

## REPORT TO Executive; Council

**Date of Meeting:**

**Report of: Jon-Paul Hedge**

**Title: Carbon 2030 Roadmap**

### **Is this a Key Decision\*?**

No

*\* One that affects finances over £1m or significantly affects two or more wards. If this is a key decision then the item must be on the appropriate forward plan of key decisions.*

### **Is this an Executive or Council Function?**

Executive to Council

#### **1. What is the report about?**

This report seeks funding to support delivery of a series of events and engagement activities to identify and explore the barriers and challenges that we must overcome and the types of solutions that can deliver our carbon-neutral aspirations. The activities will lead to development of a shared roadmap to carbon-neutral that is owned by the City.

#### **2. Recommendations:**

That Executive recommends to Council:

- 2.1. Approval of a budget of up to £30,000 for the project to be completed.

#### **3. Reasons for the recommendation:**

- 3.1. On 23 July 2019, Council agreed that Exeter would declare a climate emergency and commit to making Exeter a carbon neutral City by 2030. This ambition is aligned to the vision for the City and has potential to make a vital contribution to our planet and all its people. Delivering this commitment will require the involvement of everyone across the City - individuals, communities, companies or organisations. Inevitably, lifestyle, business and investment choices will need to be made and therefore it is critical to ensure that the widest possible range of stakeholders are involved in the development of the roadmap.

#### **4. What are the equality and diversity impacts of this decision?**

- 4.1. A completed EqIA is attached as an Appendix.

#### **5. What are the resource implications including non-financial resources:**

- 5.1. The Resource will bring additional support for planning and delivery of the activities. Existing resource in Exeter City Futures and ECC will support the activities.

#### **6. Section 151 Officer comments:**

- 6.1 The funding, if approved, will come from the additional income set aside from the business Rates pilot and therefore have no effect on the General Fund Balance. This is an appropriate use of the pilot funds as it will support the work required to deliver a sustainable economy.

#### **7. What are the legal aspects?**

None identified

## 8. Monitoring Officer Comments:

The director has undergone a procurement process to select the most cost effective supplier to provide the external support needed to develop and deliver the programme of activities for the Council. Given that, this request raises no issues for the Monitoring officer.

## 9. Report details:

- 9.1. The Council have asked Exeter City Futures to establish a city plan (roadmap) for delivery of the carbon neutral commitment that builds on the Energy Independence Report and uses the 12 Goals as the basis of the approach.
- 9.2. To build this roadmap, Exeter City Futures will work alongside Exeter City Council to deliver a series of events and engagement activities to identify and explore the barriers and challenges that we must overcome and the types of solutions that can deliver our carbon-neutral aspirations and ensure that Exeter remains a great place to live.
- 9.3. This event series (the “carbon-neutral” series) should contain formal and informal events including workshops, talks, debates that will enable all sectors of the City (communities, business and local authority) to jointly explore challenges and build understanding about the changes that will need to be made. These activities will underpin the development of a shared roadmap that addresses all needs.
- 9.4. Exeter City Council is seeking budget of up to £30,000 to secure external support for the development and delivery of the programme of activities. The initial vision for the series is outlined below:
- 9.5. Phase 1: Launch - A formal launch and signposting of the series should happen quickly with communication made about the development of the summit and the associated events. The launch of this series should be made by the Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Climate and Culture, possibly with support of leading stakeholders (business and community) in the City. Timescales for the following Phases will need to be agreed in outline at the launch. We should be aiming for October 2019 for the launch so that we can start building interest.
- 9.6. Phase 2: Preparatory Workshops - Through a series of specialist workshops supported by public engagement activities, ECC and Exeter City Futures will bring together the opinions of residents, experts, politicians, community and business leaders and young people to develop a roadmap that indicates the challenges to be addressed in order to achieve a carbon neutral Exeter. The key objectives of these activities are:
  - To create a shared understanding of the barriers that need to be overcome, clarifying in simple terms who is concerned and why it really matters
  - To frame a set of clear challenges that the City feels shared ownership for, along with agreement of what will be required/made-available to solve the challenge (e.g. assets, finance, resources, innovation)
  - To develop a network of “change agents”/“sponsors” who can support the delivery of the transformation that will be required
  - To engage the public to aid understanding of the scale and importance of the commitment and begin a conversation about the level of lifestyle change that may be required/acceptable. This is likely to include an element of data collection about current lifestyle (choices relating to transport, energy, waste, and food) and the capture of major areas of concern and challenge.

- 9.7. Phase 3: Summit/Festival - The data and information collected through the workshops and engagement activities will be collated and used to stimulate debate at a high-profile summit event. At this public event, it is hoped that invited stakeholders will be asked to present the scale of the carbon-neutral ambition and to review, discuss and agree the resources that will need to be committed for solutions to be found. The vision is that this event will attract interest from the general public as well as business and therefore the concept may be more appropriately referred to as a festival rather than a summit so that it feels more open.
- 9.8. The design of the summit is yet to be agreed and will be part of the activity to be delivered with the requested budget.

## **10. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?**

- 10.1. On 23 July 2019, Full Council agreed that Exeter would declare a climate emergency and commit to making Exeter a carbon neutral City by 2030. The City has an opportunity to show leadership among cities through decisive implementation of policies, innovations and investment that shape the way we live and our environmental impact for decades to come.
- 10.2. The reduction of congestion within Exeter is a priority objective of the City Council's Corporate Plan. Decreasing carbon-intensive transportation will play an important role in limiting future emissions. Policies that encourage compact, pedestrianised zones, zero emission vehicles and modal shifts toward walking, cycling, public transport, as well as shorter commute distances, will be key to delivering the carbon neutral target. Delivering these policies will also offer additional benefits including reduced air pollution, congestion and road fatalities, and improved health outcomes from more active travel and cleaner air.
- 10.3. The Corporate Plan proposes that ECC will work towards our ambition of a city where transport is not a barrier to accessing education, jobs, services or social activities, and where sustainable means of travel are cheaper, quicker and more convenient than private car ownership.

## **11. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?**

- 11.1. Strong engagement and partnership approaches are necessary for sustainable change. Both grassroots (bottom up) and major infrastructure (top-down) change projects will need to be identified along with the barriers as perceived by different groups across the city (politicians, businesses, communities). There is the risk that Members of Exeter City Futures CIC, partners, the business community and residents of Exeter do not support the work of Exeter City Futures to develop the roadmap or the 12 Goal approach to delivering a carbon neutral Exeter and therefore the City does not work together towards the shared outcome. This will be mitigated through: a comprehensive communication plan to engage stakeholders across the City to consider the challenges that these goals present; a clear Delivery Roadmap that shows how all initiatives across the City work towards the target and identifies gaps; as well as the establishment of the Zero Carbon Mandate Group to validate and challenge the Delivery Roadmap.
- 11.2. Exeter City Council recognises that many other groups across the City are also working on developing responses to the climate emergency, including the recently formed Devon Zero Carbon Task Force. There is a risk that Exeter City Council is perceived as not supporting or aligning with activities at the regional level. This will be mitigated by ensuring robust linkage to the wider regional activities and by working in partnership with neighbouring authorities and with Devon County Council to ensure that the outcomes of the Exeter focussed work are an integral part of regional plans.

## **12. What is the impact of the decision on health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and adults with care and support needs, economy, safety and the environment?**

12.1. In delivering the commitment for a carbon neutral Exeter there will be a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the residents of Exeter, community safety, the environment and the economy. Achieving the target will offer benefits including reduced air pollution, congestion and road fatalities, and improved health outcomes from more active travel and cleaner air.

12.2. Additional assessment is included in the EqIA.

**13. What other options are there, and why have they been dismissed?**

13.1. The roadmap could be produced without stakeholder consultation and engagement but would likely not succeed.

**Director**  
**Jon-Paul Hedge**

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)**

**Background papers used in compiling this report:**

None

Contact for enquiries:  
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## **Equality Impact Assessment** - To be completed using the checklist of questions at the end of the table

**Title of work being assessed:** Carbon 2030 Roadmap

### **Introduction**

This report seeks funding to support the design and delivery of events and engagement activities to develop the roadmap to carbon-neutral.

**Lead officer:** Jon-Paul Hedge

**Service Manager:**

### **Stakeholders:**

For each of the areas below, an assessment has been made on whether the policy has a **positive, negative or neutral impact**, and brief details of why this decision was made and notes of any mitigation are included. Where the impact is negative, a **high, medium or low assessment** is given. The assessment rates the impact of the policy based on the current situation (i.e. disregarding any actions planned to be carried out in future).

**High impact** – a significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.

**Medium impact** –some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence

**Low impact** – almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation led and where the Council has very little discretion

	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>
<b>Protected characteristic/ area of interest</b> <b>Race and ethnicity</b> (including Gypsies and Travellers; migrant workers asylum seekers etc.)		The effects of climate change have a higher impact on those with protected characteristics. The roadmap will help mitigate this impact	
<b>Disability</b> (as defined by the Equality Act - a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities)	No impact		
<b>Sex/Gender</b>	No impact		
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	No impact		
<b>Religion and belief</b>	No impact		
<b>Sexual orientation</b> (including heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual)	No impact		
<b>Age</b> (children and young people aged 0 – 24, adults aged 25 – 50, younger older people aged 51 – 75/80; older people 81+. The age categories are for illustration only as overriding consideration should be given to needs).		The decision will have a positive impact on young people by enabling them to be part of discussing and developing the plans.	
<b>Community relations</b>		The decision will enable communities to be at the heart of developing the	

		roadmap to carbon neutral and to ensure that their concerns and opinions are taken into account.	
<b>Human Rights</b>		The decision will ensure that all Members of the City community (businesses and residents) are able to be involved in discussion the development of the roadmap to carbon neutral.	
<b>Actions identified as a result of the impact assessment</b>			

<b>Equality Impact Assessment Report Questions checklist</b>	
<b>1.</b>	Describe the piece of work you are assessing and the reason it is being carried out. Are you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Making a strategic budget proposal</li> <li>○ Developing a new policy, strategy or project</li> <li>○ Reviewing and revising a policy, strategy or project</li> <li>○ Reviewing a function or a service</li> <li>○ Restructuring a service.</li> </ul> Include any options appraisal and if you have a preferred option explain why.
<b>2.</b>	What are the timescales for completing the work? What committee deadlines do you have to meet?
<b>3.</b>	What are the aims and objectives of the work? How do these link to wider council or strategic objectives.
<b>4.</b>	Who will be the main beneficiaries of the piece of work and in what way? All people in Exeter? Council staff? A specific stakeholder group? A combination of these?
<b>5.</b>	What data do you have on how different groups would be affected by the work?
<b>6.</b>	What research studies or reports have been carried out in other areas of the country or nationally that provide information about the likely impact of your work on equality groups?
<b>7.</b>	What consultation has taken place or is planned with customers (individuals and groups) from equality groups?
<b>8.</b>	What does the consultation indicate about any differential positive or negative impact(s) of this piece of work?
<b>9.</b>	If there are gaps in your previous or planned consultation and research are there any experts/relevant groups that can be contacted to get further views or evidence on the issues? If so please explain who they are and how you will obtain their views.
<b>10.</b>	If you have indicated there is a negative impact on any group, is that impact Legal; Intended; of high or low impact?
<b>11.</b>	If you identified any negative impact that is of low significance, can you minimise or remove it? If so how?
<b>12.</b>	Could you improve the strategy/policy/project's positive impact and if so how?
<b>13.</b>	How do you intend to continue monitoring the impact of this strategy/policy/project?

14.	If there are gaps in your evidence base, do you need to carry out any further research about the likely impact of your work on equality groups?
	<b>There might be a time delay here as you will need to get the results of your consultation before you can continue working your way through the questions.</b>
15.	As a result of this assessment and available evidence collected, including consultation, what if any changes do you need to make to the strategy/policy/project?
16.	Will the changes planned ensure that the negative impact is: Legal; Intended; of low impact?
17.	What monitoring/evaluation/review process have you set up to check the successful implementation of the strategy/policy/project?
18.	How will this monitoring/evaluation further assess the impact on the equality groups/ensure the strategy/policy/project is non-discriminatory?
19.	Please provide an action plan showing any recommendations that have arisen from the assessment and how you plan to take them forward. Are your actions SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-based).
20.	When will you next review this work and the impact assessment?