish Assembly; (3) Met Cllr Connor Wildman (Staffs CC Cabinet Support Member) and Cabinet Members in Newcastle and Stoke –on-Trent; 4) Met with Mark Gibbons (regional Senior Energy Projects Officer) to explore technical and business support for local projects such as solar farms and EV charge points; 5) Met with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to develop a formal partnership to deliver the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Nature Recovery Network/Wilder Staffordshire Campaign; 6) Met with Professor Zoe Robinson of Keele University to explore the possibility of the University providing expert support to SMDC and other Staffordshire Councils; 7) Hosted the Zero Carbon Britain Course (30th/31st Sept); 8) Attended the inaugural and second meeting

of the Staffordshire Climate Change Network; 9) Meeting with Lafarge to understand their challenges and to secure their engagement; 10) Met with Keith Hollins Chief Executive Officer at Staffordshire University Academies Trust to gain support for the development of the Eco Schools initiative; 11) Canal and Rivers Trust to explore blue belt initiatives; 12) Marshes Hill Common Friends Group to consider how we can further support their work; 13) Met with the Environment minister and MPs to discuss the plans for the Staffordshire Moorlands; 14) Portfolio Holder invited to become a full member of the DEFRA Local Adaptation Advisory Panel; 15) Zoom meeting with 100 local councillors about climate change action post-Covid19; 16) Joined Staffordshire Wildlife Trust sphagnum planting days at The Roaches to restore peatland habitat; 17) Interviewed by Sporting Communities youth panel on climate change; and 18) Engagement with various parish and town councils on their local approach to climate change.

7.5.6 The Council's Climate Change sub-committee has been established and agreed a work programme and timetable

7.6 During 2020 there is a significant opportunity to ensure the Council's commitment to net zero CO2 emissions is embedded in key plans and policies as they are reviewed or developed. The opportunities identified to date are:

7.6.1 The 10 year fleet replacement programme - this is an opportunity to plan the purchase of more fuel efficient vehicles with an ambition to use Electric Vehicles or non CO2 producing vehicles towards the end of that period.

7.6.2 Procurement strategy update – this is an opportunity to ensure products and services with zero or lowest greenhouse gas impacts are favoured in purchasing decisions.

7.6.3 Asset Management Strategy – this is an opportunity to consider measures to save energy costs when replacing plant or machinery, energy efficiency measures and possible investment in photovoltaics.

7.6.4 Energy: APO Framework – Total Gas and Power are the Council's current energy suppliers, at the end of the contract period there is an opportunity to consider switching to a green energy supplier.

7.6.5 AES parks management contract – an opportunity to include appropriate action to encourage biodiversity and resilience (e.g. by reducing mowing, encouraging wild flowers and trees).

7.6.6 Treasury Management Strategy – an opportunity to consider investments in green energy and other projects.

7.6.7 A new Facilities Management Contract – an opportunity to consider practices and products that can reduce our CO2 footprint.

7.6.8 Local Plan, Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan – The next stage, developing from a strategy to a delivery plan, will provide amongst other things: (1) an evidence based assessment of the physical landscape helping to identify the most appropriate sites for tree planting, peatland restoration, enhancing biodiversity, and green corridors to support resilience to climate impacts; (2) the opportunity to deliver schemes both large and small which join up over the years to maximise the benefits of this work.

7.6.9 Transfer of the 12 SMDC countryside parks to the management of the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, including a 5 year management plan (including tree planting, habitat enrichment) – taken with the Green Infrastructure Plan this provides an opportunity to build a delivery partnership with Staffordshire’s leading conservation group

7.7 Proposed actions for 2020/21, which will also be considered as appropriate by the Climate Change sub-committee and relevant committees, are as follows – it is recommended that, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, priority consideration is given to those actions which would support a green recovery to the impacts of the pandemic:

7.7.1 Include the key opportunities (7.6 above) to address climate change and include them as part of the commitments in the Climate Change Plan for 2020/21.

7.7.2 Secure data on the Council’s CO2 emissions – travel, buildings, operations and procurement – and use this to inform the Council’s CO2 reduction targets and performance management.

7.7.3 Deliver staff training as required – priorities include training for key staff to be able to assess and report the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the Council’s operations, policies and plans in order to inform decision making.

7.7.4 Undertake investigative work and, where possible, feasibility testing of the most obvious large scale projects which a council might undertake, including:

- Green energy – the potential for Council investment in solar energy projects and wind farms.
- EV charge points.
- Local offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions.

7.7.5 Continue to develop partnerships with other councils (specifically Staffordshire County Council) – seek to use common frameworks, tools (including the Tyndall Centre Carbon Budget tool) and the opportunity to share costs/expertise.

7.7.6 The Council’s Heads of Service to encourage staff over the course of the year to identify and take practical actions to reduce CO2 emissions – by encouraging suggestions, investigating measures, sharing good

practice across the organisation, flagging good ideas which require authorisation.

- 7.7.7 Encourage local community initiatives to tackle climate change – the intention is to establish a small grant fund of £10,000, with the aim of mobilising community support. The grant will be called the Staffordshire Moorlands Community Climate Change Fund. The proposed priorities for the fund in 2020/21 will be the establishment of Eco schools (this will be considered by a separate report after schools return to more normal operation following the Covid-19 pandemic).
- 7.7.8 Support the work of the Council's Climate Change sub-committee and produce a comprehensive Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan within the timescale to ensure agreed measures can be included within the budget for 2021/22.

CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE

Thursday 16th July 2020

PROCUREMENT BRIEFING NOTE

Joint Procurement Strategy 2020-2023: Considerations for Sustainable Sourcing and Environmental Actions

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 To procure in a sustainable way involves looking beyond short-term needs and considering the longer term impacts of each purchase. Sustainable procurement is used to ensure that purchasing reflects broader goals linked to resource efficiency, climate change, social responsibility and economic resilience, for example.
- 1.2 Procurement professionals have the opportunity to influence all functions within organisations and throughout supply chains to deliver innovative products and services that meet the evolving needs of consumers and society.

2.0 Sustainable Joint Procurement Strategy

- 2.1 The Joint Procurement Strategy for both Staffordshire Moorlands DC and High Peak BC is currently being drafted. A discussion paper will be released in the coming weeks encouraging Councillors to feedback and input into the Strategy prior to formal approval later in the year.
- 2.2 The focus for the next three years will be to continue to drive value for money and achieve financial savings, but to also consider environmental, social and ethical responsibilities to drive procurement in a sustainable way and effectively work with local suppliers to enhance the local economy.
- 2.3 Environmental considerations in supply chain management and sustainable 'green' sourcing strategies will be one of the priorities over the next 3 years. The focus will be on ensuring the Council's sustainable procurement is further embedded, looking beyond short-term needs and considering the longer term impacts of each and every purchase.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 To date, the Councils have been proactive in ensuring that suppliers meet environmental standards and legislation as part of the qualification validation, to ensure that we are not exposed to risk of non compliance or breach of Environmental Legislation for management of waste and any activity that may have a negative environmental impact.
- 3.2 As standard protocol all open issued contract opportunities above £5,000 have the following pass / fail criteria questions as part of the qualification selection process:

Sub-Section	Environmental	
Question	Does your organisation have an Environmental Policy?	If yes, please attach a copy of the policy.
Question	Does your organisation operate an Environmental Management system certified to an International or European standard (e.g. ISO 14001)?	If yes, please attach a copy of the certificate If no, do you operate an equivalent environmental management system based on the principles of ISO 14001? Please attach a copy of your equivalent environmental management system
Question	Has your organisation been convicted of breaching environment legislation, or had any notice served upon it, in the last three years by any environmental regulator or authority (including a local authority)?	If yes, please provide details of the prosecutions or notice(s) served and give details of any remedial action or changes to procedures you have made as a result of any breach or notice(s) served.

- 3.3 The Council implemented an electronic procurement platform in 2015, all processes are automated and there is no longer a requirement for hard copy tenders or bids to be submitted. Implementing a fully electronic sourcing platform to facilitate our Procurement processes has resulted in valued business efficiencies and is a direct win in terms of reduced carbon footprint, costs and improved efficiency by reducing paper based processes with streamlined electronic ones for both buyer and suppliers.
- 3.4 This can be taken one step further through reducing business travel and commuting and using webinars or conferencing as meeting alternatives where appropriate, which has seen an evident increase in investment during the COVID-19 pandemic for the Council and other market sectors. Businesses need to be agile, flexible and lean in their operation, as a Council we need to lead by example if we are to work with our suppliers to deliver best value and reduce our negative impact on the environment.
- 3.5 Print rationalisation projects delivered over the last 3 years have resulted in a reduction of onsite printing and post distribution from our sites. The Hybrid mail project has enabled the Council to ensure letter communication to the customer is produced in the most efficient, cost effective and environmentally friendly process. The web-based system allows users to generate an electronic mail image from their desktop, send to print at an off site data capture and print hub, the items then enters downstream mail channels to end with door step delivery.
- 3.6 The data capture / print hub operates its facility using energy efficient print production units and products all compliant to BS EN ISO 14001: 2004 standards. The Hybrid Mail process has resulted in the Council being able to replace the old obsolete print units in house and replace with a reduced number new energy efficient print units.
- 3.7 It is important that the Council works with its key suppliers to understand environmental impacts through their supply chain. To demonstrate this as an example, PSL Print Management's (our hybrid mail supplier) environmental policy states their commitment to ensuring that they deliver their products and services through a sustainable supply network. The following quotes are included in the company's Environmental Policy:

“PSL Print Management Ltd uses a number of paper merchants all of which merchants purchase, whenever possible, from ISO14001 compliant mills. The large majority of our paper merchants now supply recycled paper.”

“PSL Print Management Ltd traceability systems are third-party audited and are certified by The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Chain of Custody standards. A wide choice of FSC certified paper products are available and used therefore reassuring the user that the wood fibre originates from well managed sources.”

3.8 The current Energy Supply (Electricity and Gas) for Council Assets is procured through a national framework ESPO (Eastern Shires Purchasing organisation). The purchase of the supply is made through Total Gas and Power (TG&P) who are the current contracted supplier to the Councils.

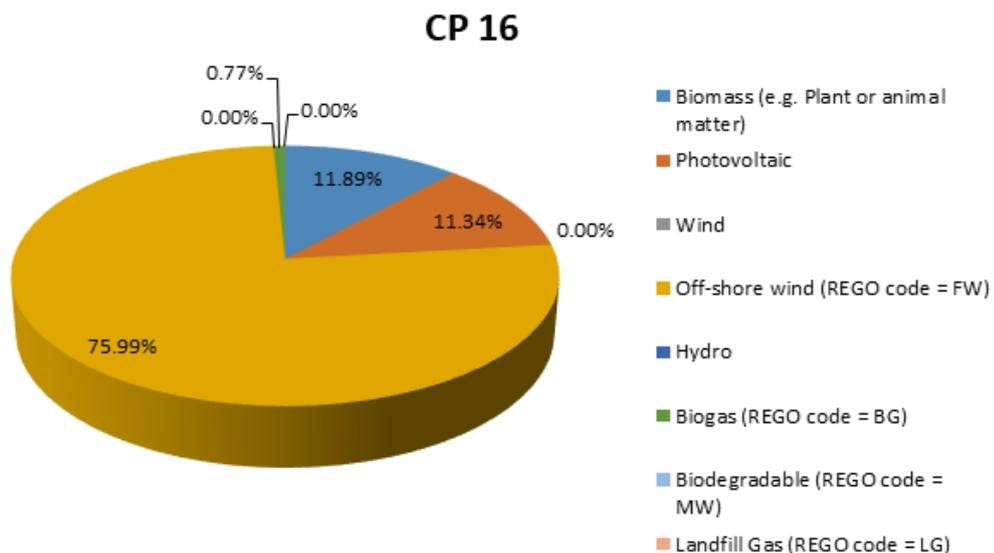
3.9 Electricity supplied by Total Gas & Power has been sourced from a number of different fuels. This is shown on the following ‘fuel mix’ table.

TG&P: Electricity FUEL MIX DISCLOSURE 2017/18

The data provided below is for the period April 2017 to March 2018.

Electricity supplied by Total Gas & Power has been sourced from the following fuels	Percentage of electricity supplied by Total Gas & Power	Average for the UK (for comparison)
Coal	10%	7.6%
Natural Gas	31%	41.2%
Nuclear	9%	20%
Renewable (see below)	47%	29%
Other	3%	2.2%

3.10 The below chart shows the Renewable energy fuel mix disclosure from CP16: 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018.



3.11 Whilst we already have some measures in place, the Council recognises that there is more to do, and so the actions we're proposing as part of the updated Strategy are provided in Section 6.0 of this paper.

4.0 Carbon Emissions – Sustainable Development Goals

4.1 It is Procurement's responsibility to consider the carbon footprint of products and activities and their effect on the environment when making sourcing decisions.

4.2 To help bring carbon emissions under control, the UN set a 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development to act as a blueprint to how the World can achieve a better and more sustainable future. It addresses the challenges we face and sets goals adopted by all United Nations Member States;

- Poverty
- Inequality
- Climate
- Environmental Degradation
- Prosperity
- Peace and Justice

4.3 In total 193 Governments have agreed to meet the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) by 2030.

4.4 Procurement can make a real difference when cutting carbon emissions as carbon is associated with the assembly, packaging, transport, storage and handling of products and materials which account for a significant proportion of an organisations carbon footprint.

4.5 For many companies, the majority of their emissions and cost reduction opportunities lie outside their own operations. These are known as indirect or "scope 3" emissions. These include everything, from the development of a product or service through to supply chain, logistics, sales and distribution, and customer usage.

4.6 The Council (through AES and working with our Joint Venture partners ANSA) is working on a scheduled commercial vehicle replacement programme for Waste, Grounds and Streets replacement fleet over the next 4 yrs.

4.7 To take this further, the Council is looking to develop a Fleet Strategy to focus on a longer term vehicle replacement programme. This will ensure that minimum environmental requirements for basic specifications of new vehicles includes that the required Euro standards on emissions are met and that opportunities to source alternative fuel options, hybrid or fully electric vehicles should be appraised.

4.8 Working with our strategic delivery partners we can ensure that key targets and performance measures on carbon reduction, environmental impact reporting and energy usage is continually monitored throughout the life of the contract and to ensure that our front line and back office services are delivered with optimum value to our communities with reduced environmental impact.

5.0 Government Regulatory Framework

Local Government Association (LGA):

- 5.1 The LGA passed a motion at its 2019 annual conference in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the role of local government in delivering them.
- 5.2 This included a declaration of a 'Climate Emergency' and committed to supporting Councils in their work to tackle climate change by providing a strong unified voice for local government, and sharing best practice across all Councils.

Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCRs15):

- 5.3 Under the revision of the Public Sector Regulatory framework for Contracting, there is considerable flexibility for contracting authorities to include social, labour law and environmental criteria in the stages of the procurement process and during contract performance than previous regulations.
- 5.4 There are also new obligations in the Regulations that require procurers to take certain actions to ensure compliance with various international laws. These include national social, environmental and labour laws.

6.0 Climate Change - Our Procurement Priorities & Actions

- 6.1 It is proposed that the revised Joint Procurement Strategy will look to contribute towards the key aim **'protect and improve the environment including responding to the climate change emergency'** by ensuring that effective sustainable procurement practice is embedded in the Councils sourcing activities, as set out below:

Aim 4: Protect and improve the environment including responding to the climate emergency			
Key objectives for 2019-2023 are:	In order to meet these objectives we will...	Our key priorities will be...	We will deliver this by...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting the challenge of climate change and working with residents and business across the Staffordshire Moorlands to implement the climate change action plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Climate Change Strategy and an action plan of response to a declared climate emergency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced carbon emissions A deliverable climate emergency plan 	<p>Procurement Strategy focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging local organisations and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint Set clear standards in our specifications to reduce or eliminate impact on the environment Products to be manufactured to embrace the circular economy Reducing waste throughout the procurement cycle Work with our key strategic partners to establish clear links for sourcing strategies Buying sustainable timber products Rethinking the needs of the organisation through demand management analysis Aim for % reduction in fleet emissions to meet carbon neutral targets by 2030 Mitigate noise, air pollution and water wastage in manufacturing supply chains

6.2 The below summarises the Environmental actions, controls and measurers that we are considering as part of the Joint Procurement Strategy implementation over the period 2020-23:

- Continuation of qualification of supplier's minimum international standards for Environmental Compliance in qualification of suppliers and products e.g.: ISO certification; clean waste management systems and reduction in toxic waste disposal
- Include specific scored selection assessment criteria for carbon reduction, water consumption efficiency, clean fuels, through our contracts
- Ensure specifications include required minimum standards to meet environmental and sustainable targets
- Fleet purchases meet relevant Euro emissions standards (currently EURO 6 for Light Commercial Vehicles)
- Include KPIs in contracts on carbon reduction targets through supply chain
- Continue to source renewable and alternative energy supplies and natural heat / energy sources
- Switching from traditional lighting solutions in Assets to LED technology – benefits energy and cost savings (LED bulb uses 75% less energy)
- Evaluation % weightings in selection process, proportioned with higher emphasis on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Advocate Green Procurement policy – incorporating human health and environmental concerns into the search for high quality products and services at competitive prices
- Encourage and support Local engagement in our supply chain to reduce distribution
- Construction projects design and product considerations to environmental impact
- Closed loop cycles in contracts, keeping materials in economic systems and not wasting them at end of life

6.3 It is essential that as a nation we tackle climate change and protect our natural environment as we need to continue to improve air quality, protect against flooding, and ensure our transport, waste and energy policies are environmentally sustainable.

6.4 As a direct buying organisation we can lead by example to contribute to the reduction of negative environmental and social impact for our future generations, by maintaining ethical and sustainable sourcing approaches and controls with our supply chain. We should be actively considering the importance of the longer term consequences of our procurement decision making now.

- 6.5 However, we do need to carefully consider the above in line with other areas of focus within the Procurement Strategy. For example, another priority area is spending money locally, utilising local businesses – which in light of the impact Covid-19 has had on local economies is even more important. By introducing some of the measures above, we may inadvertently exclude some local businesses and it may also have an adverse impact on cost. All these competing factors need to be considered collectively to satisfy all priorities.
- 6.6 Feedback from the Climate Change Working Group in order to shape the Procurement Strategy would be very welcome.

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