

Open Report on behalf of Councillor E J Poll, Executive Councillor for Commercial and Environmental Management

Report to:	County Council
Date:	11 December 2019
Subject:	Climate Change Update

Summary:

This paper outlines Lincolnshire County Council's progress in reducing carbon emissions and contributing to managing the impacts of climate change since the debate at Full Council in May.

It specifies the programme of work identified to meet the Council's commitment to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Recommendation(s):

That the Council:

- 1) Notes the content of the Report; and
- 2) Agrees that future progress be reported to and monitored by the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee, alongside Carbon Management Plan reporting.

1. Background

At its meeting on 17 May 2019 the full Council passed the following resolution

"This Council therefore

1. Notes the progress this Council has made in reducing carbon emissions in response to climate issues,
2. Notes the declaration of a 'Climate Emergency'
3. Commits to make the Council's activities carbon neutral by 2050,
4. Commits to working in partnership with, but not exclusively, the LGA, District, Town and Parish Councils in Lincolnshire, local organisations, businesses and community groups with the aim of making Lincolnshire carbon neutral within the same time scale,

5. Calls on central government to provide the necessary powers and resources to make possible the 2050 target, and

6. Receives an update at the December 2019 full council meeting with the details of actions taken and with an action plan, including annual reviews, for the 10 year period from 2020-2030"

The motion passed by Full Council in May 2019 has resulted in science based targeting work which demonstrates the scale of change required over the next 30 years.

Based on this, the Council will produce a Green Masterplan in 2020. This will provide further details of the Authority's path to achieving net zero carbon emissions. It will complement Lincolnshire's plans to boost biodiversity and natural capital, leaving a positive environmental legacy for the future.

It is proposed that ongoing progress in developing and implementing the Green Masterplan should be reported to, and monitored by, the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee, alongside the Carbon Management Plan reporting that it is currently being undertaken.

Evidence-based change

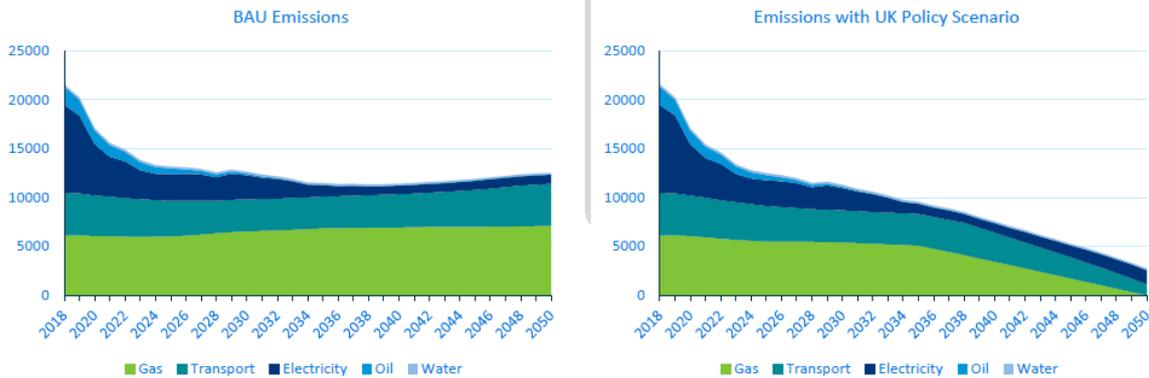
Lincolnshire County Council's first two Carbon Management Plans successfully delivered a 40% reduction in net CO² between 2008 and 2018. A further 20% reduction has already been achieved in 2019.

This record on delivering carbon reduction has been consistently evidence led. Since Full Council in May robust science-based targeting work has been undertaken in partnership with the Carbon Trust, giving 1990 as a baseline and projecting emissions forward to 2050.

The graphs below provide an indication of two future scenarios. The first scenario projects emission patterns to 2050 based on LCC's current behaviours – effectively 'business as usual'. The second takes into account current proposed government policy changes. Five of these are particularly relevant:

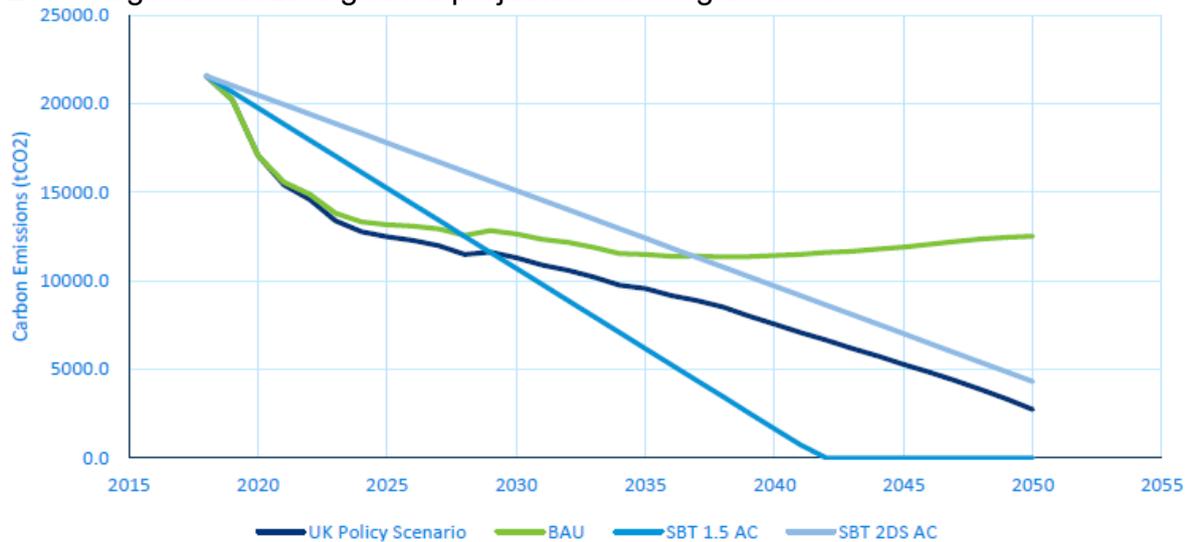
1. Low carbon power auctions
2. Retrofit to EPC band C by 2035
3. All new vehicles low carbon by 2040
4. 13% HGVs low carbon by 2040
5. No new builds to be connected to natural gas grid post 2025 and all replacement heating systems to be low carbon post 2035

LCC forecasted emission pathways from 2018 to 2050 in a BAU scenario (left) and that against a backdrop of reductions related to the 5 policies listed : above (right).



The diagram below builds on the above graphs – with the two blue lines demonstrating the two key measures committed to within the Paris Agreement.

The **Paris Agreement targets** seek to restrict global warming to 2°C and 1.5°C. A 2050 target of net zero gives a projected warming of 1.6°C.

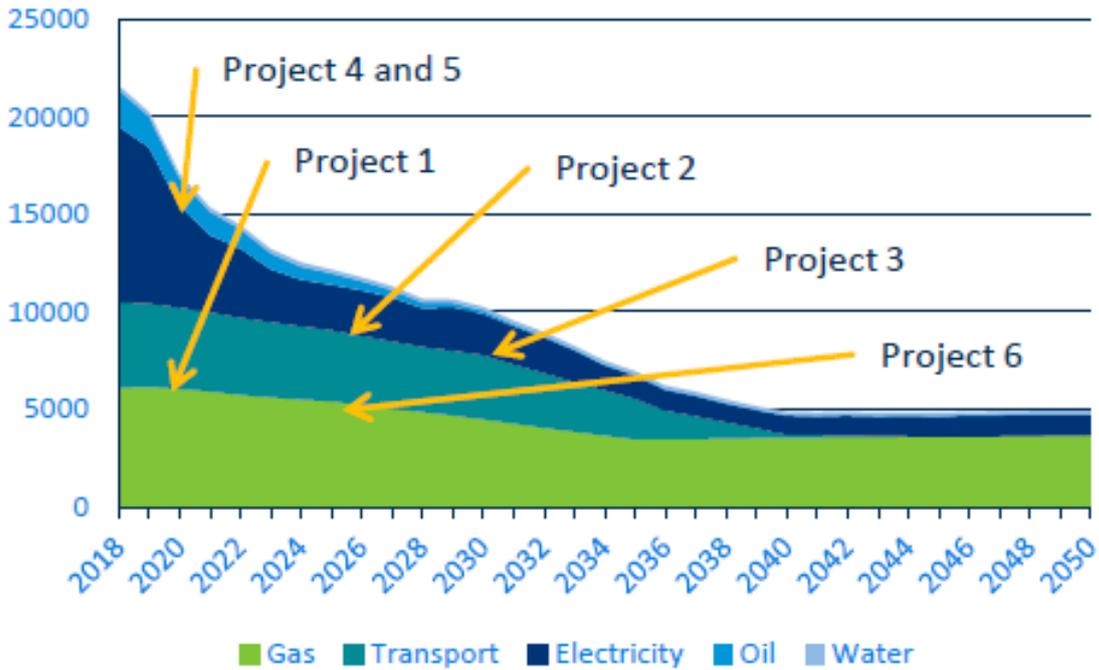


During 2020 Lincolnshire County Council will produce a Green Masterplan detailing the additional projects that will need to be implemented to close the gap to zero.

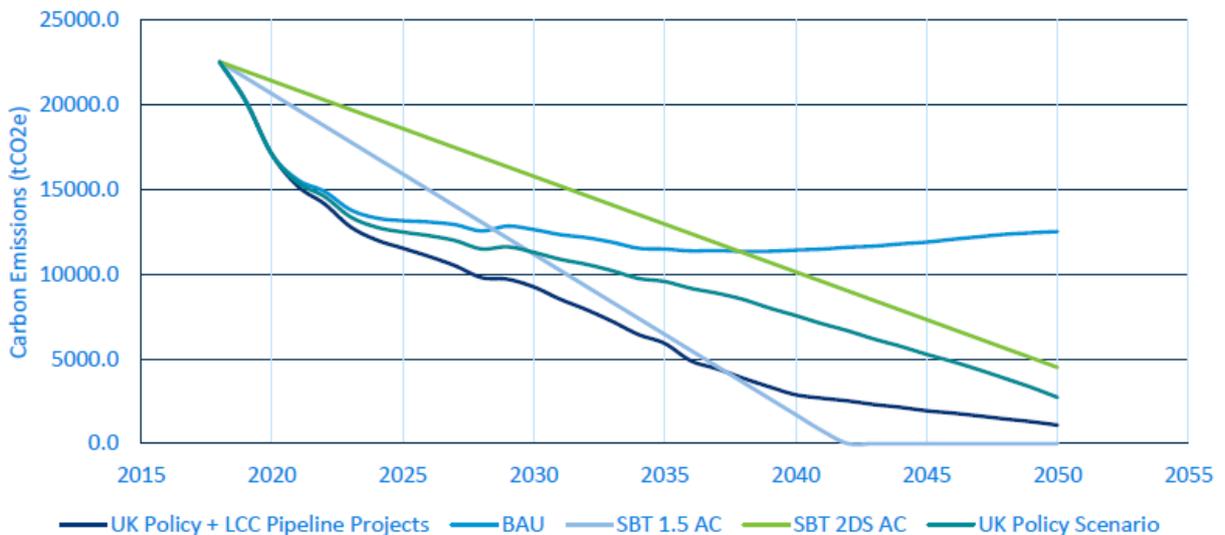
Initial calculations have been undertaken to consider 6 potential projects, focusing on decarbonisation of transport, property improvements, energy usage and energy generation.

Furthermore, projects with wide ranging benefits – including carbon reductions will be brought forward to ensure multiple benefits and best value.

Emissions with Projects



The Masterplan will provide greater detail for these projects including the additional work required to close the gap to target. One option to close the gap will be the generation of energy by the authority.



At Full Council in May Lincolnshire County Council committed to work collaboratively with partners. The Authority continues to work across sectors to ensure that all public bodies, as well as businesses and residents, are able to play a role in bringing forward change. Lincolnshire County Council is at the forefront of

local government carbon reduction in the county, and is currently supporting a number of district authorities to understand their own carbon baseline and activities that will help reduce emissions.

The County Council is working proactively with government departments as Whitehall develops policies to address the Paris Agreement targets. To this end, policy documents such as the Local Industrial Strategy can be developed to recognise the role of technology and innovation in the low carbon, energy and circular economies – all of which could see sustainable growth in Lincolnshire.

The Council is currently contributing to national discussions concerning future agriculture and land use policy, innovations in energy, resources and waste management alongside Defra's 25 Year Environment Plan.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- * Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- * Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- * Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- * Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic
- * Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it
- * Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding

Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others

The duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process

Effective carbon management is expected to have no adverse impacts on any group under the Equality Act 2010.

Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Joint Health & Well Being Strategy (JHWS) in coming to a decision

A robust approach to carbon management will provide support for delivery of the JHWS, and will underpin key issues identified in the JSNA.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area

There are no implications under s17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 arising from carbon management.

3. Conclusion

4. Legal Comments:

The Report provides an update in relation to a motion on climate change passed at the Council meeting in May.

Actions to bring about the commitments made in the motion are executive functions and the Report informs full Council of actions taken and to be taken by the Executive.

Monitoring of progress by and reporting to the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is lawful and appropriate.

5. Resource Comments:

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report, however, actions taken to implement commitments on climate change will have a financial impact. The funding and extent of these commitments will be set out in future reports and be considered as part of the budget setting process.

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

The present paper has been developed on the basis of discussion at Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee, arising from completion of the Council's third Carbon Management Plan.

d) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Yes

e) Risks and Impact Analysis

Impact analysis has been undertaken as part of the Carbon Management Plan.

7. Background Papers

The following Background Papers within the meaning of section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this Report

Background Paper	Where it can be found
Minutes of Council Meeting 17 May 2019	Democratic Services
Lincolnshire County Council Carbon Management Plan	Sustainability Service

This report was written by David Hickman, who can be contacted on (01522) 554809 or david.hickman@lincolnshire.gov.uk .

This page is intentionally left blank