

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 22 January 2024 Democratic Services

Edwina Adefehinti Interim Chief Officer Legal and Governance Monitoring Officer

<u>10:00 AM</u>

2nd floor, Pathfinder House St Mary's Street Huntingdon Cambs PE29 3TN72

Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

At this point Members must declare whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Action Log

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2023 and to note the Action Log.

Draft Minutes - 13 November 2023

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3	Public Questions	
4	Arrangements for asking a public question can be viewed here - Public Questions - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk) Combined Authority Forward Plan	
	To note the Combined Authority Forward Plan	
5	Director's Highlight Report	13 - 15
6	Affordable Housing Programme - January 2024	16 - 21
7	Climate Action Plan	22 - 28
8	Joint Chalk Streams Programme	
	To receive a verbal update on the joint Chalk Streams Programme.	
9	£100k Homes - Conditional Release of Resale Price restrictions	29 - 31
10	Budget and Performance Report -January 2024	32 - 34
11	Environment & Sustainable Communities Committee Agenda Plan	35 - 40
12	Date of next meeting:	
	Monday, 11 March 2024	

COVID-19

The legal provision for virtual meetings no longer exists and meetings of the Combined Authority therefore take place physically and are open to the public. Public access to meetings is managed in accordance with current COVID-19 regulations and therefore if you wish to attend a meeting of the Combined Authority, please contact the Committee Clerk who will be able to advise you further.

The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee comprises the following members:

For more information about this meeting, including access arrangements and facilities for people with disabilities, please contact

Councillor Bridget Smith

Dr Tina Barsby

Councillor Lara Davenport-Ray

Councillor Lorna Dupre

Cllr Gavin Elsey

Cllr Martin Goodearl

Mayor Dr Nik Johnson

Cllr Dee Laws

Cllr Mike Todd-Jones

Clerk Name:	Joanna Morley
Clerk Telephone:	
Clerk Email:	joanna.morley@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk



Environment & Sustainable Communities Committee – Draft Minutes

Monday 13 November 2023

Venue:	Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, H	Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, Huntingdon PE29 3TN						
Time:	10.00 to 12.00							
Present:	Councillor Bridget Smith Councillor Martin Goodearl Councillor Gavin Elsey Councillor Mike Todd-Jones Councillor Lara Davenport-Ray Councillor Lorna Dupre Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	Chair and Member for South Cambridgeshire District Council East Cambridgeshire District Council Peterborough City Council Cambridge City Council Huntingdonshire District Council Cambridgeshire County Council CPCA Mayor						
Apologies	Ms Belinda Clarke	Business Board Representative						

Minu	tes:
1	Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest
1.1	The Chair welcomed the new Peterborough member of the Committee, Cllr Gavin Elsey
1.2	Apologies were received from Ms Belinda Clarke, Business Representative.
1.2	Cllr Elsey declared an interest at Item 8 on the agenda, specifically section 2.3 of the report; Care Homes Retrofit programme as he was a Director of Ethos Care Group.
2	Minutes of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee meeting on 11 September 2023 and Action Log
2.1	Before the meeting Cllr Davenport- Ray had raised an issue of accuracy in regard to Huntingdonshire's net zero target. To clarify the issue the minutes had been amended at 5.2 (a) to add the words 'for internal council operations'.
2.2	The minutes of the meeting on 11 September 2023, with the amendment as outlined above, were approved as an accurate record.
2.3	The Action Log was noted by the Committee.
3	Public Questions
3.1	No public questions had been received.

4. Combined Authority Forward Plan

- 4.1 Cllr Davenport Ray asked for the following two additions to be added to the March agenda of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee meeting:
 - A further update on the GSENZ Hub.
 - Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for all programme
- 4.2 The Combined Authority Forward Plan was noted by the Committee.

5. Directorate Highlight Report

- 5.1 Steve Cox, Interim Executive Director Place & Connectivity, introduced the report which provided a general update on the key activities of the Place and Connectivity Directorate in relation to Environment and Sustainable Communities, which were not covered in other reports to the meeting. It also provided information on some key developments, risks and opportunities that had emerged.
- 5.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) The CO2 metric being tracked was the net carbon figure but Members were also interested in understanding the gross measure to see whether the downward trend was because there were less carbon emissions being produced or whether it was because some carbon emissions were being sequestered. Officers agreed that it was important to understand both metrics and would investigate this further.
 - b) The dilapidation of the road infrastructure due to extreme weather and the soil lying beneath the roads had been raised with the National Infrastructure Commission. Although this was technically a Cambridgeshire County Council responsibility the support of the Combined Authority was needed in pressing for the significant amount of investment that was needed which was far beyond that available to the County Council.
 - c) The issue of the drought and soil affected roads across the region came within the remit of both the Transport and Infrastructure Committee (TIC) and the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee (ESCC) but was also the responsibility of the two Highways Authorities.
 - d) All other mayoral combined authorities, with the exception of the CPCA, had a City Region's Sustainable Transport Settlement to fund a 5 year highway investment programme. The CPCA were therefore lobbying hard for this, as not sorting out the roads had an economic impact for the CPCA region in terms of rural connectivity, economic isolation, access to services and being able to run bus services efficiently.
 - e) As part of the budget planning process officers were working to see how they could support Peterborough City Council (PCC) and the County Council in their work on highway investment.
 - f) The Chair suggested that there be a future paper to both the TIC and ESC Committees on the potential economic consequences of not maintaining the road infrastructure, and also the impact of flooding.
 - g) One of the Mayoral priorities was a recognition of the uniqueness of the Fens and how important investment was in roads, flood management and water management. A new reservoir could be a massive opportunity for the region not only for the benefits it would bring but also in terms of tourism and further investment in the economy.
 - h) The Member for Peterborough stressed that PCC would like to be involved in the development of the thematic performance reports.
 - i) The Chair asked that a workshop to further explore the KPIs be held in the new year.

RESOLVED:

1. The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee resolved to note the report.

ACTIONS:

- 1. Officers to investigate the gross CO2 measure and report back to the Committee
- 2. A report on the potential economic consequences of failing to maintain the road infrastructure be presented to both the TIC and E&SCC at a future meeting.

3. A KPI workshop to be organised for the Committee in the new year.

6. Natural Cambridgeshire

- 6.1 Martin Doel, the new Chair of Natural Cambridgeshire introduced himself to the Committee and talked about the work that natural Cambridgeshire were doing. .
- 6.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) Professor Doel thanked the Committee for its support of Natural Cambridgeshire.
 - b) After leaving the Airforce, having been Director of Education and Skills for all three forces, Professor Doel became the Chief Executive for the Association of Colleges looking after all the further education colleges across the country. He worked closely with Government developing policy around skills before becoming the first Professor of Skills and Further Education at University College London.
 - c) Taking on the role of Chair of Natural Cambridgeshire had been motivated not only by his work experience but also being a resident in the area and, during the pandemic, becoming much more part of the community.
 - d) The Natural Cambridgeshire Committee was hugely impressive and had brought their expertise to build on the work of the Local Nature Partnership which had been in place since 2012. They had taken up the aim of doubling nature which had been transformed by the provision of the Doubling Nature Fund and were now at the contract stage with three projects. The Committee wanted to learn from these initial projects and look at their output as well as seeing how they could leverage additional funds to ensure the CA got the best value for their investment.
 - e) A small amount of the fund had been allocated to bottom-up community projects. The first deadline for submission was November and there had been a surfeit of applications.
 - f) The development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) brought about huge opportunities to bring emerging strategies into a coherent whole and to identify where there may be putative gaps.
 - g) Natural Cambridgeshire was now in a solid position to get things done as it was able to connect government initiatives with voluntary activity and had strong alliances to take things forward in a very effective way.
 - h) Currently, Natural Cambridgeshire's officers spent a considerable amount of time approaching each of the constituent authorities individually to seek additional funding. A modest increase directly from the CPCA, being a central source, would allow officers to work more profitably and efficiently and make the best use of time.
 - i) In terms of what came next, it was to look at the actions and deliverables and what would come after the LNRS.
 - j) The LNRS steering group had representation from each of the constituent authorities, except for one which had decided to not get involved in the development of the strategy but to comment on its proposals later.
 - k) The Steering group was quite large, but the organisation's preference was to have all involved from the outset.

7. Local Nature Recovery Strategy

- Adrian Cannard, Strategic Planning Manager, introduced the report which updated the Committee on the progress on the development of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). Quinton Carroll, from Cambridgeshire County Council and Co-Chair of the LNRS Steering Group was also in attendance (online) to answer any of the Committee's questions.
- 7.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) Having a LNRS was a statutory requirement, and the new Government funding was to get the Strategy in place.
 - b) Two consultants had been appointed to carry out key pieces of work for the Strategy; Natural Capital Solutions were doing the mapping of information on habitats and Land Use Consulting to help with the authorship of the document.
 - c) There was a steering group and also thematic groups to look at the different habitats.

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- d) When the LNRS was adopted it would have weight in planning decisions.
- e) Government guidance had been delayed several times so the Authority was further behind than it hoped to be at this stage. The Timetable had therefore had to be adapted and officers would now be working towards approval of the Strategy in March 2025. An updated version of the timetable would be circulated to the Committee.
- f) Although not as advanced as hoped for, the CA was far ahead of the curve when compared to other authorities.
- g) The Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) support document had been due to be introduced in November 2023 but had been pushed back to January 2024 again because of delays in Government guidance.
- h) The Chair commented that it was concerning that the delivery timeframe had been delayed especially in light of the huge housing growth that had been planned.
- i) It was frustrating that the CA had to manage expectations form DHLUC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) with dealing with DEFRA (Department for Rural Affairs) which seemed to move to different timetables.
- The CA was asked to focus funds and skills attention on supporting the development and training of Ecologists.
- k) Concerns were raised about the ability to deliver within the timeframe and so it was imperative to work closely with partners and have a very robust project management team.
- CA officers assured Members that they, and Natural England colleagues who were doing some of the stakeholder work, were closely engaged with the relevant specialists which would help push through delivery. Pressure would also be put on officers in constituent authorities to help get this project delivered and meet the timeframe given.
- m) Local Plans across the area were in different stages of development and review and it was hoped that once the Strategy was approved that the different constituent authorities would align with it as soon as possible. In the meantime, there were ways in which the gaps could be filled.
- n) Officers had learnt from the pilot LNRS projects that it was important to get the balance right with the document between it being a nature driven document and a planning policy appropriate document. In order to get the specialist planning input that was needed the steering group would work with the Planning Policy Forum.
- o) Supporting authorities had two opportunities to comment on and endorse the LNRS before it was submitted to the Secretary of State for sign-off. The timetable was up until the point that it was sent to the Secretary but it could be used whilst it was awaiting formal sign-off.
- p) The Mayor thanked officers for their work on the Strategy but challenged officers to consider the Public Health Implications of having an LNRS, such as having access to nature improving mental health.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the progress with the LNRS.

ACTIONS:

1. Officers to circulate to the Committee a revised timeline

8. Climate Projects Update

- 8.1 Adrian Cannard, Strategic Planning Manager, introduced the report which provided an update on the climate projects funded by the Combined Authority and set out the rationale for programme alterations where appropriate.
- 8.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) The Care Homes Retrofit Programme was focussed on independent care homes as they had been identified as those most in need of support. Although there was a very simple application process independent care homes were not used to applying for Government funding and there had been a very poor uptake. There would be another push to engage with the homes, after which the Committee could then decide if the criteria should be widened or if the funds should be deployed elsewhere.

- b) An error was noted in the recommendation which stated that the delivery programme for the Care Homes Programme should be extended to December 2024. This should read December 2025.
- c) Officers had engaged with the Care leads at PCC and CCC, and with the Care Commission, to promote the scheme and identify who to go to. Members suggested that there should also be engagement with environmental officers and economic development officers.
- d) Some of the care homes were looking to invest in their buildings but not for several years so although 50% of costs were covered they could not be persuaded to take up the offer as they were not currently in a financial position to do so.
- e) The City Portrait project had been very specific to Cambridge but the impact of it would be reviewed to see how lessons learnt could be fed back across the region. It was not currently anticipated that any further activity of the same nature would be funded.
- f) The Chair asked that an interim report on the joint Chalk Streams Programme and an update on the Care Homes Retrofit Programme come back to the Committee's January meeting.

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by the Mayor, the Committee unanimously agreed the following recommendations (with amendments shown in blue):

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Sustainable Land Use Advice programme is used for: (a) a Biodiversity Net Gain register, (b) advice to farmers on accessing the Fund for Nature; and (c) support for farming groups looking at landscape-scale solutions.
- To extend the delivery period for the Care Homes Retrofit Programme to December 2024 25. subject to a full review in January 2024.
- 3. To extend the Doubling Nature metrics survey programme to January 2026.
- 4. To note the progress on climate-related projects.

ACTION:

- 1. The agenda for the January meeting of the Committee to included reports on the following:
 - The joint Chalk Streams Programme
 - An update on the Care Homes Retrofit Programme

9. Affordable Housing Programme – Update on Implementation

Azma Ahmad-Pearce, Housing Programme Manager, introduced the report which updated the Committee on the progress of the Affordable Housing Programme 2017-2022.

RESOLVED:

The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee noted the report.

10 Housing Loans Update

- Nick Sweeney, Residential Development Manager, introduced the report which sought to inform the Committee of the current position concerning receipt of loan repayments that were required to fund the 2021-2022 Affordable Housing Programme.
- 10.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) Although the report showed that there was outstanding interest on the loan made to support the development at Histon Road Cambridge, the officer was pleased to report that since the publication of the agenda, the loan had now been repaid. This meant that all the Affordable Housing Programme Loans issued to developers had now been repaid.
 - b) In March 2023 the former Housing and Communities Committee were informed that an initial internal review was planned to look into the governance and processes followed in agreeing and managing loan terms between the Combined Authority and private housing developers. The review had yet to take place but a meeting was arranged with the Assistant Director of Finance who would lead on this work.
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- c) The money received from the loan repayments would be used to fund the grant commitments under the Affordable Housing Programme.
- d) The CA would not have the ability to undertake any new programmes unless it received more funding in any future devolution deal.
- e) It was up to the CA how this existing programme was managed and the Government was not looking to sign-off on any expenditure.
- f) The Mayor, and other members, hoped that Community Land Trust (CLT) documents, drawn up at the time by a previous administration, would be looked into as part of the internal review into housing loans.

RESOLVED:

1. The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee resolved to note the current position in respect of loan repayments required to fund the 2021-2022 Affordable Housing Programme.

11. GSE Net Zero Hub Board Decisions

- Maxine Narburgh, Regional Director of the GSE Net Zero Hub, introduced the report which set out the decisions made at GSENZ Hub Boards since the delegated authority to the Executive Director of resources and Performance had been approved.
- 11.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) An interim Net Zero Board terms of reference and governance framework had been agreed to align with the new Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) as well as the transition of the LEP functions into local authorities.
 - b) The department was looking to employ a strategic stakeholder manager to start to identify priorities in geographical areas but also to identify areas where project delivery could be accelerated, and commercial investment could be attracted. This would allow the Hub to use these case studies to support other areas, especially those areas that did not have any internal capacity and had not been doing much work in this area. This Hub wanted to make sure that it was servicing the needs across the whole of its geographical patch which was very large.
 - c) Members asked that they be reminded of the Community Energy Fund when it got the go ahead so that they could help disseminate information to their parishes.
 - d) Towards the last three months of the programme, it became apparent that it was not just the South East that was having issues with delivery but that it was country wide. By being upfront about the difficulties it was experiencing, the GSENZ Hub had built trust with the Government.
 - e) The Hub would welcome referrals by local authority officers for the Community Energy Fund so that they could help with the initial scoping, and in effect 'triage' the projects.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the decisions made by the GSENZ Hub Board.

12. Climate Partnership Update

- Adrian Cannard, Strategic Planning Manager, gave a verbal update on the work of the Climate Partnership and also the Climate Summit which had taken place the week before.
- 12.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) The Climate Partnership celebrated the extension to the university bus service which was now fully electric with a further nine buses added to the existing 30.
 - b) The Partnership had received a presentation from Nathan Veer of the Pan-Regional partnership which discussed funding opportunities and the potential for a climate programme budget going forward
 - c) The Business Board held a climate workshop and were very interested in strengthening the links between what they were considering and the Climate agenda.

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- d) Over a hundred people had attended the climate summit held at Ely Maltings. Items covered on the agenda included Future Fens, retrofit, charging for electric vehicles, soils and farming issues.
- e) Also highlighted at the conference was the letter received from the Cambridgeshire Youth Group which talked of their climate aspirations. Officers would seek to continue their engagement with them.
- f) The focus moving forward would be on how to build on this engagement and re-energise climate issues.
- g) Members reminded officers of the importance of engagement with local people and gathering their views.
- h) As part of refreshing the Climate Action Plan next year, officers would look to see how the thematic work streams could engage more effectively with communities.
- i) The Chair thanked the team for the work done on the summit.

13 Budget and Performance Report – November 23

- Tim Greenwood, Finance Manager, introduced the repot which provided an update of the financial position for 2023/24 and an analysis against the 2023/24 budget up to the period ending September 2023.
- 13.2 During discussion the following points were noted:
 - a) Members commented that they felt that the revenue line for climate change shown in the MTFP was insufficient given the scale of the challenge.
 - b) The draft budget would go to Board at the end of November.

RESOLVED:

That the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee:

- 1. Note the financial position of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Division for the financial year 23/24 to September 2023.
- 2. Review and comment on the current Environment and Sustainable Communities budgets within the Combined Authority's Medium-Term Financial Plan and Capital Programme.

14 Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee Agenda Plan

14.1 As discussed under item 8, items on the joint Chalk Streams Programme and the Care Homes Retrofit Programme would be added to the January meeting agenda.

RESOLVED:

That the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee Agenda Plan be noted.

15 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED:

1. The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee resolved to remain in public session.

16 Affordable Housing Programme – Reallocation of Funds

- 16.1 Azma Ahmad-Pearce, Housing Programme Manager, introduced the report which set out the proposals to reallocate funding within the Affordable Housing Programme and provided details of both the sites concerned.
- 16.2 During discussion the following points were noted:

a) The Member for Peterborough felt that, knowing the area, it would greatly benefit from completely rented properties rather than shared ownership and asked colleagues to support the proposal.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To note the Affordable Housing Programme and the non-delivery of 4 of the 6 Garage sites, which will lead to the loss of 8-11 units in total, subject to design and planning.
- 2. To approve the reallocation of the remaining funding for the Garage sites to the Stanground site; this sum is £332,500.

17 Date of Next Meeting

17.1 The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 22 January 2024.

Meeting Ended: 12.08pm

Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee Action Log

The action log records actions recorded in the minutes of Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee meetings and provides an update on officer response.

Item	Report Title	Lead Officer	Action	Response	Status
			November 15 Meeting		
4	Combined Authority Forward Plan	Jo Morley	The following two additions to be added to the March agenda 1. A further update on the GSENZ Hub. 2. Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for all programme	Added to the Agenda Plan	Closed
5	Directorate Highlight Report	Steve Cox Adrian Cannard Jo Morley	 Officers to investigate the gross CO2 measure and report back to the Committee. A report on the potential economic consequences of failing to maintain the road infrastructure be presented to both the TIC and E&SCC at a future meeting. A KPI workshop to be organised for the Committee in the new year. 		Open Open To be confirmed
7.	Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Adrian Cannard	Officers to circulate to the Committee a revised timeline	Circulated by email on 05.12.23 and published with meeting documents.	Closed
8.	Climate Projects Update	Adrian Cannard	The agenda for the January meeting of the Committee to included reports on the following: The joint Chalk Streams Programme An update on the Care Homes Retrofit Programme	Added to the Agenda Plan	Closed
			September 13 Meeting	ı	
5	Directorate Highlight Report	Steve Cox (Adrian Cannard)	4. Officers to create a document with all the targets for Net Zero across the region for the Climate summit. 5. Officers to share with members information on the Climate Summit.	Included in the Climate Action Plan report on the January agenda Included under Climate Partnership item at the November meeting	Closed

Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee

Agenda Item

5

22 January 2024

Title:	Place & Connectivity Directorate Monthly Highlight Report: January 2024
Report of:	Steve Cox, Interim Executive Director – Place & Connectivity
Lead Member:	Cllr Bridget Smith
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	No vote required

Recommendations:

A Note the content of this report.

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

- x Enabling resilient communities
- x Achieving best value and high performance

1. Purpose

1.1 This report provides a general update on the key activities of the Place and Connectivity Directorate in relation to Environment and Sustainable Communities, which are not covered in other reports to this Meeting. It also provides information on some key developments, risks and opportunities that have emerged.

2. Combined Authority scheme updates

2.1 | Care Homes Retrofit

Following the November Committee additional work has been undertaken to promote the scheme. There are now 4 applications received, 1 imminent and other active enquiries made. Peterborough Council are also testing if local networks (not local authority) might overcome some of the perceived barriers to engagement. If all the current applications were to proceed then approximately £500k of investment (£250k of CPCA grant) would be deployed, with further if the additional contacts turn into applications. A deadline of end of January has been set for current applications. The review of the scheme will be brought to the March Committee.

2.2 Infrastructure Delivery Framework update

Item 5

Consultants Stantec Ltd are underway with the Infrastructure Delivery Framework project. Data on development sites is being sourced from councils and utility stakeholders contacted. During February the consultants will be testing their multi-criteria analysis with the Steering Group and the Place Directors Group. This work will identify the major barriers to delivering sustainable growth as set out in Local Plans. The consultants are aware of the other work underway both by the Combined Authority on the State of the Region Review and the government's Cambridge 2040 concept.

The outputs will raise awareness of the extent of investment and sustainable growth being held back due to infrastructure constraints or costs linked to specific sites, or the cumulative impact of growth on strategic issues, such as water and energy supply. A further update will be provided to Committee in March.

2.3 | Housing site completions:

MAN GPM site in Alconbury Weald, Huntingdonshire completed 94 units, with a mixture of affordable rented and shared ownership homes, and held a celebratory completion on 1 December 2023.

Eight new homes were handed over by Vistry to CKH at the British Sugar Way site on the 4 Jan 2024. Contractual disputes with Vistry are still pending, however the handover matters have been agreed, and the whole site should eventually be delivered at the end of January 2024.

Cross Keys Homes

Construction on Northminster is progressing well. The roof is now complete on Block A, and Blocks C and B are due to finish soon.

<u>Sage</u>

Construction of 118 homes at Wisbech Road, March, has near 70 units built with a further 50+ to start from foundation level.

Cross Keys Homes

The Perkins site has issues with a road audit, and this is now with PCC to come to a reasonable conclusion. Until the road audit issue has been determined the site cannot be completed.

3. Strategic Partner scheme updates

3.1 Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects update

Sunnica Solar Farm.

On 8 December the Secretary of State re-set the statutory deadline for taking a decision on the proposed Sunnica Energy Farm from 7 December 2023 to 7 March 2024. Additional information has been requested from the applicant on Landscape Impact, and Natural England on the Breckland Special Protection Area (stone curlews).

Fenland Reservoir.

Following its first consultation in 2022, Anglian Water is continuing with the technical design of the reservoir, ahead of the second of three consultation phases in 2024. The application is expected to be submitted in 2025.

Cambridge Waste Water Treatment relocation.

Currently in the six-month examination phase of the Development Consent Order (DCO) process which began in October 2023.

Item 5

4. Appendices

4.1 None

5. I	mplications					
Fina	ncial Implications					
5.1	None					
Lega	al Implications					
6.1	None					
Publ	ic Health Implications					
7.1	None					
Envi	ronmental & Climate Change Implications					
8.1	Neutral					
Othe	Other Significant Implications					
9.1	None					
Back	kground Papers					
10.1	10.1 None					



Environment & Sustainable Communities Committee

Agenda Item

6

22 January 2024

	· ·
Title:	Affordable Housing Programme – Update on Implementation
Report of:	Affordable Housing Programme – January 2024
Lead Member:	Councillor Bridget Smith, Lead Member for Housing and Communities
Public Report:	No
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	No vote required

Recommendations:

A The Housing and Communities Committee is asked to note the update in this report

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

- Achieving good growth providing the 1400+ homes as agreed by the CPCA and providers, between 2017-2022, in the area of the CA.
- x Enabling resilient communities providing suitable housing and ensuring communities are robust

1. Purpose

- This report is to update Environment & Sustainability Communities Committee members on the progress of the affordable housing programme 2017-2022. This is an ongoing project which has ended but has a tail end. Completions are now anticipated by the end of 2025, or by the end of the financial year of 2025/26.
- 1.2 A further 618 units are yet to be delivered. 820 new homes over several sites have been successfully completed and occupied by new houses. The current total of units to be delivered will be 1438, pending an outcome on the delivery of the Garage site.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 To update the members on the progress of the Affordable Housing Programme; providing them with details of the progress of the sites in the programme.
 - All sites have been visited at least once by the Housing Programme Manager, as part of her monitoring of this programme.
- 2.2 The Combined Authority's Affordable Housing programme ran from 2017 until 31 March 2022 (schemes having to be started on site by that date).

3. Background

- The Affordable Housing programme started in 2017, the objective of the programme was to deliver 2000 houses by 31 March 2022.
- At the time of writing, 820 new homes have been completed with 618 still outstanding (from a total of 1438, due to the loss of units at the Garage site of 19).
- 3.3 All the loans, as part of the Affordable Housing Programme, have now been repaid. The loan repayments are to support the completion of the Affordable Housing Programme which will come to fruition by the end of 2025.
- 3.4 At Alconbury Weald they recently celebrated the completion of a large development project comprising of 94 new affordable homes, with a mix of rented and shared ownership homes. Collaborative work with MAN GPM, brought the project to an end. The Mayor was in attendance as were two local Councillors, Cllr Sanderson and Cllr Blackwell, MAN GPM officers and a senior director, and Longhurst H.A. (the managing agents).



3.5 Northminster is taking shape, and is now several storeys high with the roof placed on the central bridge of the site. This is going ahead as scheduled.



Northminster from an aerial view, which is several storeys high in December 2023.

- Heylo sites fully completed on Keepmoat site Paston Phase 1 (30 homes) at the end of October 6A further 21 units from Keepmoat Homes on the second phase of thirty units on Keepmoat/Allison Homes project, are due to complete by the middle of 2024.
- 3.7 The Vistry sites with Heylo are progressing however, the current merger of Vistry and Countryside has caused Heylo some problems in identifying the units secured by them. Negotiations are taking place with Heylo and Vistry to finalise these units.
- The March site in Fenlands is progressing well with 70% of the site under construction and the houses looking good. Here are some of the units in construction in December 23.





4. Appendices

- 4.1 Appendix 1: Affordable Housing Programme Approved and Started on Site Schemes period up to March 2021.
 - Appendix 2: Affordable Housing Programme Approved and Started on Site Schemes period April 2021 to March 2022.

5. Implications

Financial Implications

5.1 All grant funding is allocated.

Legal Implications

6.1 There are no new legal implications.

Public Health Implications

7.1 There are no known public health implications.

Environmental & Climate Change Implications

8.1 There are no new Environmental or Climate change implications.

Other Significant Implications

9.1 None

Background Papers

10.1 | None

Affordable Housing Grants

Affordable Housing Grants Scheme Name	Provider / Lead Partner	Local Authority	Start on Site - Units Claimed	Committee/ Funding dates	Actual Completions to Date	possible Handover dates	Longstop dates	CPCA Funding	Paid to Date	Progress
Soham	PGH	East Cambs	8	26/07/2017	8			£ 120,000.00	£120,000	Completed
Littleport	снѕ	East Cambs	5	26/07/2017	5			£ 97,500.00	£97,500	Completed
Victoria Way, Melbourn	снѕ	South Cambs	8	26/07/2017	8			£ 133,000.00	£133,000	Completed
Willingham	СКН	South Cambs	15	26/07/2017	15			£ 525,000.00	£525,000	Completed
Burwell	Hastoe	East Cambs	8	26/07/2017	8			£ 330,000.00	£330,000	Completed
Perkins, Phase 1, Newark Road, Peterborough	СКН	Peterborough	54	26/07/2017	54			£ 1,700,000.00	£1,700,000	Completed
Snowley Park	СКН	Fenland	24	26/07/2017	24			£ 150,000.00	£150,000	Completed
Belle Vue Stanground	Medesham	Peterborough	21	29/05/2019	21			£ 735,000.00	£735,000	Completed
Luminus HDC Sites	Chorus (Luminus)	Huntingdonshire	14	26/06/2019	14			£ 618,800.00	£618,800	Completed
Crowland Road, Peterborough	Medesham	Peterborough	25	31/07/2019	25			£ 875,000.00	£875,000	Completed
Drake Avenue, Peterborough	СКН	Peterborough	33	31/07/2019	33			£ 1,430,154.00	£1,430,154	Completed
Whaddon Road, Meldreth	Settle (NHH)	South Cambs	5	09/10/2019	5			£ 215,000.00	£215,000	Completed
94 Great Whyte, Ramsey	•	Huntingdonshire	15	11/11/2019	15			£ 600,000.00	£600,000	Completed
Middlemoor Road, St Mary's, Ramsey	Places For People (ex- Chorus) (Luminus)	Huntingdonshire	11	13/01/2020	11			£ 509,000.00	£509,000	Completed
	Heylo	Huntingdonshire	22	13/01/2020	22			£ 819,800.00	£819,800	Completed
Alconbury Weald, Parcel 4, Ermine Street, Alconbury Weald.	СКН	Huntingdonshire	7	09/03/2020	7			£ 245,000.00	£245,000	Completed
Brampton Park, Brampton, Hunts	ReSI	Huntingdonshire	6	27/04/2020	6			£ 270,002.00	£270,002	Completed
St Thomas Park, Ramsey, Hunts. (Linden Homes)	Heylo/Linden Homes	Huntingdonshire	10	27/04/2020	10			£ 476,997.00	£476,997	Completed
Writtiesey Green, Fernand (11), Harriers Rest, (Lawrence Rd) (7) Wittering & Sandpit Road, Thorney,	Heylo/Larkfleet	Peterborough/Hunt s	31	27/04/2020	29			£ 1,367,766.00	£1,002,502	Near Complete
Roman Fields, Paston, Peterborough.	Keepmoat	Peterborough	23	27/04/2020	23			£ 1,000,500.00	£954,489	Completed
JMS, Damson Drive, Peterborough, PE1	Keepmoat	Peterborough	10	27/04/2020	10			£ 412,998.00	£412,998	Completed
Roman Fields, Paston, Peterborough.	Heylo	Peterborough	20	22/06/2020	20			£ 645,000.00	£645,000	Completed
Alconbury Weald, Parcel 6, Alconbury.	MAN GPM	Huntingdonshire	94	22/06/2020	94	30/09/2023	31/12/2023	£ 4,425,000.00	£2,212,500	COMPLETED and claim grant at end of 2023

				Îte	m 6					
Scheme Name	Provider / Lead Partner	Local Authority	Start on Site - Units Claimed	Committee/ Funding dates	Actual Completions to Date	possible Handover dates	Longstop dates	CPCA Funding	Paid to Date	Progress
	Cambridge Housing Society	East Cambs	16	09/11/2020	16			£ 640,000.00	£637,666	Completed
More's Meadow, Great Shelford,	CLT/Parochial Charity	South Cambs	21	09/11/2020	21			£ 1,008,000.00	£1,008,000	Completed
All Angels Park, Highfields, Caldecote.	Heylo	South Cambs	5	09/11/2020	5			£ 247,999.00	£235,048	Completed
Garage sites (5 infill sites)	СКН	Peterborough	19	09/11/2020	0	25/03/2022	30/09/2024	£ 332,500.00		In progress - possible changes, to loss of units, no more grant required
Sandpit Road, Thorney, Peterborough	Heylo/Larkfleet	Peterborough	5	09/11/2020	5			£ 237,804.00	£209,805	Completed
PFP HDC Sites, Phase 2	Chorus (Luminus) PFP	Huntingdonshire	15	11/01/2021	15			£ 749,000.00	£749,000	Completed
Heylo 4 sites, Bayard Plaza (11), Pemberton Park (10), Alconbury Weald (2) & Judith Gardens (8)		HDC,PCC, ECDC	31	15/03/2021	31			£ 1,272,000.00	£1,220,191	Completed
Heylo - Roman Fields, Phase 2, Paston.	Heylo	PCC	30	11/07/2021	30	31/10/2022	31/10/2023	£ 1,006,173.00	£955,456	Completed
Alconbury Weald	Rentplus	Huntingdonshire	22	15/03/2021	22			£ 989,325.00	£989,325	Completed
24 High Street, Wisbech	FDC	FDC	6	12/09/2022		31/05/2024	31/12/2024	£ 210,000.00	£105,000	In progress
Heylo Allison Homes/Keepmoat, Paston site	_	PCC, FDC, HDC	46	14/11/2022	28	28/02/2023	30/11/2023	£ 1,656,000.00		In progress
			685		640			£ 26,050,318	£ 21,519,733	
Loan or other Toolbox Investments										
	ECTC/PGH	East Cambs	19	27/06/2018	19			£ 6,500,000	£	Repaid
Ely MOD Site (Loan)	ECTC/PGH	East Cambs	15	28/11/2018	15			£ 24,400,000	£	Repaid
Alexander House (Forehill) Ely (Loan)	Laragh Developments	East Cambs	4	26/06/2019	4			£ 4,840,000		Repaid
Linton Road, Great Abingdon (Loan)	Laragh Developments	South Cambs	7	27/11/2019	7			£ 5,780,000	£ -	Repaid
Histon Road, Cambridge (Loan)	Laragh Developments	Cambridge City	10	25/03/2020	10			£ 9,647,000		repaid 10/11/23.
Sub-total Loan book Investments			55					£ 51,167,000	£ -	
Programme Totals			740		695			£ 77,217,318	£ 21,519,733	

Appendix 2 - £100m Affordable Housing Programme 21/22.

10/01/2024

Scheme Name	Provider / Lead Partner	Local Authority	No. of units funded	Committee/ Funding date	Actual Completions to Date	Possible Handover Date	Longstop dates	CPCA Funding	Paid to Date	Progress
Wisbech Road, March	SAGE	FDC	118	11/11/2019		31/11/2024	31/12/2024	£5,248,700	£3,936,525	In progress
Stanground, Peterborough										In progress (1,170,000 + 332,500) additional
	СКН	PCC	26	22/06/2020		31/12/2023	31/12/2024	£1,502,500	£585,000	monies from the
British Sugar Way, Oundle Road, Peterborough	СКН	PCC	70	09/11/2020	44	30/08/2023	31/08/2024	£2,830,000	£1,415,000	In progress
Perkins, Phase 2, Newark Road, Peterborough	CKH	PCC	96	09/11/2020	48	31/01/2024	29/09/2024	£3,740,000	£1,870,000	In progress
Great Haddon, London Road, Yaxley,										
Peterborough	СКН	PCC	49	11/01/2021	8	30/11/2024	30/11/2025	£1,886,500	£943,250	In progress
Northminster, Peterborough	СКН	PCC	315	21/06/2021		31/01/2026	31/01/2026	£12,521,250	£9,390,937	In progress
14-16 High Street, Girton, Cambridge. CB3 0PU	Girton TP	SCDC	15	21/06/2021	15	31/03/2023	01/10/2023	£675,000	£675,000	COMPLETED
Heylo - 2 sites (SN Developments - removed) & Larkfleet	Heylo	PCC, FDC	16	06/09/2021	10	30/06/2023	31/03/2024	£670,250	£414.000	In progress
	Heylo	ECDC,SCDC	12			31/01/2024		£538,750		In progress
TOTALS			717		125			£29,612,950	£19,229,712	

Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee

Agenda Item

7

22 January 2024

Title:	Climate Action Plan
Report of:	Steve Cox, Interim Executive Director, Place and Connectivity
Lead Member:	Cllr. Bridget Smith, Chair of Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	No vote required

Recommendations:

- A To note progress on refresh of Climate Action Plan; and
- B To note climate mitigation targets and monitoring

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

- ✓ Achieving good growth
- ✓ Enabling resilient communities

1. Purpose

1.1 This report provides an update on the refresh of the Climate Action Plan 2022-2025 and highlights climate emissions targets adopted by constituent councils.

2. Proposal

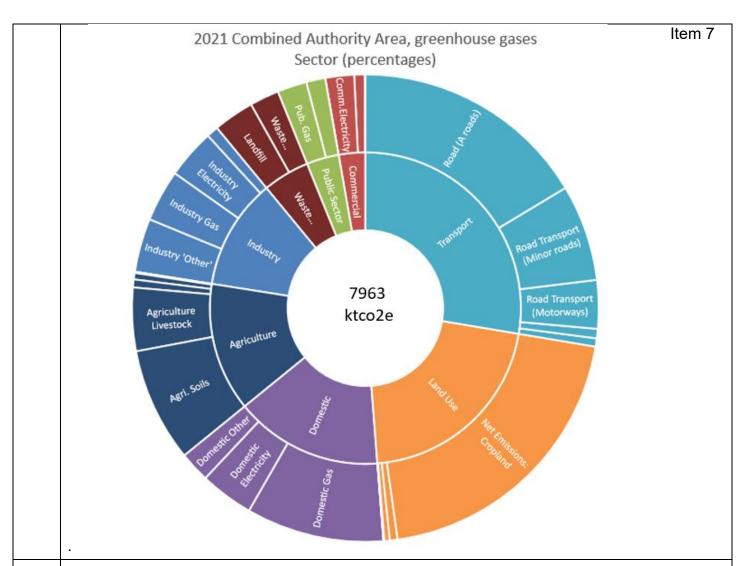
- 2.1 The Committee agreed with the recommendation of the Climate Partnership that a refresh of the Climate Action Plan was undertaken to update actions for the year 2024/25, prior to the full review of the Plan taking place in 2024.
- 2.2 Work is taking place to consider each of the actions across the ten thematic workstreams regarding completion of that action, action still relevant or whether the action milestones need updating. These will be discussed at a workshop for the officer programme board to refine and cross-check the actions between the workstreams, arranged for the 7February. Revised draft actions will be considered by the Climate Partnership on the 1 March, with recommendations for change 24/25 coming to the Environment & Sustainable Communities Committee at its March meeting.

2.3 The refreshing of the action milestones is taking into account progress to date and relevant outbendata where available. As described in previous reports, a different approach will be taken to the full review in 2024. That will consider a more comprehensive 'risk/impact' based approach, looking at the different sectors and the ability to maximise impact on reducing emissions. This will draw upon the data illustrated in the Background section of this report and new work on appropriate cost effective interventions/pathways. 2.4 The Climate Summit in 2023 heard progress from a number of workstreams from the Action Plan. A common theme emerged from the Summit around the importance of effective engagement and mobilising local action. This will be picked up by revised actions in the Engagement workstream, including the particular transport challenges highlighted by the schools/younger people representatives. 2.5 Monitoring data has a lag, so the impact of collective action since 2022 is not yet able to be measured in the national statistics. For context, the Combined Authority area greenhouse gases emissions in 2021 were estimated to be 74% of 2005 levels, with large reductions in the commercial sectors (down to a fifth of 2005 levels), other sectors about 2/3rds of their 2005 levels but transport and land use largely the same (noting population increase over the same period). 2.6 Action also continues at the local level through councils and other stakeholders. Most Councils in the Combined Authority area have adopted a combination of emission reduction targets for (a) their own operations, and/or (b) their area. The national statutory target is to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050. Area emission reductions are reliant on a wide range of actions, many outside the direct control of local authorities. Most councils therefore include a variety of convening and influencing actions in their climate or environment strategies (as does the Climate Action Plan itself). 2.7 The targets are shown on timeline below: Reduce scope 3 by 50.4% Cambridgeshire Net Cambridgeshire Zero Measure BNG Net Zero own operations 20-33% reduction in 45% reduction in own Near 100% reduction our net CO2e operations in net CO2e 2040 2045 2050 2025 2030 2035 Net 7ero own **UK Net Zero Target** Net Zero operations operations and no fossil fuel Net Zero own operations / South Cambridge Net Zero / Cambridgeshire Net Net Zero operations Increase tree canopy 7ero & to 19% Doubling Nature Reduce area carbon Huntingdonshire Net emissions by 50% Zero 66-80% reduction in our net CO2e Net City & Net Zero PETERBOROUGH operations

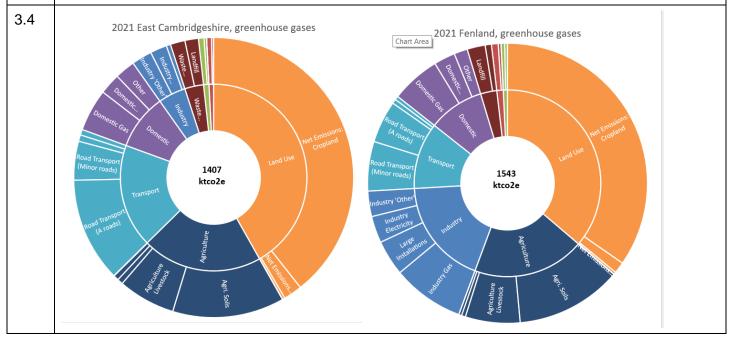
- 2.8 These targets are updated as councils review their strategies. The national monitoring of emissions by local authority area (divided into different sectors) shows that councils face different challenges depending on their geographic, socio-economic and environmental characteristics. Examples are given in the Background section.
- These current strategies and targets will be also taken into account in project looking at the scope for developing a "Local Determined Contribution", which would seek to draw together these local targets into a carbon budget pathway and framework. Innovate UK the UK's innovation agency supported the partnership bid led by Cambridgeshire County Council. This work will test the creation of a framework between local and central government for the local reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (tC02e) and how this contributes to national ambitions on climate change. Known as 'locally determined contributions', this work follows on from the national Net Zero Review findings which highlighted the importance of local government leadership and place-based action to combat the climate crisis. £150,000 has been awarded to the Cambridgeshire partnership to create the framework, with supporting evidence developed with the University of Cambridge's Hughes Hall and Collaborate CiC.
- 2.10 The monies have been allocated under Innovate UK's 'Net Zero Living Programme' which aims to overcome barriers to cutting carbon, speed up processes and encourage finance and investment in local emissions reductions. The partnership includes the Combined Authority, Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Huntingdon District Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Collaborate CIC and the University of Cambridge's Hughes Hall. Detailed work will begin in February 2024 and the collaboration will take place over the following 18 months.

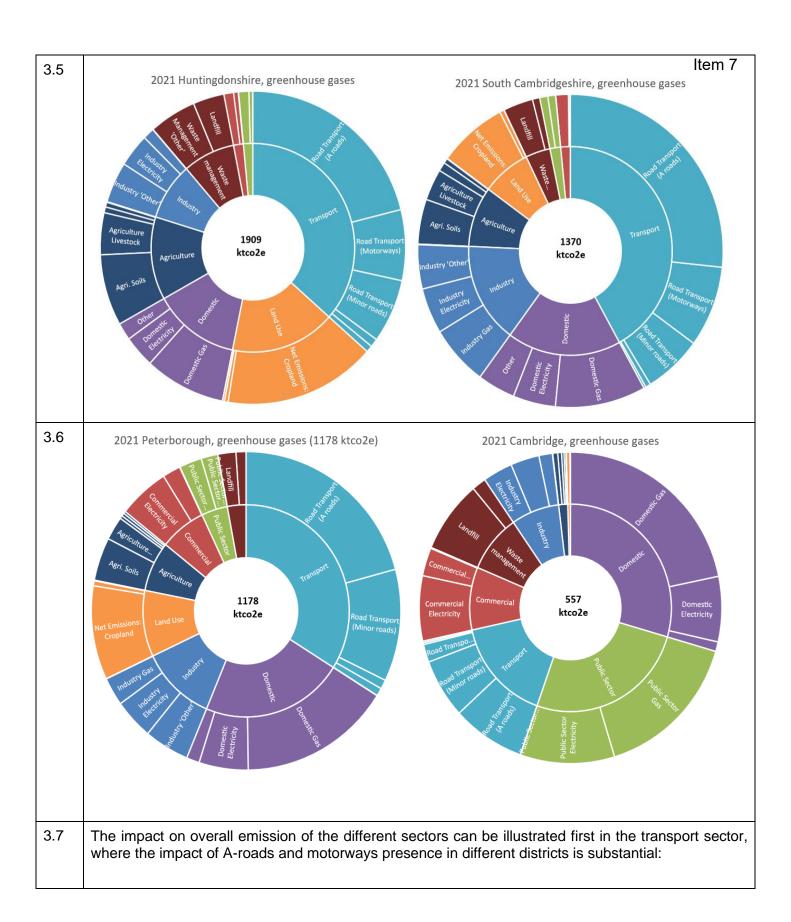
3. Background

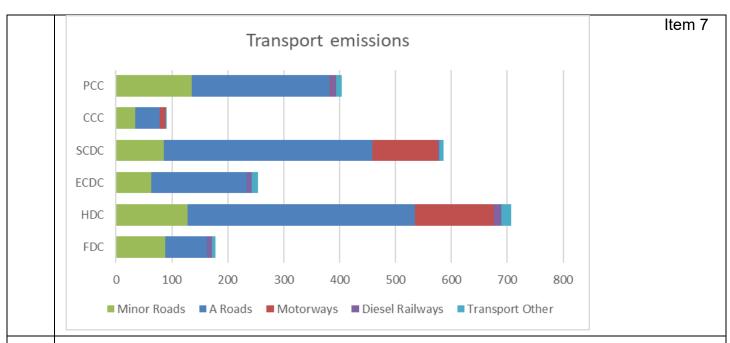
- 3.1 The government publishes annual data on greenhouse gas emissions, including tables for each local authority area. These include data that provides a single metric combining the effects of most greenhouse gases as a carbon equivalent. This combines data from the UK's Greenhouse Gas Inventory with data from a number of other sources, including local energy consumption statistics, to produce a nationally consistent set of greenhouse emissions estimates at local authority level from 2005 to 2021. They show "territorial" emissions, meaning emissions that occur within the UK's borders. The data show emissions allocated on an "end-user" basis where emissions related to energy use are distributed according to the point of energy consumption. Emissions that are not energy related are distributed based on the point of emission, other than emissions from waste management which are distributed based on where the waste was produced.
- 3.2 In 2021 the sector breakdown for the Combined Authority area is shown in the following diagram:



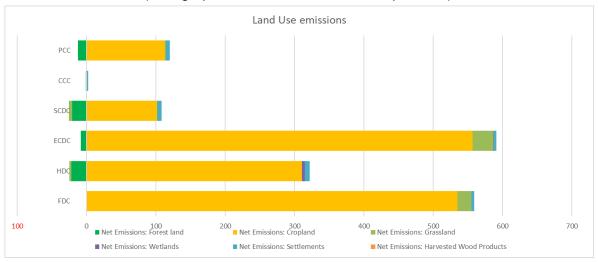
As has been highlighted previously, the relative impact of different sectors by local authority varies. The biggest differences across the Combined Authority area are the impact of land use and crops in Fenland and East Cambridgeshire, the impact of major transport routes in Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire, industry in Peterborough and public sector in Cambridge City. Cambridge City is an outlier in terms of overall emissions attributed (the lowest at 557 ktCO2e), with Huntingdonshire the highest (1909 ktCO2e).







3.8 Secondly, the land use category reflects the large emissions from farmed land, the types of soils, and where that is located (note graphic is on a different scale to previous):



3.9 The data is available for all sectors, and over time since 2005.

4. Appendices

4.1 None.

5. Implications

Financial Implications

5.1 Further climate capital and revenue budget allocations are subject to the outcome of the MTFP review for 24/24 to 27/28.

Legal Implications

6.1 None.

Publi	c Health Implications Item 7					
7.1	Tackling climate issues has many co-benefits for public health. This includes physical and mental health, health resilience to more frequent extreme weather events, and reducing impacts on the costs of providing public health services.					
Envir	Environmental & Climate Change Implications					
8.1	As described in the project descriptions. These projects/programmes are in support of tackling climate emissions, adaptation and environmental crisis.					
Other	r Significant Implications					
9.1	None.					
Back	ground Papers					
10.1	None.					

Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee

Agenda Item

9

22 January 2024

Title:	£100k homes – Conditional release of resale price restrictions
Report of:	Steve Cox, Interim Executive Director of Place and Connectivity
Lead Member:	Cllr Bridget Smith
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	Yes KD 2023/053
Voting Arrangements:	A simple majority of voting Members

Recommendations:

- A The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee is recommended to request Officers undertake one of the following two options:
 - 1. To recommend the Combined Authority Board authorise the conditional release of resale price restrictions affecting eight leasehold £100k homes in Fordham. The release shall be conditional upon future purchasers entering into replacement agreements with the Local Housing Authority East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC);

or

2. To explore changing the status of each home to a more conventional type of affordable housing unit at each next available lease transfer opportunity.

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

A The proposal will support community resilience by enabling more effective management of the affordable homes.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report seeks to regularise management arrangements of eight leasehold homes in Fordham that were delivered in accordance with the former £100k homes initiative.
- 1.2 The £100k homes initiative ended in September 2021 so it is no longer appropriate for the Combined Authority to manage the reallocation process each time a home becomes available.

2. P	roposal
2.1	If Option 1 is approved and implemented the reallocation of these eight homes shall be managed by ECDC that operates an allocations policy for other £100k homes in East Cambridgeshire. Existing resale price agreements would be terminated at the next available sale of each property, but this would be conditional upon the purchaser entering into replacement agreements with East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC).
2.2	If Option 2 is approved Officers will report findings back to the Committee at the appropriate time.
2.3	It is anticipated that neither option will be implemented until the next sale of each property. This action should save current leaseholders and mortgage providers from undertaking a separate and additional legal exercise in order to release the Combined Authority from existing agreements.

3. B	ackground
3.1	The former £100k homes policy was adopted under the former mayoral administration. Eight leasehold homes at Fordham were delivered and sales were administered by the former Community Homes team. The policy then closed on 29 September 2021, but no action was taken to discharge the Combined Authority's responsibilities for allocating new purchasers for the homes.
3.2	The Combined Authority was approached by a homeowner who wanted to sell their home and the Combined Authority was unable to identify a purchaser because the £100k homes initiative ended in 2021 and no waiting list is maintained. Arrangements were made under delegated authority for ECDC to allocate a purchaser as set out in the Officer Decision Notice at Appendix A.
3.3	This proposal seeks to simplify administrative arrangements and ensure the homes continue to provide affordable housing that is effectively managed.
3.4	The option of the Combined Authority continuing to allocate purchasers was considered and rejected because the Combined Authority's former £100k homes policy ended in 2021.

4. Appendices

4.1 Appendix A – Officer Decision Notice, 20 Beech Close, Fordham - ODN

7.1	Appendix A – Officer Decision Notice, 20 Beech Close, Fordham - ODN						
5. lı	mplications						
Finar	ncial Implications						
5.1	The Combined Authority is not a financial beneficiary from the sale of £100k homes. However, there is a social value in controlling the re-sale of these homes in-line with the £100k homes policy by maintaining discounted sale prices.						
5.2	The decision has been identified as a Key Decision because the accumulative value of equity locked into the properties could exceed £500k by the time the next sale of each home completes.						
Lega	I Implications						
6.1	If the Combined Authority fails to respond to notices from homeowners intending to sell their property, the homes could be sold on the open market. The Combined Authority no longer maintains a register of interested purchasers, so it is not currently able to nominate eligible purchasers.						
Publi	c Health Implications						
7.1	No public health implications have been identified Page 30 of 40						

Enviro	onmental & Climate Change Implications	Item 9			
8.1	8.1 No environmental and climate change implications have been identified				
Other	Other Significant Implications				
9.1	No other significant implications have been identified				
Background Papers					
10.1	Approvals can be found from the following Links:				
	Business case adopted by CPCA at item 3.2 Board 29 Jan 2020: CMIS > Meetings				
	Allocations policy amended by Committee at item 2.6 March 2021: Allocations Mar 21				
	Closure: Board closure Sep 21				



Environment & Sustainable Communities Committee

Agenda Item

10

22 January 2024

Title:	Budget and Performance Report
Report of:	Tim Greenwood, Finance Manager
Lead Member:	Councillor Bridget Smith, Chair of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee
Public Report:	Yes
Key Decision:	No
Voting Arrangements:	No vote required.

Recommendations:

A Note the financial position of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Division for the financial year 23/24 to November 2023

Strategic Objective(s):

The proposals within this report fit under the following strategic objective(s):

- x Achieving ambitious skills and employment opportunities
- x Achieving good growth
- x Achieving best value and high performance

1. Purpose

To provide an update of the financial position for 2023/24 and to provide analysis against the 2023/24 budgets, up to the period ending November 2023

2. Background

At the last meeting, the Committee was provided with an analysis of the 2023/24 performance against budget to September 2023. This report provides an update covering up to November 2023.

3. Revenue Expenditure

A breakdown of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Revenue Expenditure for the period to 30 November 2023 is set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1	Item 10

Environment and Sustainable Communities Revenue Expenditure	23/24 Actual YTD	23/24 Budget YTD	23/24 Variance YTD	23/24 Budget FY	23/24 FO FY	23/24 Vari- ance FY	23/24 Deferral
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Climate Change	13	30	-17	50	50	0	-
Environment and Spatial Planning Staff	110	165	-55	248	248	0	-
Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for all - Revenue	0	30	-30	100	100	0	-
Natural Cambridgeshire	70	48	22	80	80	0	-
GSE Net Zero Investment Design	12	313	-301	12	12	0	-
HUG1 - Revenue	97	223	-126	433	433	0	-
HUG2 A Revenue 23/24	605	0	605	6192	3942	-2,250	-
LAD3 - Revenue - (Sustainable Warmth)	764	1214	-450	2429	2429	0	-
Local Energy Advice Demonstrator	65	0	65	0	2105	2,105	-
Net Zero Hub Core	2583	233	2350	1419	1495	76	-
Rural Communities Energy Fund	173	277	-104	445	445	0	-
Public Sector Decarbonisation	45	20	25	1222	230	-992	-
Total Environment Revenue Expenditure	4,537	2,553	1,984	12,630	11,569	-1,061	-

- 3.2 Expenditure to date is higher that budget to date.
- Forecast outturn is expected for net zero hub is expected to underspend. Any underspend would be returned to government or carried forward to complete the programme in subsequent years.

4. Capital Expenditure

4.1 A breakdown of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Capital Expenditure for the period to 30 November 2023 is set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Environment and Sustainable Communities Capital Expenditure	23/24 Actual YTD	23/24 Budget YTD	23/24 Variance YTD	23/24 Budget FY	23/24 FO FY	23/24 Variance FY	23/24 Deferral
·	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Care Home Retrofit Programme	0	1,200	-1200	2,000	500	-1500	1500
Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for all - Capital	0	435	-435	800	800	0	-
Logan's Meadow Local Nature Reserve wetland extension	0	138	-138	280	280	0	-
Nature and Environment Investment Fund	0	150	-150	250	250	0	-
Net Zero Villages Programme	0	600	-600	1000	1000	0	-
HUG1 - Capital	1196	2799	-1603	2799	2799	0	
HUG2 A Capital 23/24	0	0	0	36378	22338	-14,040	
LAD3 - Capital (Sustainable Warmth)l	4252	11281	-7029	7447	7447	0	
Total Environment Capital Expenditure	5,448	16,603	-11,155	50,954	35,414	-15,540	1,500

- 4.2 Whilst expenditure to date is lower than budget all projects except the care home retrofit programme and net zero hub are expected to spend to budget by the end of the financial year.
- 4.3 Forecast outturn shows an underspend against budget of £15.5m. With regard to HUG 2 both revenue and capital forecasts are in line with the reduced overall grant funding agreed with DESNZ following submitted Change Requests, the budget going forward needs to be amended to reflect this reduced overall programme. Following this required budget adjustment in future this project will show a balanced position.

The Local Energy Advice Demonstrator and Net Zero Hub projects require underspent budgeten be brought forward from 2022/23 and again once this is actioned the projects will show a balanced position.

In respect of the Public Sector Decarbonisation project this will not fully deliver in 2023/24 and the final overall underspent budget will be carried forward into 2024/25 to complete and fully deliver the overall project.

For the care home refit programme. This is because initial expressions of interest were below expectations, officers are working with care homes to identify any future plans which could be accelerated. The programme has been reviewed with some expenditure slipping into 2024/25.

5. lm	plications					
Finan	cial Implications					
5.1	There are no financial implications other than those included in the main body of the report.					
Legal	Implications					
6.1	The Combined Authority is required to prepare a balanced budget in accordance with statutory requirements.					
Public	Health Implications					
7.1	N/A					
Enviro	onmental & Climate Change Implications					
8.1	N/A					
Other	Significant Implications					
9.1	N/A					
Backg	Background Papers					
10.1	None					



ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA PLAN

Notes

Committee dates shown in bold are confirmed.

The definition of a key decision is set out in the Combined Authorities Constitution in Chapter 6 – Transparency Rules, Forward Plan and Key Decisions, Point 11 http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/assets/Uploads/CPCA-Constitution-.pdf

Standing agenda items (shaded blue) are considered at each Committee meeting:

- 1. Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log
- 2. CA Forward Plan
- 3. E&SC Agenda Plan
- 4. Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update
- 5. Directorate Highlight Report
- 6. Climate Partnership Update
- 7. Budget and Performance Report

Committee date	Agenda Item	Report Purpose	Lead Officer	Report to CA Board for decision	Reference if Key decision	Agenda despatch date
12.06.23	Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log		Jo Morley			02.06.23
	Director's Highlight Report		Steve Cox			
	Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update – March 2023		Azma Ahmad Pearce			
	Sustainable Land Use Advice Fund Full Business Case	To approve the development of a revised business case for the sustainable land use advice programme that aligned to the LNRS.	Adrian Cannard	No		
	Community Homes Grant Application	To consider applications for community homes support grants.	Nick Sweeney	No		
	Community Homes Support	To consider discontinuing to provide support to community homes groups.	Nick Sweeney	Yes		
	Local Nature Recovery Strategy	To agree delegation of budget and approve governance of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Adrian Cannard	No		
	Climate Action Plan	To note update on progress, agree a summit proposal and agree the approval process for Care Home Grant Programme grants	Adrian Cannard	No		
	Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Framework	To allocate, subject to approval, budget to undertake work on investigating infrastructure barriers to growth.	Adrian Cannard	No		
	E&SC Agenda/Work Plan		Jo Morley	n/a		
11.09.23	Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log		Jo Morley	No		01.09.23

Committee date	Agenda Item	Report Purpose	Lead Officer	Report to CA Board for decision	Reference if Key decision	Agenda despatch date
	Combined Authority Forward Plan	To note				
	Director's Highlight Report		Steve Cox	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update		Azma Ahmad- Pearce	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Loans Update		Nick Sweeney	No		
	Unit Swap from Heylo-SN Development to Vistry	Recommend the dissolving of SN Development/Heylo agreement and to be replaced with Heylo/Vistry and refer the grant monies to this project with Vistry.	Azma Ahmad- Pearce			
	Budget & Performance Report		Tim Greenwood			
	Climate Partnership Update		Chair/ Mayor	n/a		
	E&SC Agenda/Work Plan		Jo Morley			
13.11.23	Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log		Jo Morley	No		03.11.23
	Combined Authority Forward Plan	To note				
	Director's Highlight Report		Steve Cox	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Loans Update		Nick Sweeney	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update		Azma Ahmad- Pearce	No		
	Local Nature Recovery Strategy	To receive an update on the LNRS and consider the business case for land manager engagement	Adrian Cannard	No	KD2023/047	

Committee date	Agenda Item	Report Purpose	Lead Officer	Report to CA Board for decision	Reference if Key decision	Agenda despatch date
	Affordable Housing Programme- acquiring additional funds	To agree to use the remaining grant funding from one site to assist with the delivery of another.	Azma Ahmad- Pearce	No		
	Natural Cambridgeshire	Introduction to the Chair and update on the work of the organisation	Martin Doel	No		
	GSE Net Zero Hub Board Decisions	To update the committee on decisions made under delegation	Maxine Narburgh	No		
	Climate Projects Update		Adrian Cannard			
	Budget & Performance Report		Tim Greenwood			
	Climate Partnership Update		Adrian Cannard	n/a		
	E&SC Agenda/Work Plan		Jo Morley			
22.01.24	Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log		Jo Morley	No		12.01.24
	Combined Authority Forward Plan	To note				
	Director's Highlight Report		Steve Cox	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update – March 2023		Azma Ahmad- Pearce	No		
	Climate Action Plan Review	To agree revisions to the Climate Action Plan 2022-2025	Adrian Cannard	No		

Committee date	Agenda Item	Report Purpose	Lead Officer	Report to CA Board for decision	Reference if Key decision	Agenda despatch date
	£100k Homes – Fordham	To recommend for CA Board to authorise the conditional release of resale price obligations affecting 8 leasehold homes in Fordham.	Nick Sweeney	Yes		
		Contractual obligations are to be replaced by agreements between leaseholders and the Local Housing Authority.				
	Joint Chalk Streams Programme		Adrian Cannard			
	Budget & Performance Report		Tim Greenwood			
	E&SC Agenda/Work Plan		Jo Morley	No		
11.03.24	Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log		Jo Morley	No		01.03.24
	Combined Authority Forward Plan	To note				
	Director's Highlight Report		Steve Cox	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update – March 2023		Azma Ahmad- Pearce	No		
	Environment and Sustainable Communities Thematic Performance Report Q3	To receive the quarterly performance report	Kate McFarlane	No		
	Infrastructure Delivery Framework	To agree Infrastructure Delivery Framework	Steve Cox	No		
	Further Update on the SGENZ Hub		Maxine Narburgh			
	Huntingdonshire Biodiversity for All Programme		Adrian Cannard			
	MTFP Update on Environmental Projects		Steve Cox	No		

Committee date	Agenda Item	Report Purpose	Lead Officer	Report to CA Board for decision	Reference if Key decision	Agenda despatch date
	Budget & Performance Report		Tim Greenwood			
	Climate Partnership Update		Chair/ Mayor	n/a		
	E&SC Agenda/Work Plan		Jo Morley	No		
17.06.24	Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log		Jo Morley	No		07.06.24
	Combined Authority Forward Plan	To note				
	Director's Highlight Report		Steve Cox	No		
	Affordable Housing Programme Delivery Update – March 2023		Azma Ahmad- Pearce	No		
	Local Nature Recovery Strategy	To agree the consultation draft	Adrian Cannard			
	Budget & Performance Report		Tim Greenwood			
	Climate Partnership Update		Chair /Mayor	n/a		
	E&SC Agenda/Work Plan		Jo Morley	No		

<u>Ite</u>	Items for future consideration (to be allocated a meeting date as appropriate/necessary)				
1.	Locally Determined Contributions				
2.	Rural Communities Energy Fund				
3.	Net Zero Villages Project				
4.	Care Home Retrofit Programme				