



Service Delivery Committee Working Group Update – Quarter Four – 2022 – 2023

ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP

Update from Working Group Meeting held 1st March 2023

There were three agenda items for this meeting:

The first was a presentation by the Climate Change Officer reporting the key outcomes of the Climate Change Baseline Study. It was reported that the study was produced by consultants APSE using data collected and collated by the Council and applies to decarbonisation of council operations to reach net-zero by a target date. Our carbon footprint for the baseline year 2019/20 is 1,651 tCO₂e with the biggest three emission sources being leased assets (Leisure Centres), gas consumption from council owned and managed properties and fleet vehicle fuel. The Study also provides a number of recommendations and scenarios for reducing emissions together with approximate costings. It was noted that due to the difficulty in collecting data from indirect emissions, individual council housing and goods and services were not included in our baseline. Furthermore, the timeframe and spend for decarbonisation was for the Council to determine based on priorities and available budget. The intention is that the Baseline Study feeds in to a full review of the current Environment Strategy and Action Plan with a greater focus on climate change actions. The Chair considered that it was important that the whole Council owns the actions and assumes responsibility for their contribution to ensuring that the Council meets its targets.

The second agenda item was a verbal report on Leicestershire County Council's Net-Zero Event which included the launch of The Leicestershire Climate and Nature Pact which stands as a statement of intent on the county's climate action pledges. The Chair noted that he signed the pledge on behalf of the Council. The launch and photocall took place February 2023 and Cllr Haq, Chief Executive Officer and Climate Change officer attended.

The third agenda item was the Climate Change Officer Update: It was reported that the Learning Pool modules to promote climate literacy are to come forward from April 2023. It was noted that it would be important to track Members learning and confirmed that the Learning Pool enables this.