



**CLIMATE EMERGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REMOTE CONSULTATIVE MEETING**

Meeting to be held remotely* on Wednesday, 16th June, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

B Anderson
N Buckley
P Carlill
M Dobson
R Finnigan
E Flint
A Forsaith
A Garthwaite
C Hart-Brooke
H Hayden
J Illingworth
M Shahzad
P Wadsworth
N Walshaw (Chair)
P Wray

Note to observers of the meeting: To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'To View Meeting' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting. The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting.

<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1193&MId=11577&Ver=4>

*This is being held as a remote 'consultative' meeting. While the meeting will be webcast live to enable public access, it is not being held as a public meeting in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

**Governance Officer:
Harriet Speight
Tel: (0113) 37 89954**

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence.</p>	
2			<p>DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS</p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary or other interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-16 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
3			<p>MINUTES - 10 MARCH 2021</p> <p>To note for information the draft minutes of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee meeting held on 10 March 2021.</p>	5 - 8
4			<p>OPEN FORUM</p> <p>At the discretion of the Chair, a period of up to 15 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Committee. No member of the public shall speak for more than five minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair.</p> <p>Please note: Members of the public are asked to submit a video of their question or statement to climate.emergency@leeds.gov.uk by 4 p.m. on Friday 11th June 2021.</p>	
5			<p>WORKING GROUPS UPDATE</p> <p>To receive a verbal update on the progress of the Committees' working groups to date.</p>	

6

FORWARD PLAN 2021/22

9 - 16

To consider the report of the Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) that provides a proposal for the forward plan for future meetings of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee, and an opportunity to revisit the structure and work programmes of the working groups.

7

UPDATE ON CITYWIDE ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

17 - 20

To consider the report of the Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) that provides an update on work undertaken by the council and its partners to improve citywide engagement with issues relating to the Climate Emergency.

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Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

Wednesday, 10th March, 2021

PRESENT: Councillor N Walshaw in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, J Bentley,
N Buckley, P Carlill, A Forsaith,
A Garthwaite, H Hayden, J Illingworth,
M Midgley, M Shahzad, P Wadsworth and
P Wray

54 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

55 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

56 Late Items

There were no late items.

57 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

58 Apologies for Absence

Councillor L Mulherin submitted her apologies to the meeting, and Councillor H Hayden was in attendance as substitute.

59 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held 18th January 2021 be approved as an accurate record.

60 Open Forum

Members of the public were asked to submit a video recording of their open forum submission in advance of the meeting.

The Leeds Cycle Campaign submitted a video, which can be viewed [here](#), highlighting the need for urgent action to provide safe access for cyclists, runners and walkers to the Aire and Calder canal at Skelton Grange Road Bridge.

Members noted their shared concerns on the matter, and advised that further discussions with stakeholders had been arranged later in the week to move the issue forward.

61 Working Groups Update

The Chief Officer for Sustainable Energy and Air Quality, Polly Cook, provided an update to Members on the progress of the working groups to the Committee as follows:

- **Biodiversity and Food** – At the most recent meeting, guest speakers from the University of York and the University of Leeds presented the benefits of soil management, the Vulnerability Index and how this can be used to protect communities, and the benefits of vertical farming. At the next meeting, guest speakers are scheduled to attend to present recent research to develop a new food system across the city. The group have also started to develop a low-carbon food action plan.
- **Planning, Buildings and Energy** – The group have continued to review existing climate related planning policies with a view to these being updated and their implementation strengthened. Recent meetings have also focused on developing new and enhanced climate related policies within the Local Plan update ahead of public consultation. At the next meeting, the group will focus on the Domestic Energy Strategy for the city.
- **Transport** – The group has not met since the last Committee meeting, however, plans to meet in coming weeks to look specifically at behaviour change related to the draft Transport Strategy consultation.

62 Leeds Climate Commission: Zero Carbon Roadmap

The Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) that submitted a report that introduced a presentation from the Leeds Climate Commission on the recently published Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Leeds, which has been developed in response to the recommendations of the Leeds Climate Change Citizens' Jury.

Professor Andy Gouldson, Chair of the Leeds Climate Commission, delivered a PowerPoint presentation setting out the Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Leeds. The key messages were presented as follows:

- Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions from Leeds have fallen by 40% since the turn of the Millennium. With on-going decarbonisation of grid electricity, and taking into account population and economic growth within the city region, we project that Leeds' 2000 level of annual emissions will have fallen by a total of 45% in 2030 and 49% in 2050.
- The periods of lockdown throughout the pandemic will have had an impact, particularly due to changes in working patterns with most people working from home, however, it is not expected to change the broader scale of the challenge.

- Leeds has a clear opportunity to become a leader in how it shapes consumer behaviour, by addressing the carbon reduction opportunities set out within the Roadmap and introducing low carbon measures for:
 - Households and for both public and commercial buildings (including better insulation, improved heating, more efficient appliances, some small scale renewables);
 - Transport (including more walking and cycling, enhanced public transport, electric and more fuel efficient vehicles);
 - Industry (including better lighting, improved process efficiencies and a wide range of other energy efficiency measures).

Members discussed a number of matters, including:

- *Finance and Investment.* Members recognised the financial barriers to families and private landlords making sustainable investments in their homes, particularly for a large proportion of housing in Leeds built in the Victorian era. It was noted that the recently announced National Infrastructure Bank to be situated in Leeds will provide opportunity for more green investment options. Members highlighted that the financial benefits to investments need to be calculated and presented through easy to understand communications to Leeds residents to evidence the value of eco-retrofit.
- *Changing travel behaviour.* In response to a query, Members were advised that electric aviation models are very unlikely to be commercially available by 2030, and therefore behavioural change is necessary to change travel habits, and encouraging residents to reduce plane travel, for example, from one week-long trip abroad every year to a two week trip every other year. Members noted the ambitions set out within the draft Transport Strategy that promote active travel and the benefits of '15 minute neighbourhoods' – meaning that neighbourhoods include all necessary amenities within 15 minutes walking distance and therefore reducing the need to travel by car.
- *Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission.* Members queried whether the Leeds roadmap is consistent with neighbouring local authorities, and were advised that the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission has been established in recognition of the need for joined up thinking across the region, and is to be launched in the coming weeks.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices, along with Members comments, be noted.

63 Annual Report to Executive Board on the Climate Emergency

The Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) submitted a report that introduces the annual Climate Emergency report considered at the Executive Board meeting held 10th February 2021, which provides an update on the progress being made towards reducing emissions at both a national and local level, setting out key actions that have been undertaken. The report also reflects upon the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on both emissions and how the road to recovery can be founded in the green economy.

The Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) presented the report, highlighting the range of work streams currently taking place along with successful funding bids.

Members noted in regards to the tree planting agenda, that there could be an opportunity to change residents' attitudes towards large scale tree planting by being more flexible around tree removal in individual gardens – an issue Members are frequently contacted about by ward residents.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report and appendices, along with Members comments, be noted.

64 Any Other Business

The Chair noted that following the close of the recent planning application relating to Leeds Bradford Airport, an item will be scheduled for a future meeting of the Committee to discuss aviation policy and any further lobbying action to be taken.

65 Date and Time of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

Forward Plan 2021/22

Date: 16 June 2021

Report of: Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality)

Report to: Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee was introduced following the declaration of Climate Emergency in March 2019. It is a cross party advisory committee authorised to consider and make recommendations regarding climate change and sustainability.
- In addition to the formal committee meetings, three working groups were set up that were aligned to the key themes of the Climate Emergency – Planning, Buildings & Energy, Biodiversity & Food, and Transport.
- This report provides a proposal for the forward plan for future meetings of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee, and an opportunity to revisit the structure and work programmes of the working groups.

Recommendations

- a) To consider the proposed meeting schedule for meeting in 2021/22 at Appendix 1 and provide feedback;
- b) To consider changing the name and remit of the current Transport working group to 'Behaviour Change and Transport'.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 The first meeting of the new municipal year provides an opportunity to reflect on the structure of meetings and working groups, to ensure that the work of the Committee aligns with council priorities, and reflects the current challenges of tackling climate change, both locally and nationally.
- 2 The meeting dates for the 2021/22 municipal year have been set as follows:
Wednesday 28th July 2021 10.00 a.m.
Monday 13th September 2021 10.00 a.m.
Monday 1st November 2021 10.00 a.m.
Monday 17th January 2022 10.00 a.m.
Wednesday 9th March 2022 10.00 a.m.
- 3 A proposed schedule for the 2021/22 meetings is set out at Appendix 1 for Member's consideration. The Committees' Terms of Reference are set out at Appendix 2.
- 4 In addition to the formal committee meetings, three working groups were set up that were aligned to the key themes of the Climate Emergency – Planning, Buildings & Energy, Biodiversity & Food, and Transport. Members are asked to provide feedback on the working group approach and consider whether any changes to the structure and remit of each group are required.
- 5 Specifically, it is suggested that the remit of the current Transport working group could be broadened to include behavioural change more generally, allowing focused discussions to take place around communications strategies and campaigns.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 6 There are no equality and diversity, or cohesion and integration implications as a result of this report.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 7 The Committee meeting will provide an opportunity for engagement on the content of the forward plan.

What are the resource implications?

- 8 There are no specific implications as a result of this report.

What are the legal implications?

- 9 There are no specific implications as a result of this report.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 10 There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

Does this proposal support the council's 3 Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth

Health and Wellbeing

Climate Emergency

11 The content of the forward plan will support the work that the council needs to undertake to meet its targets as part of the Climate Emergency declaration.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

12 Not applicable.

b) How will success be measured?

13 Not applicable.

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

14 Not applicable.

Appendices

15 Appendix 1 – Climate Emergency Advisory Committee 2021/22 Proposed Schedule

16 Appendix 2 - Climate Emergency Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Background papers

17 None.

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<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Suggested Themes / Items</u>	<u>Annual Items</u>
Wednesday 28th July 2021 10.00 a.m.	Funding Opportunities	
Monday 13th September 2021 10.00 a.m.	COP26 – Adaptation and Resilience Action Plan Parks and Countryside	
Monday 1st November 2021 10.00 a.m.	Young People and Schools	
Monday 17th January 2022 10.00 a.m.	Scope 3 Emissions	An overview of the annual Climate Emergency update report to be submitted to Executive Board (9 February 2022) *
Wednesday 9th March 2022 10.00 a.m.		Annual Report to Full Council (23 March 2022) *

* In line with 2020/21 municipal year due to delays associated with COVID-19, however subject to change as normal business resumes.

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Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

An advisory Committee¹ authorised to consider and make recommendations regarding climate change and sustainability and in particular

1.) To advise the Council in relation to functions which are²

- specified as being non executive functions or
- being local choice functions, are reserved to the Council; and

to report annually to full council; and

2.) To advise the Executive in relation to functions which are²

- specified as being executive functions, or
- being local choice functions, are not reserved to the Council, or
- are functions which are not specified as being either non executive functions or local choice functions and by default are executive functions

¹ Appointed by the Council in accordance with Section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

² In accordance with the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 as from time to time amended.

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Subject: Update on citywide engagement with the climate emergency

Date: 16 June 2021

Report of: the Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality)

Report to: Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

What is this report about?

Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- The purpose of this report is to provide an update on work undertaken by the council and its partners to improve citywide engagement with issues relating to the climate emergency.
- The council currently engages tens of thousands of residents every month on climate related issues via a monthly newsletter and regular social media updates. Additionally, media regularly report on climate-related stories linked to the council's work—around 200 such stories have been published across various publications since the start of the new year.
- However, achieving the most ambitious decarbonisation will require widespread support of Leeds residents, businesses and governments at every level. Therefore, it is important that the council and partners continue working to promote actions that support the city's net-zero ambition and reach those not yet engaged. There are several key initiatives taking place to support this, outlined below.
- Leeds City Council is a supporting partner of Climate Action Leeds (CAL), a collaboration of local third sector groups working to mobilise communities, campaign groups and sector groups to plan and act together at both a community and citywide scale. Representatives from CAL will be in attendance to present an update.
- Following a year of discussions with the council, BBC Radio 5 Live launched its year-long 'City on a Mission' series on 25 May. The radio project will focus on Leeds' efforts to decarbonise. It will inform, entertain, and involve the station's 5.4 million weekly listeners in conversations around what moving to net zero could mean for their homes, work, travel, diet and leisure.
- Leeds Climate Commission has launched a new #LeedsActsTogether campaign that brings together stakeholders from across the city to encourage more organisations to share their climate commitments and inspire further action. Representatives from Leeds Climate Commission will be in attendance to present an update.
- Connecting Leeds has recently launched a new 'Walk it Ride it' campaign to encourage people to consider walking, cycling and eventually other green modes of travel for short attainable journeys. A council officer leading this work will be in attendance to present an update.

Recommendations

- a) The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and presentation.

Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 Achieving the most ambitious decarbonisation will require widespread support of Leeds residents, businesses and governments at every level. Therefore, it is important that the council and partners continue working to promote actions that support the city's net-zero ambition with those not yet regularly engaged.
- 2 The purpose of the report and presentation is to update members of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee on work being taken across the city to do this.

What impact will this proposal have?

Wards Affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 3 Communications and engagement will help inspire and involve more residents and organisations to take action to support the city's ambition to become a carbon neutral city.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 4 The Big Leeds Climate Conversation held in 2019 found widespread support for actions to tackle climate change, however when it came to individual action to reduce impact on the environment almost half of respondents indicated that they would like to do more but don't know where to start.
- 5 Additionally, "a large-scale communication drive through every possible means...with clear, positive and practical messages" was also a key recommendation requested by the Leeds Citizens' Jury.
- 6 Regular engagement with residents and other organisations already takes place. The council engages tens of thousands of residents every month on climate related issues via a monthly newsletter and regular social media updates. Additionally, media regularly report on climate-related stories linked to the council's work—around 200 such stories have been published across various publications since the start of the new year.
- 7 Members of the Sustainable Energy and Air Quality team will be presenting an update on the council's work to each community committee in the next cycle.

What are the resource implications?

- 8 None. Work outlined in this report will be owned and managed by existing communications officers and/or externally funded partners.

What are the legal implications?

- 9 None.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 10 Failure to secure the support of the city could severely limit action necessary to achieve the council's ambitious net-zero target. This will be mitigated by continuously seeking to engage new audiences with the co-benefits of climate action and by leading by example.

- 11 The impact of communications/engagement work can be limited by the wider fiscal, regulatory and legislative context. This will be mitigated through work to influence policy internally and by engaging with national policy makers on the council's 'national asks'.

Does this proposal support the council's 3 Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth Health and Wellbeing Climate Emergency

- 12 Achieving the most ambitious citywide decarbonisation will require widespread support of Leeds residents, businesses and governments at every level. The work outlined in this report and presentation will promote actions that support the city's climate emergency ambition.
- 13 Many of these projects will also complement the 'inclusive growth' and 'health and wellbeing' strategic priorities, for example work to promote sustainable travel and green skills.

Options, timescales and measuring success

a) What other options were considered?

14 Section not applicable.

b) How will success be measured?

15 Section not applicable.

c) What is the timetable for implementation?

16 Section not applicable.

Appendices

17 None.

Background papers

18 None.

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