

## Climate Adaptation Update

Date: 9 March 2022

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 purpose of this report is to introduce a presentation on the council's ongoing work to support climate adaptation.
- Guest speakers will also be in attendance to set the context of the key risks to the city as a result of climate change and the action required to mitigate the impact.

### **Recommendations**

The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and presentations.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 Climate adaptation refers to action taken to prepare for, and adjust to, both the current effects of climate change and the predicted impacts in the future. Adaptation seeks to reduce the risks posed by climate change, and to benefit from any associated opportunities where possible.
- 2 In July 2018, the government published its second five-year [National Adaptation Programme](#), which responds to six priority risk areas identified by the second Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) undertaken by the National Committee for Climate Change.
- 3 The third CCRA was published in January 2022 and set out eight priority areas for the Government to consider in the next National Adaptation Programme, due to be published in 2023. The eight areas identified for action were set out as follows:
  - 1) Risks to the viability and diversity of terrestrial and freshwater habitats and species from multiple hazards
  - 2) Risks to soil health from increased flooding and drought
  - 3) Risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards
  - 4) Risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees from multiple climate hazards
  - 5) Risks to supply of food, goods and vital services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks
  - 6) Risks to people and the economy from climate-related failure of the power system
  - 7) Risks to human health, wellbeing and productivity from increased exposure to heat in homes and other buildings
  - 8) Multiple risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas
- 4 At the Executive Board meeting held 9 February 2022, it was noted that an adaptation plan will be developed and brought back for approval within the year. Members will be provided with an update on the progress of developing this work at the meeting.
- 5 Representatives from the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water will also be in attendance to provide an overview of their ongoing work in this area in Leeds and across Yorkshire and Humber.

## 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 Members to comment on the information presented.

## 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 projects and schemes highlighted 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 None.

### **Background papers**

16 None.