

**Date:** Monday 8 April 2024 at 4.00 pm

**Venue:** Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library, Church Road,  
Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1TU

**Cllr Marilyn Surtees (Chair)**  
**Cllr Paul Weston (Vice-Chair)**

Cllr Ian Dalgarno  
Cllr Niall Innes  
Cllr David Reynard  
Cllr Barry Woodhouse

Cllr John Gardner  
Cllr Eileen Johnson  
Cllr Hugo Stratton

## **AGENDA**

- |          |  |                 |
|----------|--|-----------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Evacuation Procedure</b>  | (Pages 7 - 8)   |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Apologies for Absence</b>   |                 |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Declarations of Interest</b>  |                 |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Minutes</b>   |                 |
|          | To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 February 2024                                      | (Pages 9 - 10)  |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Initial Progress Update - Scrutiny Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future</b> |                 |
|          | To receive an initial progress update on the Scrutiny Review of Disability Inclusive Borough             | (Pages 11 - 38) |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Progress Update - Scrutiny Review of Disability Inclusive Borough</b>                                 |                 |
|          | To receive a progress update on the Scrutiny Review of Disability Inclusive Borough                      | (Pages 39 - 44) |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Chairs Update and Work Programme 2024 - 2025</b>  | (Pages 45 - 46) |

**Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting**

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

Contact: Scrutiny Support Officer Rachel Harrison on email [rachel.harrison@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.harrison@stockton.gov.uk)

**KEY - Declarable interests are:-**

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's)
- Other Registerable Interests (ORI's)
- Non Registerable Interests (NRI's)

**Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance**



**Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Subject	Description
<b>Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation</b>	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
<b>Contracts</b>	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
<b>Land and property</b>	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
<b>Licences</b>	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
<b>Corporate tenancies</b>	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
<b>Securities</b>	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where— (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners have a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

\* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

\* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

## Table 2 – Other Registerable Interest

You must register as an Other Registrable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body
  - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
  - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
  - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

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## **Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library** **Evacuation Procedure & Housekeeping**

If the fire or bomb alarm should sound please exit by the nearest emergency exit. The Fire alarm is a continuous ring and the Bomb alarm is the same as the fire alarm however it is an intermittent ring.

If the Fire Alarm rings exit through the nearest available emergency exit and form up in Municipal Buildings Car Park.

The assembly point for everyone if the Bomb alarm is sounded is the car park at the rear of Splash on Church Road.

The emergency exits are located via the doors between the 2 projector screens. The key coded emergency exit door will automatically disengage when the alarm sounds.

The Toilets are located on the Ground floor corridor of Municipal Buildings next to the emergency exit. Both the ladies and gents toilets are located on the right hand side.

### **Microphones**

During the meeting, members of the Committee, and officers in attendance, will have access to a microphone. Please use the microphones, when directed to speak by the Chair, to ensure you are heard by the Committee.

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## People Select Committee

A meeting of People Select Committee was held on Monday, 19 February 2024.

**Present:** Cllr Marilyn Surtees (Chair), Cllr Paul Weston (Vice-Chair), Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Niall Innes, Cllr David Reynard, Cllr Hugo Stratton

**Officers:** Haleem Ghafoor, Margie Stewart-Piercy (AH&W); Judy Trainer (CS)

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Bob Cook

**Apologies:** Cllr Ian Dalgarno, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Barry Woodhouse

**PEO/  
23/23      Evacuation Procedure**

The Committee noted the evacuation and housekeeping procedure.

**PEO/  
24/23      Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**PEO/  
25/23      Minutes – 4 December 2023**

AGREED the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**PEO/  
26/23      Scrutiny Review of Cost of Living Response**

The Select Committee considered the draft final report following completion of the scrutiny review.

AGREED that the final report be presented to Cabinet, subject to recommendation 2 being amended to clarify that the action plan would be shared with the Committee and progress reported as part of the wider recommendations.

**PEO  
27/23      Chair’s Update and Select Committee Work Programme 2023-2024**

Consideration was given to the Work Programme.

It was agreed to cancel the March meeting to await a decision on the next review topic by Executive Scrutiny Committee.

AGREED that the Work Programme be noted.

Chair.....

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## People Select Committee

8 April 2024

### **INITIAL PROGRESS UPDATE ON PREVIOUSLY AGREED RECOMMENDATIONS – REVIEW OF HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GREEN JOBS FOR THE FUTURE**

#### **Summary**

Members are asked to consider the evidence and assessments of progress contained within the attached Progress Update on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations in relation to the review Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future (the Committee's final report can be accessed via the following link: <https://moderngov.stockton.gov.uk/CeListDocuments.aspx?CommitteeId=1146&MeetingId=1403&DF=23%2f02%2f2023&Ver=2>)

#### **Detail**

1. Following the Cabinet consideration of scrutiny reports, accepted recommendations are then subject to a monitoring process to track their implementation.
2. Two main types of report are used. Initially this is by means of Action Plans detailing how services will be taking forward agreed recommendations. This is then followed by a Progress Update report approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan (unless requested earlier). Evidence is submitted by the relevant department together with an assessment of progress against all recommendations. Should members of the Select Committee agree, those recommendations which have reached an assessment of '1' are then signed-off as having been completed.
3. If any recommendations remain incomplete, or if the Select Committee does not agree with the view on progress, the Select Committee may ask for a further update.
4. The assessment of progress for each recommendation should be categorised as follows:

5.	1	Achieved (Fully)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented within the timescale specified.
	2	On Track (but not yet due for completion)	The evidence provided shows that implementation of the recommendation is on track but the timescale specified has not expired.
	3	Slipped	The evidence shows that progress on implementation has slipped.  An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved should be advised and the reasons for the delay.
	4	Not Achieved	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved.  An explanation for non achievement of the recommendation would be provided.

To further strengthen the monitoring process, from August 2020, the Progress Update report will also include references on the evidence of impact for each recommendation.

6. For Progress Update reports following the completion of a review, the relevant Link Officer(s) will be in attendance.
7. **Appendix 2** (Review of Disability Inclusive Borough) sets out the outstanding recommendations for this Committee. Members are asked to review the update and indicate whether they agree with the assessments of progress.

**Name of Contact Officer:** Michelle Gunn  
**Post Title:** Scrutiny Officer  
**Telephone No:** 01642 524987  
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## APPENDIX 1

## PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
<b>Review:</b>	Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future
<b>Link Officer/s:</b>	Neil Mitchell/Julie Marsden
<b>Action Plan Agreed:</b>	March 2023

Updates on the progress of actions in relation to agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews are required approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan. Progress updates must be detailed, evidencing what has taken place regarding each recommendation – a grade assessing progress should then be given (see end of document for grading explanation). Any evidence on the impact of the actions undertaken should also be recorded for each recommendation.

<b>Recommendation 1:</b>	<b>That correspondence is sent to the relevant government minister to urge that legislation is passed regarding delivering increased energy efficiency/ energy production standards on new housing through more stringent building regulations.</b>
Responsibility:	Rebecca Saunders-Thompson/Judy Trainer
Date:	September 2023
Agreed Action:	Report and letter sent to local MPs and the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change signed by Cabinet Member and Select Committee Chair.
Agreed Success Measure:	Support secured.
Evidence of Progress (March 2024):	Reports and letters signed by Cabinet Member and Select Committee Chair sent to Alex Cunningham MP, Matt Vickers MP and Claire Coutinho MP via email.
Assessment of Progress (March 2024): (include explanation if required)	<b>1 – Fully Achieved</b>
Evidence of Impact (March 2024):	Responses received from Alex Cunningham MP, Matt Vickers MP and from the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero Correspondence Unit.

<b>Recommendation 2:</b>	<b>That a communications package is implemented to raise awareness amongst residents of new home efficiency initiatives and grants.</b>
Responsibility:	Communications Team
Date:	March 2024/Ongoing

## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future

Agreed Action:	<p>All campaigns which include those covering new home efficiency initiatives and grants are captured as part of the directorate communications plans which are agreed each year.</p> <p>Each campaign is then considered and a communications package is developed which could include; social media (bespoke posts or shares from the lead organisation for the scheme), press release if it is an SBC led scheme, uploaded to the SBC website under the <a href="#">‘Energy Saving Schemes’ webpage</a> linking to the most appropriate page, inclusion in the My Council Newsletter, inclusion in Stockton-on-Tees News if timescales line up with the magazines distribution dates. We also share internally with staff via KYIT, intranet banners, noticeboards, and toilet door posters.</p> <p>Plus, with other teams who can share amongst suitable networks e.g., Community Partnerships. We can also share with partners such as Catalyst who can add into their weekly newsletters.</p>
Agreed Success Measure:	Monitoring engagement.
Evidence of Progress (March 2024):	See appendix 2. Extensive media campaign has taken place covering home energy efficiency and available grants. SBC website is continually updated with all available opportunities.
Assessment of Progress (March 2024): (include explanation if required)	<b>1 – Fully Achieved</b>
Evidence of Impact (March 2024):	Two Stockton News articles, Billingham Life advert, SBC newsletter, KYIT article and intranet banner. A5 leaflets printed and numerous social media posts throughout the winter.

<b>Recommendation 3:</b>	<b>That Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council’s (SBC) Employment and Training Hub, and the Business and IP Centre, continue to work with external businesses and agencies to deliver ‘green jobs’ workshops, training and host recruitment events aimed at all levels including entry level jobs.</b>
Responsibility:	Julie Marsden
Date:	March 2024/Ongoing
Agreed Action:	<p>Launch the Hub Portal to advertise green jobs and promote training and events.</p> <p>Deliver a Green Skills construction course in partnership with Centre Point, for young people (16+), including site visits and interviews.</p> <p>Encourage representation at future recruitment events from companies with green jobs/with a focus on delivering the green agenda.</p>

**APPENDIX 1**

**PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future**

	<p>Develop relationships with businesses to understand opportunities for green jobs and work with them to recruit into roles. Support business start-ups through the Business and IP Centre, incorporating information and guidance on how to be more green/sustainable. Make businesses aware of funding to support to become greener.</p>
<p>Agreed Success Measure:</p>	<p>Support secured.</p>
<p>Evidence of Progress (March 2024):</p>	<p>Green sector specific events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Green Skills Construction CSCS course delivered Spring 2023 – 9 Young people completed course and gained CSCS card.</li> <li>- Energy Event 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 – 200 attendees. Companies in attendance include RelyOn Nutec, Eastgate Engineering, CMS Limited, Bilfinger, Aircon Group, Wood, MGH Offshore Ltd.</li> <li>- SeAH event 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 – 125 attendees, 10 people subsequently supported to update CV’s, vacancies promoted on Facebook, as a result SeAh have received significant number of applications.</li> <li>- Next energy event scheduled 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in partnership with RelyOn Nutec</li> </ul> <p>Climate Coalition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through the implementation of the business Climate Coalition, green skills paper presented at the meeting, vacancies promoted on hub portal</li> </ul> <p>Business Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Green toolkit was launched on the INVEST site in Spring 2023 and presented at the Climate Coalition. This can be located <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>
<p>Assessment of Progress (March 2024): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p><b>1 – Fully Achieved</b></p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (March 2024):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The hub portal was launched July 2023 and has since had 130 000 web visits.</li> <li>- 5500 people registered with the hub.</li> <li>- Sector specific recruitment events held to support green agenda.</li> <li>- The hub team have celebrated 800 people into employment.</li> <li>- 2 people offered roles ‘on the spot’ with Eastgate Engineering at the event.</li> <li>- Supported SRC with skills bootcamps in renewable energy – over 100 people signed up as referrals from recruitment events.</li> <li>- Advised people who are ‘starting out’ to diversify from gas heating to heat pump engineering.</li> <li>- See Appendix 3 for examples of event comms.</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future

<b>Recommendation 4:</b>	<b>That there is continued delivery of the four high-level objectives outlined within SBC’s Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy. This includes an overall aim for the authority to be Net Zero* by 2032 and the wider borough by 2050. *Net zero means cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance.</b>
Responsibility:	Neil Mitchell
Date:	March 2024/Ongoing
Agreed Action:	<p>The strategy requires an action plan which enables service areas to understand their commitments and responsibilities. The action plan is a live document and concentrates on the authorities’ operations. This plan is monitored and evaluated which is scrutinised by a Senior Management Oversight Group.</p> <p>In addition to the above, four climate coalitions have been developed to bring together leaders from wider Borough to develop plans to achieve Net Zero.</p>
Agreed Success Measure:	Monitoring and evaluation.
Evidence of Progress (March 2024):	<p>Action plan is well established with 128 authority actions, these are scrutinised by an oversight board which consist of SMT members.</p> <p>Coalitions now have 138 members representing 30 organisations, each coalition has an agreed action plan which works in line with our strategic aims set out within the strategy document.</p>
Assessment of Progress (March 2024): (include explanation if required)	<b>1 – Fully Achieved</b>
Evidence of Impact (March 2024):	<p>Report to cabinet dated 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024 appendix 4 reported a 61% overall reduction in CO2 since 2010.</p> <p>89% of the council’s actions are either established or progressing.</p>

<b>Assessment of Progress Gradings:</b>	<b>1</b> Fully Achieved	<b>2</b> On-Track	<b>3</b> Slipped	<b>4</b> Not Achieved
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# Home Energy Schemes

## Comms Examples

### Energy saving schemes and advice

We offer a number of schemes and initiatives available to residents across the Borough to help reduce energy consumption and make your home more energy efficient. They may also help you to reduce your energy bills.

Citizens Advice, Energy UK and Ofgem have created a document with consumer advice on where you can get support with your energy bills. [Download the energy advice guide from the Ofgem website.](#)

#### Energy Company Obligation

[ECO4 scheme](#)  
[ECO4 Flex scheme](#)  
[Great British Insulation Scheme](#)  
[Apply to become an ECO4 Flex installer](#)

#### Warm Homes Healthy People

Helping you to stay warm and well during the cold weather.

#### Big Community Switch

Sign-up to save money on your fuel bill

#### Boiler Upgrade Scheme

Check if you could be eligible for money off low carbon heating technologies.

#### Energy Saving Tips

Tips and advice for quick and easy ways to save energy, lower your bills and reduce your carbon footprint.

#### Warm Home Tips

Advice on staying warm and saving money from Energy Saving Trust.

#### HEET (Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley)

A partnership with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, Darlington and Hartlepool Council to improve the energy efficiency in residents homes.

#### Energy Efficient Homes

Find out more about the actions you can take now to make your home more energy efficient.

#### Energy supply support

Advice regarding your energy meter, ways to save energy and help if you are struggling to pay your bills.

#### Energy saving trust

Free energy advice service launching this spring in the North East.

# Warm Homes Healthy People



Sam Holtom, one of the friendly engineers who will ensure your boiler is winter ready

## Get winter ready with free boiler servicing

Servicing your boiler regularly is important to keep it in top condition, especially for those who are elderly, vulnerable or living with young children.

And as part of the Council's 'Warm Homes Healthy People' scheme, we are offering free boiler servicing to eligible residents across the Borough from July to September 2023.

If any of the following applies to you, and you are a homeowner in receipt of a means-tested benefit, you could qualify for help:

- 65 or over and in receipt of a means-tested benefit
- 65 or under and in receipt of a means-tested benefit as well as one of the following:
  - In receipt of disability benefits
  - Have a long-term illness made worse by the cold
  - Live with a child (under 5) who has a long-term illness made worse by the cold
  - Living with a dementia condition
  - Have not previously accessed the service in the last 2 years

To be eligible you must not have accessed this service in the past two years.

For further information, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/warmhomes-healthy-people](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/warmhomes-healthy-people) or call 01642 528215.



## Warm Homes Healthy People is back

The Warm Homes Healthy People scheme is now open again for applications.

From October 2023 to March 2024 Warm Homes Healthy People provides a range of interventions for those whose physical or mental health suffers with conditions made worse by the cold and require affordable warmth.

This scheme can offer help with boiler repairs, emergency heating, debt advice, welfare benefits advice and energy efficiency measures.

To find out more [visit Warm Homes Healthy People webpage](#) or call 01642 528215.

## Warm Homes Healthy People

Support is available to help vulnerable residents in the Borough keep warm this winter.

The Council's Warm Homes Healthy People scheme offers emergency heating, energy saving advice, welfare benefits advice and boiler repairs.

**You may be eligible for a repair if:**

- you are the homeowner and claiming a means-tested benefit

**And you are any of the following:**

- 65 or over
- under 65 and in receipt of disability benefits
- under 65 and have a long term illness made worse by the cold or live with a child (under five) who has a long term illness made worse by the cold
- living with dementia

Some repairs may incur a charge or be considered ineligible based on the boiler's age and condition.

For further information, please call the Warm Homes Healthy People team on 01642 528215 or visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/warm-homes-healthy-people](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/warm-homes-healthy-people) to apply online.

## Warm Homes Healthy People in Stockton-on-Tees

Are you, a friend or neighbour, struggling to keep your home warm?

This scheme can offer help with boiler repairs, emergency heating, debt advice, welfare benefits advice and energy efficiency measures.

For more information please call 01642 528215 or visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/warm-homes-healthy-people](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/warm-homes-healthy-people)

2 x Stockton News articles, KYiT article and artwork for Stockton & Billingham Life advert

# Warm Homes Healthy People

## Continued

### Get winter ready with free boiler servicing

As part of the Warm Homes Healthy People scheme, we are offering free boiler servicing to eligible residents across the Borough from July to September 2023. Servicing your boiler regularly is important to keep it in top condition for the colder months, especially for those who are elderly, vulnerable or living with young children. To qualify, you need to meet a criteria which includes being a homeowner and are in receipt of a means-tested benefit. Find out more and check if you are eligible on [the Council's website](#).



SBC e-newsletter article along with social media post



Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council · Follow

6 March 2023 · 🌐



🌍 It looks like a cold spell is on the way - and you could be eligible for a range of support from our 'Warm Homes Healthy People' scheme if you're struggling to keep your home warm.

🔥 To find out if you could be eligible for help with things like emergency heating and energy-saving advice, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/Warm-Homes-Healthy-People](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/Warm-Homes-Healthy-People)

📍 And for information, tips and support about keeping up with the cost of living, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub)



# Big Community Switch

**Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council**  
4 January · 🌐

🔥 You only have a few days left to sign up to fix your energy tariff with the Big Community Switch!

The Big Community Switch is a safe and simple option for our residents to try and save money on their fuel bills this winter.

But registration closes on Monday 8 January for the next day's online auction, when a variety of energy companies will compete to become the energy supplier for customers that sign up for the switch.... [See more](#)



1009 - BCS2023 - Portrait Screen Still



1009 - BCS2023 - Intranet 02



1009 - BCS2023 - Intranet 03



## The Big Community Switch – Have you signed up yet?

Don't forget registrations are still open for the Big Community Switch.

The Big Community Switch is a safe and simple option for our residents to save money on their fuel bills and fix their tariff.

Registrations are open for Stockton-on-Tees Borough residents until Monday 8 January 2024.

The next online auction will take place on Tuesday 9 January 2024.

To find out more and how to register visit [the Big Community Switch webpage](#).

Social media post, A5 leaflet, KYiT article, intranet banner, and digital screen content

# HEET

## New home energy efficiency scheme

A scheme has launched to provide grants to eligible homeowners to improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

The Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley (HEET) programme can provide funding up to £18,000 per household for properties that don't have gas central heating. Energy efficiency measures may include insulation, upgrading windows to double glazing, and installing new heating and renewable technologies such as air source heat pumps and solar panels. This is all free for qualifying residents.

To be eligible, homes must have an Energy Performance Certificate rating of D, E, F or G. You can go to [www.gov.uk/find-energy-certificate](http://www.gov.uk/find-energy-certificate) to check yours.

HEET is a partnership scheme between Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.

For more information and to check eligibility, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/heet](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/heet)



Stockton News article, SBC e-newsletter article and KYIT article



### Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley (HEET)

A new scheme has been set up to provide grants to homeowners and residents to improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

The HEET (Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley) scheme will help homes with funding up to the value of £18,000 per household for properties that don't have gas central heating. Energy efficiency measures may include insulation, upgrading windows from single to double glazing, and installing new heating and renewable technologies such as air source heat pumps and solar panels - all FREE for qualifying residents.

Homes must have an Energy Performance of D, E, F or G. Go to [Find Energy Certificate](#) to check yours.

For more information and to check eligible postcodes visit [the HEET webpage](#).

HEET (Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley) is a partnership scheme between Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council.

A new scheme is providing grants to homeowners and residents to improve the energy efficiency of their homes through the FREE installation of measures such as insulation, double glazing, air source heat pumps and solar panels.

If you do not have a gas central heating system, you may automatically qualify for help with the HEET (Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley) scheme through your postcode.

If not, your household gross income should be less than £31,000 or you need to ... [See more](#)



A Partnership of



### In your community



**Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley**  
Home Energy Efficiency Tees Valley (HEET) is a new scheme that has been set up to provide grants to homeowners and residents to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. The scheme will help homes with funding up to the value of £18,000 per household for properties that don't have gas central heating. Homes must have an Energy Performance of D, E, F or G. Go to [Find Energy Certificate](#) to check yours. For more information and to check eligible postcodes visit [the HEET webpage](#).



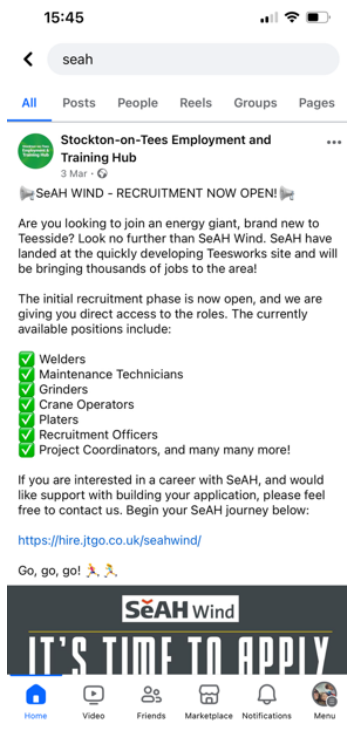
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## Appendix 3 – Evidence of impact

Evidence of the Energy Event held 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Source E&T Hub Facebook



Evidence of the SeAH wind recruitment support provided by the Employment & Training Hub. Source E&T Hub Facebook.



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**AGENDA ITEM****REPORT TO CABINET****February 15<sup>th</sup> 2024****REPORT OF CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM****CABINET DECISION****Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Clare Gamble****Environmental Sustainability & Carbon Reduction Strategy (ES&CRS) 2022-32 Monitoring Report****SUMMARY**

Climate change poses a real threat to society and biodiversity. We are already seeing the increasing impacts of flooding, high winds, heat waves and species collapse. Efforts to limit climate change by reducing carbon emissions need to be widespread, urgent and sustained.

The Councils Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy (ES&CRS), adopted in 2023, sets out the direction we need take and describes the actions that would contribute to the achievement of net zero. This report outlines progress since the adoption of the strategy, including reductions in energy consumption and efforts to support biodiversity.

The Council has made significant progress within the resources available, achieving a steady decline in carbon emissions over a longer period. However, substantial additional investment in the coming years, beyond that which is currently identified, will be required if we are to achieve our stated ambition of being a Net Zero authority by 2032

Continued concentration on measures to improve our energy efficiency and reduce emissions from our assets and fleet, are an urgent priority, alongside counterbalancing natural solutions such as tree planting and solar energy generation.

HM Government has entered binding international arrangements for greenhouse gas emissions reduction and set out comprehensive requirements within the Environment Act. The secondary legislation that would define targets for relevant local and regional agencies, has been delayed in a number of key areas. However, we will need, at some point, to show substantial further progress on CO<sub>2</sub>, waste, water and air quality, and biodiversity, beyond that which we is achievable within current budgets.

The Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) Net Zero Strategy incorporates priorities for homes & communities, public organisations, and nature & resources, alongside decarbonisation of industry and transport. The TV Strategy is designed to complement the strategies of the partner Authorities and our goals are broadly aligned. The TVCA strategy highlights opportunities for economic growth

associated with clean energy and ‘green’ technologies, however it also acknowledges the importance of maximising the impact of national funding and Government Policies.

Cabinet are asked to consider making representations to the Government for more resources toward the major investment required to deliver our environmental sustainability objectives.

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)/DECISION(S)

This report is to update Cabinet upon the actions following the adoption of the Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy 2022-32.

Cabinet is also invited to study the data which indicates the reduction of greenhouse gasses over a sustained period and the highlighted position of carbon emissions for the authority relative to targets.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Cabinet notes the positive progress on our Environmental Sustainability targets, as set out in this report and the appendices.
2. Cabinet seeks to influence Government to provide substantial additional resources to enable further decarbonisation, environmental protection and community resilience.
3. Cabinet supports the identification of additional resources, within future Medium Term Financial Plans, to support the next phase of carbon reduction and environmental sustainability measures.

## DETAIL

1. In 2022 the Council implemented the Environmental Sustainability and Carbon Reduction Strategy 2022-32. The aim of the strategy is for the Council to become Net Zero by 2032, and Borough wide by 2050.
2. The strategy seeks to make a difference in three ways.
  - a. By focusing on Council operations and infrastructure
  - b. Through the delivery of strategies, policies, and work programmes, and
  - c. By influencing others.
3. The strategy has set four overarching aims for environmental sustainability and carbon reduction.

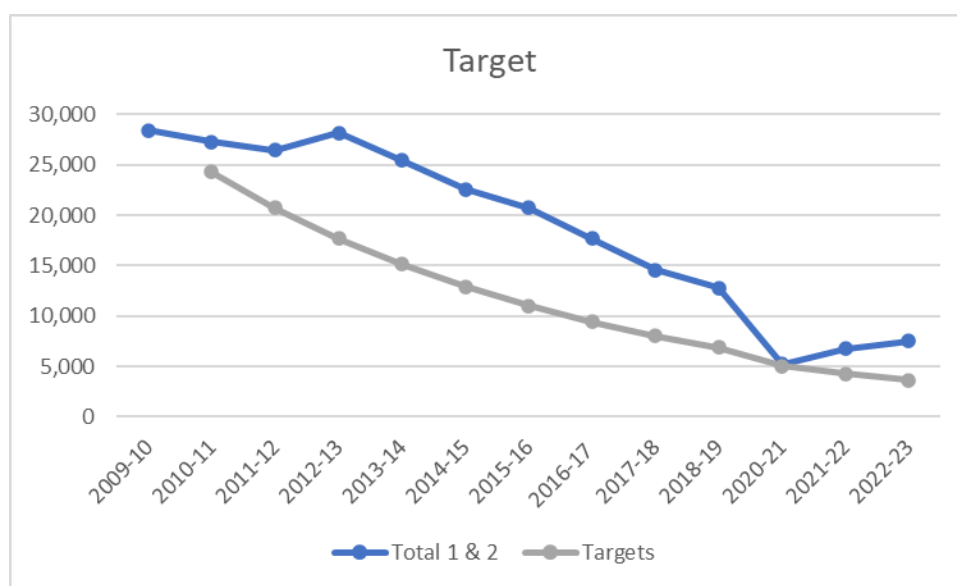
<p><b>Aim 1: Achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Reduce energy demand wherever possible</li> <li>B) Accelerate the shift towards use of sustainable energy</li> <li>C) Take other action to reduce harmful emissions</li> <li>D) Capture and store carbon in woodlands and other natural habitats</li> </ul>	<p><b>Aim 2: Protect and enhance the natural environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Protect, extend and connect areas of natural habitat and help address the decline in native species.</li> <li>B) Help to improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions.</li> <li>C) Take action to improve water quality and reduce local demand for water</li> </ul>
<p><b>Aim 3: Use all resources efficiently and minimise waste</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Ensure sustainable purchasing and procurement of goods and services.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Aim 4: Adapt to the impacts of climate change.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Ensure essential services and operations are resilient to the likely future impacts of climate change.</li> </ul>

<p>B) Maximise the use of existing resources, minimise waste and achieve high levels of re-use and recycling.</p> <p>C) Minimise litter and waste crime and encourage responsible disposal of waste.</p>	<p>B) Increase the preparedness and resilience of local communities and businesses.</p> <p>C) Plan and adapt the built and natural environment to withstand the impacts of climate change.</p>
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4. The examples of progress and good practice, highlighted in paragraph 16, are grouped within these aims.
5. To understand the mechanisms required to transition to a sustainable future and provide an early indication of the scale of the challenge we face, we benefited from an assessment by the independent Tyndall Institute.
6. According to the Tyndall Institute, at 2017 CO<sub>2</sub> emission levels, Stockton-on-Tees will exceed the recommended carbon budget available within 6 years from 2020. To stay within the recommended carbon budget Stockton-on-Tees will, from 2020 onwards, need to achieve average mitigation rates of CO<sub>2</sub> from energy of around -14.6% per year.”

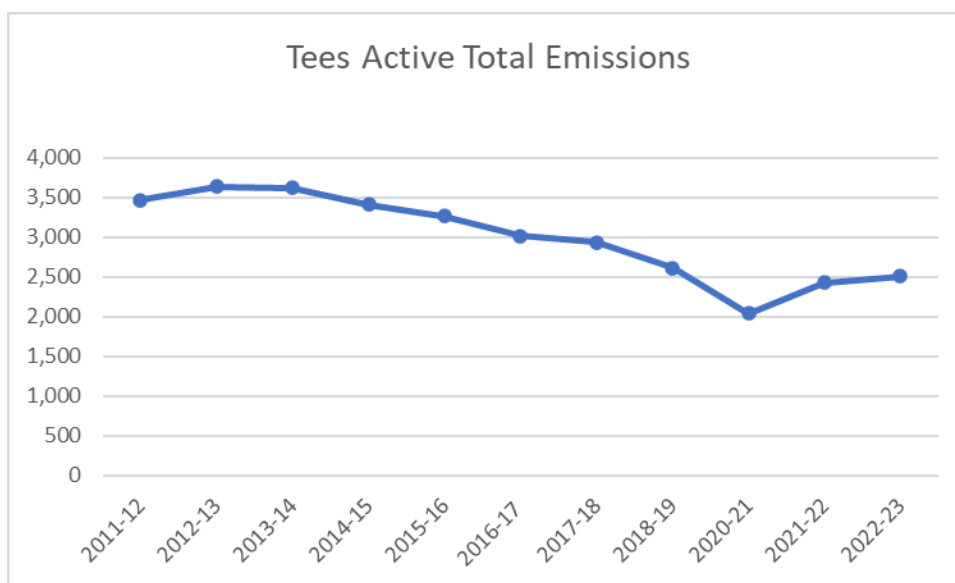
**Total emissions and change over time.**

7. Since 2010 Stockton Borough Council has made significant efforts to reduce emissions and there has been an overall reduction of 61%.



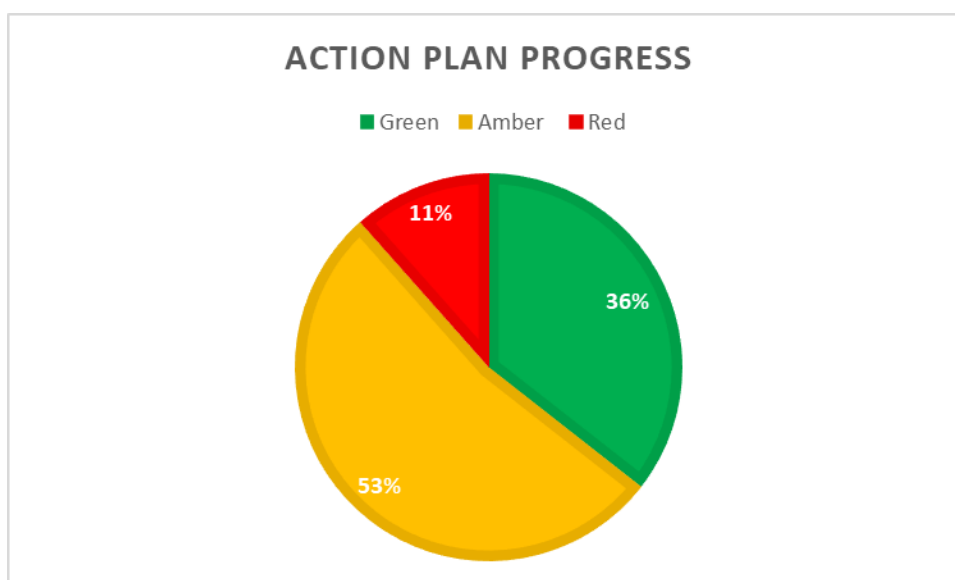
8. The most significant reduction was demonstrated during the period of Covid-19 where cultural working changes were implemented such as working from home during lockdown and a reduction in the energy use of council assets. From 2021-22 there has been an increase in emissions, in part due to a return to pre-covid working conditions and service provision. Calculations are also affected by changes to the energy framework, from which schools were removed in 2019.
9. The table above demonstrates that it was only in 2020/21 that the necessary trend was achieved. However, this was an unprecedented year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
10. There has been a steady increase since 2020/2. The data identifies that in the 2022/23 financial year, Stockton on Tees Council produced 3,837 Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e above the target levels.

11. It is projected that current levels of carbon emissions associated with our assets will continue to rise, however the move to Dunedin House and subsequent decommissioning of other buildings becomes will enable a future reduction. There also remains a heavy reliance on fossil fuels within fleet services, partly due to limited charging infrastructure and inadequate financial support for the electrification of fleet vehicles.
12. Our leisure centres have demonstrated a sustained reduction of carbon emissions since 2012, new measures recently installed such as photovoltaic panels on the roof of IB Leisure should show a reduction in year 23/24.



### Action plan monitoring

13. The ES&CRS is a Council-wide approach that covers all service areas. The action plan sets out what all service areas are doing to address carbon emissions. There has been genuine effort and real innovation across many services.
14. The actions within the plan are categorised as
  - Red – Not Started
  - Amber – Progressing / Pending
  - Green – Established
15. Some of the actions that are categorised as Red are because of aspirations that will be considered as part of the ongoing work on Powering our Future and related reviews or Member scrutiny. In many cases the carbon reduction will be made possible by a remodelling of the service toward different outcomes. The action plan highlights the need for carbon emissions can be considered as part of any service review.



16. Examples of good practice are demonstrated below:

**Aim 1: Achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions**

- **'Rubber roads'** – A ground-breaking road resurfacing project continues to achieve significant carbon savings. Working alongside our framework providers Tarmac roads are being surfaced with recycled materials which reduces emissions by up to 80%. The contractor is also using a biofuel in their machinery, it is believed that the schemes have the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for road surfacing in the UK.
- **Solar Panel installation** - During the 2022/23 financial year, SBC has generated 171,379KwH of energy. Solar generation is increasing.
- **EV car lease scheme** – The council have provided a car lease scheme for electric vehicles, the scheme has been very popular, currently 74 cars have been delivered with another 5 on order.
- **Carbon Literacy training** – currently 30 council staff have completed APSE Carbon Literacy. SBC own programme has been developed and has trained 30 Councillors.
- **Climate coalitions** - 2022 saw the creation of four climate coalitions: Youth, Community, Business and Creative. The first year has seen the coalitions become established and over 50 active members who share environmental practices, offer support and advice in their commitment to reducing emissions across the Borough.

**Aim 2: Protect and enhance the natural environment.**

- **Tree planting** – The authority planted over 20,000 trees in the past two planting seasons increasing canopy cover, improving biodiversity and providing additional attractive amenity space.
- **Management of Greenspaces** - appropriate management can increase biodiversity of greenspaces. Positive pilot scheme of No Mow Summer on sites in Billingham were positively received by residents. Results have been very promising with a richer spread of grasses and wildflowers and encouraging signs that pollinators are returning to utilise the area.
- **Fleet.** Our fleet adds to the significant carbon emissions contributing to 30.5% of the total calculated carbon emissions for the reporting year. Most of our diesel fleet vehicles are now Euro 6 status, which ensures that particulate matter is kept to a minimum and harmful gasses are not released. Electrification is being trialled as well as ongoing investigations of alternative fuel sources.

**Aim 3: Use resources efficiently and minimise waste**

- **Tees Active** – all sites have achieved Green Mark accreditation, progress in environment and sustainability actions are required to maintain the accreditation on an annual basis. Measures such as the use of overnight pool covers, voltage optimisation and reduced temperature heating systems have all been instigated.
- **SBC** - the authority is committed to reducing our administrative buildings. Buildings in Billingham have now closed and in early Jan 24 we will see a migration to Dunedin House. By reducing our asset base we will significantly reduce our energy consumption and corresponding carbon emissions
- **SIRF** –in 2023 there was a strong commitment to reducing the environmental impact of the festival, this was demonstrated by using biofuel in generators and promotion of sustainable travel options for performers and visitors. Recycling collection was available during the festival with 420kg of recyclable waste collected over the 4-day festival.

#### **Aim 4: Adapts to the impact of climate change**

- **Tees Tidelands** - Stockton Borough Council on behalf of the Tees Valley Authorities and the Environment Agency, is working on a project to improve flood resilience and create intertidal habitat, unlocking biodiversity net gain in the Tees Estuary.
- **Billingham Beck** - part of the Environment Agency's wider Tees Tidelands programme which seeks to 'reconnect' the Tees estuary with its upstream river catchments. It also aims to restore water-dependant habitats across the beck's floodplain, within the boundary of Billingham Beck Valley Country Park
- **Emergency planning procedures** – Emergency procedures are formally reviewed on a three-yearly basis, or as incidents, exercises or notified changes demand including Flooding at Lustrum Beck in 2021 and the Tidal Surge at Port Clarence in 2013.
- **Flood risk assessments** – Local standards have been incorporated into SuDs Guidance (Sustainable Drainage Systems) including discharge into existing watercourses and allowances for sea level rises over the lifetime of a development.

#### **Waste and recycling**

17. Waste has a significant impact on carbon emissions, with landfill producing 40% of greenhouse gas emissions nationally, this can be reduced by increased recycling and reduction of waste in the first place.

18. Nationally, weekly food waste collections will become mandatory by 2026 due to the Resources & Waste Strategy & Environment Act 2021 and as part of the Government's 'Simpler Recycling' reforms, the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) are expected to be introduced by October 2025.

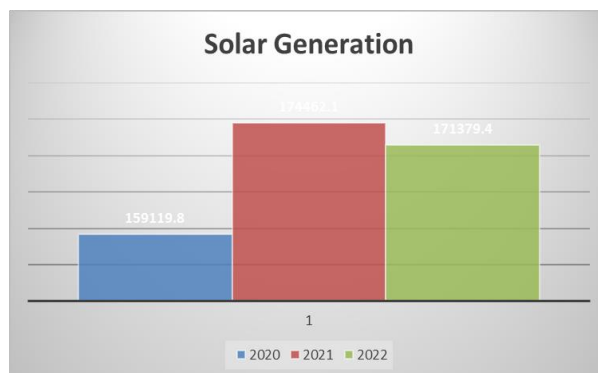
19. The Council's Place Select Committee is currently reviewing waste and recycling. As part of that review the national Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) specialists have provided data on performance compared to similar local authorities.

20. The Place Select Committee's report will include options that would enable a significant carbon reduction on our overall waste a recycling approach. However, investment is likely to be required in vehicles and infrastructure to achieve the carbon saving.

#### **Solar generation**

21. Renewable energy is currently the cheapest form of energy generation and payback rates of new installations are decreasing rapidly.

22. Recent large-scale installations include Cowpen Depot and IB Leisure, whilst the council has partnered with an award-winning social impact business to offer many of our maintained and academy schools access to reduced price solar energy.



- Solar generation is increasing; however, the 2022 figures are slightly lower due to faults being recorded on the meters in some months during the reporting year.
- Solar panels at Cowpen Depot have saved 22,017kg of Carbon emissions, the equivalent of planting 1,332 mature trees.
- Solar panels installed at Ingleby Barwick Leisure has saved 1,734kg of Co2 since their installation in September of 2023, the equivalent of planting 105 mature trees.

23. There is potential for further solar regeneration as a cost effective means of reducing our carbon emissions, however capital investment would be required to achieve this carbon saving.

### Grants and national resources

24. There are an increasing number of time limited Government grant regimes linked to carbon reduction and climate change. In particular, there are numerous schemes to support tree planting. However, for the major changes such as fleet decarbonisation, improvements to building efficiency, climate change adaptation and modal shifts in transport, the resources are limited to pilot projects and modest one-off grants with short lead-in times.

25. In 2023 Stockton Council responded to the national **Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme**. We applied for funding to develop decarbonisation plans for a number of our school, leisure and corporate building assets. We submitted an application within 15 minutes of the portal opening. The application value was £510,000. We were not successful and the only feedback we received was that the fund was oversubscribed.

26. The planned and sustained transformation that is now urgent, needs substantial new and multi-year funding. Without that the Council is unlikely to be able to achieve its Net Zero ambitions.

### Data collection

27. Services currently report verbally on ES&CRS outputs, with that information being manually entered into monitoring reports. Improvement in data collection is required to ensure consistency in data, to enable better analysis, comparison with other Authorities, and to identify the areas where further work is required.

28. We expect that Environment Act legislation will require Local Authorities to deliver and evidence progress against a number of targets. Although these targets and duties have not yet been set, we should plan for the formalisation and integration of AS&CRS monitoring into wider Council performance monitoring and data analysis processes.

### Engagement and partnerships - Climate Coalitions

29. As part of the Council's efforts to influence residents in reducing their carbon emissions and raising awareness of their environmental impact, four Climate Coalitions have been

established across different sectors of the Borough.

- The Business Climate Coalition currently has members from 36 businesses that are based in or have operations in Stockton-on-Tees, from a variety of industries, from sole traders to multinational companies.
- The Creative Coalition for Climate Change is managed by the ARC and brings together almost 30 of those working in the creative sector to improve communication around climate change, offer sustainable productions and inspire creation of new work.
- The Youth Climate Coalition has 12 member schools, is managed by BMBF and recently held a Youth COP28 event at the ARC, which was attended by over 60 students and featured hands-on workshops and talks on a range of environmental issues.
- The Community Coalition is managed by Catalyst, and brings together VCSE's, community groups and charities working on projects related to climate action, with over 60 organisations signed up.

30. There are currently over 50 active members across all coalitions, with many more signed up and working in the background, and the meetings provide a productive space for networking, knowledge sharing and collaborative action.

The Coalition Chairs are currently finalising a cross-coalition Action Plan for the Borough to support the ESCR Strategy and work closely with the Environment team to achieve this.

31. **Festival of Thrift** - In 2023 the Council hosted the first of a three-year agreement at John Whitehead Park, Billingham. The festival is a celebration of sustainable living and attracts around 50,000 visitors to the region. The festival is a nationally recognised event championing sustainable living.

32. The festival has a very clear vision to create positive, sustainable change in people and places and the programme aims to do just that by celebrating ways to live more sustainably and look after the planet we call home. Thrift works to develop new relationships with local communities, businesses and partners, whilst delivering a high-quality festival which inspires, brings joy and helps us to imagine a better future together.

33. Thrift works hard to not only measure their carbon emissions but shares tools with suppliers, crew, audience and artists enabling others to gain an understanding of their own impact. All of this work is communicated to our residents and communities in order to influence individual actions.

## **COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

34. Climate change affects everyone, but there is a growing body of evidence that the poorest in society will experience the worst impacts. The Environmental Sustainability & Carbon Reduction Strategy aims to address the threats to all the communities of Stockton on Tees through actions that target their circumstances. The ES&CRS follows the principles of the Council's Equality Strategy and will seek to reduce the inequality faced by disadvantaged communities where those inequalities are likely to be widened by climate change.

## **CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

35. None

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**



36. Saving energy can have a positive impact upon reducing emissions and finances, using less will cost less! By improving energy efficiency, the same tasks can be accomplished with less input, resulting in lower emissions and lower energy bills.

37. Whilst it is anticipated that there will be future investment required to deliver the long-term commitment to achieve net zero, no additional financial commitments beyond the approved MTFP are required at this stage to support the strategy and specific points outlined in this report.

38. Officers, continue to seek out external funding opportunities that could be applied for to support the decarbonisation agenda. A recent example of this being a bid, (outcome currently pending), to Sport England to support Swimming Pools with a focus on improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon. Such opportunities will continue to be explored moving forward to maximise external funding.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

39. None

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

40. There are several risks relating to the content of this report. The Council has established the ES&CRS to improve the local environment and to achieve net zero by 2032. Although this report demonstrates progress is being made, there are risks that carbon reduction is becoming significantly harder without financial investment and net zero may not be achieved. This could lead to reputational risk to the Council, potential legal risks and more significantly, the environmental and economic risks associated with the impacts of a warming climate on the borough.

41. The risks are currently managed through the implementation of a detailed action plan, an ES&CRS Steering Group to oversee implementation, careful monitoring of carbon emissions and regular reports to Cabinet.

## **WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS**

42. As the strategy is a wide-ranging document all wards will be affected.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

43. Appendix A- List of actions with traffic lights

44. Appendix B- Description of scope 1, 2 and 3.

**Name of Contact Officer: Neil Mitchell**

**Post Title: Head of Environment, Leisure, and Green Infrastructure**

**Email Address: neil.mitchell@stockton.gov.uk**

## Appendix A

### Action Plan.

Action	Status
<b>Objective 1.1 Improve Air Quality</b>	
Clean Air Day	established
Educational project on fuel burning and smoke free zones	progressing
Educational project to reduce 'idling' at taxi ranks and schools	progressing
DEFRA taxi clean air zone	established
Implementation of Air Quality Strategy	progressing
Monitoring of Air Quality across the Borough.	established
Air quality educational project with secondary schools.	progressing
<b>Objective 1.2 Reduce energy demand where possible.</b>	
Solar for schools	progressing
E-bike scheme for employees / enforcement	established
Warm Homes Healthy People	established
Solar panels on Cowpen Depot	established
Training on maintenance and installation of energy efficiency project with SBC staff	progressing
<b>Objective 1.3 Take action to reduce harmful emissions</b>	
Installation of EV charging points - Phase 1	established
Identification of EV Charging points sites - Phase 2	progressing
cycling and walking infrastructure	progressing
Tees Valley Capability Fund	progressing
Bus Corridor improvements	progressing
Electric fleet vehicles.	progressing
Reduce fleet numbers	progressing
Fleet replacement vehicles to latest Euro Emission standard if EV is not an option.	progressing
Alternative fuel vehicles (HVO)	progressing
Asphalt IQ Carbon Monitoring Trial phase 1.	progressing
Asphalt IQ Carbon Monitoring Trial phase 2	not started
Asphalt IQ Carbon Monitoring Trial Phase 3	not started
<b>Objective 1.4 Capture and Store Carbon in woodlands and other natural habitats.</b>	
<b>Action</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Objective 2.1 Ensure sustainable purchasing and procurement of goods and services</b>	
Implement Social Value Policy	established
Environmental priorities incorporated in contract tenders	established
Support to tenders to increase their environmental priorities	progressing

Minimise carbon and environmental footprint of council led events.	progressing
Identify and report on Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions.	progressing
Identify Scope 3 emissions	Not started
Enforce Single Use Materials Policy across the Borough	progressing

### Objective 2.2 Maximise the use of existing resources, minimise waste and achieve high level of re-use and recycling

Improve internal recycling facilities	progressing
Baseline carbon assets	not started
Electricity reduction	progressing
Reduce the carbon footprint through the migration of workloads to the cloud, device refresh and power management configuration	established
Highway lighting	progressing
Solar panels and battery storage on council assets	progressing
Voltage Optimizers within Tees Active	established
Combined Heat and Power Units	established
Pool pump inverters	established
PIR Lighting	established
Energy from NEPO	established
Electricity generating Archimedes screws	established
Reduce water consumption	progressing

### Objective 2.3 Minimise litter and waste crime and encourage responsible disposal of waste

Weekly food waste collections.	Pending
Increase levels of household recycling	Pending
Reduce household waste collection to fortnightly.	Pending
Deliver initiatives through education and engagement to minimise consumption	progressing
Implement measures to reduce fly-tipping and waste crime	progressing
E waste	progressing

Action	Status
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### Objective 3.1 Protect, extend and connect areas of natural habitat and help address the decline in native species

Biodiversity net gain	established
Ecology resources available to planning team.	not started
Research on urban planting	progressing
SBC tree and plant nursery	Pending
Trees for Tees	established
Tree Planting	established
Forestry / Woodland mapping	progressing
Forestry / Woodland management	progressing
Increase awareness and understanding of the natural environment and encourage community participation.	progressing
Reduce risk of pollution	established
Bee blocks incorporated into new buildings	not started
Bird nesting boxes incorporated into new buildings	not started
Local Nature Recovery Strategy.	Pending
Biodiversity credits / Carbon Credits and Nutrient Neutrality	not started

Biodiversity assessments	progressing
Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund	established
Thematic plans for development and management key habitats within identified open spaces	progressing
Lustrum Beck Urban River Restoration Project	progressing
Increase opportunities for public participation in the development and management of parks and greenspace	progressing
Norton 'Pocket of Nature Partnership'	progressing
Environmental Education	established
local wildlife sites	established
Research on carbon sequestration through natural habitats	not started
Environmental / Conservation Work Team	established
No Mow Summer	
Tees Tidelands	
Billingham Beck Habitat restoration project	progressing
<b>Objective 3.2 Help to improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions</b>	
Review planning applications, including demolition and construction	established
<b>Objective 3.3 Take action to improve water quality and reduce local demand for water</b>	
Reduce water consumption	progressing
Rainwater harvesting	progressing
Rainwater harvesting	not started
Rainwater harvesting	progressing
Film on winter garden to reduce evaporation	not started
Targeted watering in the garden	progressing
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Objective 4.1 Ensure essential service and operations are resilient to the likely future impacts of climate change</b>	
Single Depot for Community Services	Pending
Emergency planning procedures	established
regular monitoring and evaluation of action plan.	not started
Care sector and public health	not started
Tree management	progressing
Flood risk assessment	established
<b>Objective 4.2 Increase the preparedness and resilience of local communities and businesses</b>	
Ensure residents and businesses are flood prepared.	established
Climate coalition - business	established
Climate coalition -communities	established
Climate coalition - youth	established
Climate coalition - creative	established
Public awareness campaigns	progressing
Healthy Streets	progressing
Retrofit	progressing
<b>Objective 4.3 Plan and adapt the built and natural environment to withstand the impacts of climate change</b>	

SUDs  
BREEM standards adopted as building standards.  
Floodwater storage  
Building Design

established  
Pending  
progressing  
not started

## Appendix B

### Operational Scopes

We have collected and measured all scope 1 & 2 emissions. Scope 1 covers emissions from sources that the council controls directly. Scope 2 emissions cover the indirect emissions associated with the purchase of electricity.

At present we are unable to accurately calculate scope 3 emissions. Scope 3 encompasses emissions that are not produced by the council itself but by those that the council interacts with up and down the value chain, for instance when we buy, use, and dispose of products from suppliers.

For the purposes of the current reporting year the following activities have been included:

#### Scope 1

Gas consumption

Owned fleet transport

#### Scope 2

Purchased electricity.

#### Scope 1 emissions

**These are “direct” emissions – those that a company causes by operating the things that it owns or controls. These can be a result of running machinery to make products, driving vehicles, or just heating buildings and powering computers.**

**Scope 2 emissions**

**These are “indirect” emissions created by the production of the energy that an organization buys. Installing solar panels or sourcing renewable energy rather than using electricity generated using fossil fuels would cut a company’s Scope 2 emissions.**

**Scope 3 emissions**

**These are also indirect emissions – meaning those not produced by the company itself – but they differ from Scope 2 as they cover those produced by customers using the company’s products or those produced by suppliers making products that the company uses.**

## People Select Committee

8 April 2024

### **PROGRESS UPDATE ON PREVIOUSLY AGREED RECOMMENDATIONS – REVIEW OF DISABILITY INCLUSIVE BOROUGH**

#### **Summary**

Members are asked to consider the evidence and assessments of progress contained within the attached Progress Update on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations in relation to the review Disability Inclusive Borough (the Committee's final report can be accessed via the following link: [https://moderngov.stockton.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/202201201630/Agenda/\\$att41988.doc.pdf](https://moderngov.stockton.gov.uk/Data/Cabinet/202201201630/Agenda/$att41988.doc.pdf))

#### **Detail**

1. Following the Cabinet consideration of scrutiny reports, accepted recommendations are then subject to a monitoring process to track their implementation.
2. Two main types of report are used. Initially this is by means of Action Plans detailing how services will be taking forward agreed recommendations. This is then followed by a Progress Update report approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan (unless requested earlier). Evidence is submitted by the relevant department together with an assessment of progress against all recommendations. Should members of the Select Committee agree, those recommendations which have reached an assessment of '1' are then signed-off as having been completed.
3. If any recommendations remain incomplete, or if the Select Committee does not agree with the view on progress, the Select Committee may ask for a further update.
4. The assessment of progress for each recommendation should be categorised as follows:

5.	1	Achieved (Fully)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented within the timescale specified.
	2	On Track (but not yet due for completion)	The evidence provided shows that implementation of the recommendation is on track but the timescale specified has not expired.
	3	Slipped	The evidence shows that progress on implementation has slipped.  An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved should be advised and the reasons for the delay.
	4	Not Achieved	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved.  An explanation for non achievement of the recommendation would be provided.

To further strengthen the monitoring process, from August 2020, the Progress Update report will also include references on the evidence of impact for each recommendation.

6. For Progress Update reports following the completion of a review, the relevant Link Officer(s) will be in attendance.
7. **Appendix 2** (Review of Disability Inclusive Borough) sets out the outstanding recommendations for this Committee. Members are asked to review the update and indicate whether they agree with the assessments of progress.

**Name of Contact Officer:** Michelle Gunn  
**Post Title:** Scrutiny Officer  
**Telephone No:** 01642 524987  
**Email Address:** [michelle.gunn@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.gunn@stockton.gov.uk)



## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Disability Inclusive Borough

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
<b>Review:</b>	<b>Disability Inclusive Borough</b>
<b>Link Officer/s:</b>	<b>Margie Stewart-Piercy</b>
<b>Action Plan Agreed:</b>	<b>November 2021</b>

Updates on the progress of actions in relation to agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews are required approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan. Progress updates must be detailed, evidencing what has taken place regarding each recommendation – a grade assessing progress should then be given (see end of document for grading explanation). Any evidence on the impact of the actions undertaken should also be recorded for each recommendation.

<b>Recommendation 5:</b>	<b>That an external Equality Information Directory is developed to better inform the public and assist with signposting of services.</b>
Responsibility:	Corinne Moore
Date:	2023/24
Agreed Action:	Development and update of Stockton Information Directory
Agreed Success Measure:	The directory is published and operational
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	The Stockton Information Directory (SID) is currently undergoing a redesign and a migration onto the GOSS The Council are taking a modular approach with a phased project plan and taking the opportunity to develop new content and interactive services.
Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)	<b>2 – On Track</b>
Evidence of Impact (January 2023):	
Evidence of Progress (December 2023):	Some information has been decoupled from the Stockton Information Directory (SID) and redeveloped onto the Stockton Council Website, where the information should sit.
Assessment of Progress (December 2023):	2 – On Track

## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Disability Inclusive Borough

(include explanation if required)	
Evidence of Impact (December 2023):	Wider developments have taken place as part of SID including the development of a SEND Microsite and content. SID due to go live December 2023.
Evidence of Progress (April 2024):	<p>The Stockton Information Directory (SID) is now fully migrated onto the GOSS platform.</p> <p><a href="https://www.stocktoninformationdirectory.org/">https://www.stocktoninformationdirectory.org/</a></p> <p>As part of the redevelopment of SID we created a subsite for our SEND Local Offer, giving the Local offer its own identity and prominence within the main Stockton Council Website</p> <p><a href="https://www.stockton.gov.uk/localoffer">https://www.stockton.gov.uk/localoffer</a></p>
Assessment of Progress (April 2024): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully Achieved
Evidence of Impact (April 2024):	Reaching a WCAG 2.1 accessibility score of 99%. The directory will now be subject to a monthly accessibility audit.

<b>Recommendation 11:</b>	<b>That lessons learnt from the upcoming refurbishment of the junior/toddlers play area at Preston Park be used to inform future play provision designs with respect to inclusion and accessibility.</b>
Responsibility:	Keith Mathews
Date:	2023
Agreed Action:	Meetings held with members of the SEND group, both on site at Preston Park and site visit to Stewarts Park. Design brief to be rewritten based on information gathered.
Agreed Success Measure:	All future play provision will consider the learning from Preston Park
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	<p>A design brief has been prepared for the refurbishment of the junior/toddlers play area at Preston Park which highlights the need to create a space, and provide a range of play equipment, which is accessible to a wide range of users.</p> <p>However, the Preston Park scheme will not be delivered until 2023, so while it will help to inform the future development of other play areas in the Borough, there are a number of other</p>

## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Disability Inclusive Borough

	<p>schemes where the Council can ensure that inclusion and accessibility are key considerations in the design process of other play areas.</p> <p>Key actions to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A requirement that play area designers / suppliers provide an inclusivity and accessibility statement in relation to all items of play equipment (not that the Council would require all equipment to be accessible to all, but that on a given site there is an appropriate range of equipment and spaces to meet the needs of a wide range of users)</li> <li>• Proactively involving members of the Stockton Parent Carer Forum (SPCF) at the early stages in the development of a number of play areas projects, e.g. in November/December 2022 they have been invited to comment on proposals for a scheme at Victoria Recreation Ground, Thornaby, and members of SPCF will also be invited to comment on the design brief for improvements to the play area at Harold Wilson Recreation Ground, Thornaby.</li> <li>• Exploring ways in which the Council can maintain an on-going dialogue with the SPCP with the suggested aim of:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ developing some broad design principles which we might apply to all schemes going forward</li> <li>○ learning lessons from a range of schemes and using that learning to inform future projects</li> <li>○ ensuring parents, carers and their children have opportunities to input the design of future schemes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p><b>2 – On Track</b></p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (January 2023):</p>	<p>It is too early to assess the success of the above actions, but there has been a very positive response from the Stockton Parent Carer Forum to date and a willingness to input to this work in the future.</p> <p>The Town Centres Team are working with colleagues and appointed professional consultants in designing new play equipment in Preston Park and Stockton Waterfront to be accessible and inclusive where possible.</p>
<p>Evidence of Progress (December 2023):</p>	<p>A number of schemes have now been assessed by the Parent Carers Forum (PCF) as part of the design and implementation journey. These include the proposed play areas for Elmwood Community Centre, Hardwick Green, the extension of Redbrook Park and the extension of Harold Wilson Play Area.</p>

## APPENDIX 1

### PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Disability Inclusive Borough

	<p>Each design brief sent to potential contractors now includes a requirement to demonstrate how accessibility and inclusion has been factored into a design, is afforded weighting, and is considered by the PCF.</p> <p>On-site construction has not commenced at any of these sites yet, Hardwick and Elmwood are still subject to planning approval, and orders have been placed with contractors for both Harold Wilson and Redbrook play areas.</p>
<p>Assessment of Progress (December 2023): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p><b>2- On Track</b></p> <p>The PCF have undertaken an assessment of each play area scheme and have provided feedback to Council officers. This feedback is considered along with other factors and a decision made accordingly.</p> <p>The PCF are delighted to be involved and their feedback is very constructive and helpful. As things stand, they are happy with the process and there is no requirement for modification.</p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (December 2023):</p>	<p>It is only when the play areas have been established or extended that we will be able to undertake any assessment of how successful they have been with regards to accessibility and inclusivity. Again, Council officers will work with the PCF to establish criteria for measuring success.</p>
<p>Evidence of Progress (April 2024):</p>	<p>Two recent schemes that were assessed for inclusivity and accessibility by the Parent Carers Forum (PCF) have now been implemented: Harold Wilson play area and Redbrook Park play area. In addition the PCF commented on the draft designs for the refurbishment of the Ropner Park play area. in in respect to.</p> <p>The PCF also accepted an invitation to put forward their inclusivity and accessibility as part of a Scrutiny Review of Outdoor Play Provision, currently being undertaken by the Crime &amp; Disorder Select Committee.</p>
<p>Assessment of Progress April 2024): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p><b>2 – On Track</b></p> <p>On the basis that lessons are being learnt through the development of play areas other than Preston Park. The scheme for that particular site will now not be delivered until 2024/25.</p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (April 2024):</p>	<p>Further work needs to be done to review completed projects for inclusivity and accessibility, but feedback suggests these play areas have been very well-received by users and have delivered an uplift in play value.</p>

<b>Assessment of Progress Gradings:</b>	<b>1</b> Fully Achieved	<b>2</b> On-Track	<b>3</b> Slipped	<b>4</b> Not Achieved
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## People Select Committee – Work Programme 2024- 2025

Date (4pm unless stated)	Topic	Attendance
<b>Monday 8 April 2024</b>	Monitoring: Initial Progress Update - Scrutiny Review of Home Energy Efficiency and Green Jobs for the Future  Monitoring: Progress Update – Scrutiny Review of Disability Inclusive Borough	Neil Mitchell/Julie Marsden  Margie Stewart-Piercy
<b>Monday 13 May 2024</b>	Scrutiny Review of Disabled Facilities Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Draft) Scope and Project Plan</li> <li>• Background Presentation</li> </ul> Monitoring: Action Plan – Scrutiny Review of Cost of Living Response	Sam Dixon  Haleem Ghafoor/Margie Stewart-Piercy
<b>Monday 3 June 2024</b>		
<b>Monday 8 July 2024</b>		
<b>Monday 2 September 2024</b>		
<b>Monday 7 October 2024</b>		
<b>Monday 4 November 2024</b>		
<b>Tuesday 2 December 2024</b>		
<b>Monday 6 January 2025</b>		
<b>Monday 3 February 2025</b>	TBC Overview Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Services, Environment and Culture</li> <li>• Corporate Services</li> <li>• Finance, Development and Regeneration</li> </ul>	Cllr Bob Cook/ Cllr Steve Nelson/ Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE/ Garry Cummings/ Reuben Kench/Julie Butcher/ Lorraine Dixon
<b>Monday 3 March 2025</b>	•	

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