

## Forward Plan 2023/2024

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Report of: Chief Officer (Climate, Energy & Green Spaces)

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

### Brief summary

- The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee was introduced following the declaration of the 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, the Committee is complemented by four related working groups aligned to the key themes of the Climate Emergency – Planning, Buildings and Energy; Biodiversity and Food; Community and Business Engagement; and Finance.
- This report proposes a meeting schedule for the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year.

### Recommendations

- a) To consider the proposed meeting schedule for the municipal year in Appendix 1 and provide feedback.

## What is this report about?

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 2023/24 municipal year have been set as follows:

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 2pm

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm

3 A proposed schedule for the 2023/2024 meetings is set out at Appendix 1 for Members to consider.

4 To ensure that all aspects of the city's climate action are considered over the course of the municipal year, it is proposed that each meeting will progress one (or more) of the key climate change mitigation and adaptation themes, identified as follows:

### Climate change mitigation

- 1) Power
- 2) Buildings
- 3) Transport
- 4) Resources
- 5) Business & Industry
- 6) Nature & Greenhouse gas removal (GGR)

### Climate change adaptation

- 7) Flood resilience
- 8) Heat resilience
- 9) Drought resilience
- 10) Cascading impact resilience

5 In addition to the formal committee meetings, four working groups have been established. These working groups meet regularly and report back to formal meeting and, through the annual report of the Committee, to Full Council. The titles and remits of the working groups are unchanged from the 2022/23 municipal year and are as follows:

Infrastructure, Planning & Buildings—Remit includes all aspects of housing and public building retrofit, green planning, energy, and transport infrastructure. This working group will be chaired by Councillor K Dye.

Biodiversity, Food & Waste—Remit includes food production and supply, the circular economy,

tree planting, parks and countryside, and waste services. This working group will be chaired by Councillor B Anderson.

Community & Business Engagement—Remit includes behaviour change initiatives, city-wide communications, local community projects, and business engagement. This working group will be chaired by Councillor M Shahzad.

Economy & Finance—Remit includes business cases for climate action, innovative funding solutions, green jobs and skills, and economic impacts of climate change. This working group will be chaired by Councillor P Carlill.

- 6 In the 2022/23 municipal year most meetings were held remotely with the exception of the first and last meetings and any that required a formal decision to be taken. The Chair recognises the benefits of both physical and remote meetings and intends to balance these over the course of the 2023/24 municipal year. Therefore, the Chair has resolved that the June, November, December, and March meetings will take place physically in the Civic Hall, with all other meetings (including working group meetings) to be held remotely. Virtual or hybrid contributions to physical meetings will be supported on a case-by-case basis at the Chair’s discretion where deemed to be reasonable, practical, and lawful. Where a meeting requires a formal decision to be taken, in line with the Local Government Act 1972, a physical meeting will be held.

**What impact will this proposal have?**

- 7 This proposal will inform the agenda and areas of focus for the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee over the course of the 2023/24 municipal year.
- 8 There are no equality and diversity, or cohesion and integration implications as a result of this report.

**How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?**

Health and Wellbeing       Inclusive Growth       Zero Carbon

- 9 The content of the forward plan will support the work that the council needs to undertake to meet its targets following the Climate Emergency declaration and as part of the Best City Ambition. The Committee has an important advisory role, provides constructive ‘check and challenge’, and supports public awareness of Leeds’ climate action.

**What consultation and engagement has taken place?**

Wards affected:
Have ward members been consulted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**What are the resource implications?**

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

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

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

**What are the legal implications?**

12 There are no specific legal implications as a result of this report.

**Options, timescales and measuring success****What other options were considered?**

13 Not applicable.

**How will success be measured?**

14 Not applicable.

**What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?**

15 Not applicable.

**Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Proposed CEAC Forward Plan 2023:24

**Background papers**

- None