

To: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 18th January 2022
Report of: Head of Corporate Strategy
Title of Report: Zero Carbon Action Plan - Update to Scrutiny Committee

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To provide an update on Oxford City Council’s climate change and biodiversity commitments.
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Tom Hayes, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford
Corporate Priority:	Zero Carbon Oxford
Policy Framework:	Council Strategy 2020-24
Recommendation(s): That Scrutiny Committee resolves to:	
1.	Note: The progress made towards meeting Oxford City Council’s commitments on climate change and biodiversity.
2.	Note: The proposal to overhaul and update the action plan in consultation with the Council’s Scientific Advisor, and present this to Cabinet in 2022.

Appendices	
Appendix 1	Zero Carbon Action Plan – Update to Scrutiny Committee

Introduction and background

- Oxford City Council declared a climate emergency in January 2019. In its response to the Citizens’ Assembly on Climate Change, the Council committed to numerous actions, documented in the 19th December 2019 Cabinet Paper.¹ Further commitments were made in the January 2021 response to Scrutiny Committee.² The Council’s “Net Zero Oxford Action Plan” published in March 2021 brought these - and some other environmental-related commitments - together in one document.³

¹ <https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/documents/s52089/Cabinet%20Report%20-%20Citizen%20Assembly%20Report%20-%20Dec%20Cab%20-%20121219%20v17%20CLEAN.pdf>

² <https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/documents/s59230/CERGFINALDRAFTv1002.pdf>

³ https://www.oxford.gov.uk/downloads/download/1221/zero_carbon_action_plan

2. Overall – significant progress has been made on delivery since the Citizens’ Assembly, despite the backdrop of the pandemic. Of the total 62 actions listed in the Council’s Net Zero Action Plan - 8 (13%) are complete, 26 (42%) are fully on track for completion, 14 (23%) are ongoing, and just 7 (11%) are at risk. In addition, it is proposed 7 will be removed, either because they are no longer relevant or have been consolidated into other actions. An updated version of the action plan will be reported to Cabinet later in 2022.
3. Of the actions that are at risk, the majority relate to the Council’s property portfolio, which - due the impacts of Covid19 – is operating in an extremely challenging commercial environment, delaying progress in this area. Other actions at risk include action 47 on cycle greenways, which has been delayed due Covid19 impacts (including on travelling behaviour) and action 50 on the zero waste festival - again due to Covid19 restrictions and impacts.
4. The Council’s Net Zero Oxford Action Plan included a commitment to update progress against targets on an annual basis. As part of this update, officers will review and overhaul the action plan to add new actions and remove actions that are no longer relevant. This will provide a document which is clearer and distinguishes between projects that are active and in the pipeline for development. The overhauled plan will refer to the more recently published citywide Action Plan and Roadmap to Net Zero, developed by the Carbon Trust and adopted by the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership (ZCOP) which provides a comprehensive and science-based plan to Net Zero.⁴ Progress reporting against carbon targets will be provided via the City Council’s annual Greenhouse Gas Report (for its own emissions) and the ZCOP (for city-wide emissions). The Council’s Scientific Advisor, Professor Nick Eyre, will be consulted during the review of the Action Plan.
5. The Council has made significant progress towards achieving its objective to achieve Net Zero across its estate and operations by 2030, including:
 - a. In January 2021, the Council successfully secured £10.9m grant funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) to decarbonise four of its leisure centres. Upon completion in March 2022, it is estimated that the PSDS programme will have reduced total emissions from the Council’s estate and operations by 21% in a single year. This will be on top of the 40% reduction in the Council’s carbon footprint already achieved over the past decade.
 - b. The Council has continued to support the installation of renewable energy, in particular via its significant investment in the Low Carbon Hub’s solar farm at Ray Valley, part of which will enable to Council to claim a high quality offset for the electricity demand across four of its leisure centres (Leys Pool & Leisure Centre, Barton Leisure Centre, Hinksey Outdoor Pool, Ferry Leisure Centre).

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<https://www.oxford.gov.uk/downloads/file/7678/zero-carbon-oxford-partnership-roadmap-and-action-plan-full-report>

- c. ODS was awarded PAS2030 installer accreditation in June 21 which enables them to deliver grant funded Green Deal and ECO installation work under PAS & TrustMark accreditation. Following on from the successful desk top UKAS audit in June, ODS has now completed onsite post work inspections, conducted by the British Assessment Bureau (BAB) who are the UKAS nominated accreditation body that ensures conformity to the requirements set out in PAS 2030:2019. In addition to this, ODS are progressing MCS accreditation which will permit them to directly deliver air source heat pump and solar PV renewable energy installations.
 - d. ODS operates the majority of the council's vehicle fleet and have committed to electrify 25% of their fleet by 2023 and are on track to achieve this.
6. Positive progress has been made towards the Council's objective to achieve Net Zero across the wider city by 2040, including:
- a. In February 2021, Oxford City Council hosted the Zero Carbon Oxford Summit, chaired by the Leader, which established the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership (ZCOP), the membership of which includes leaders from the city's universities, institutions, and large businesses. The ZCOP is currently chaired by the Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford, and has committed to support achieving Net Zero carbon emissions as a city by 2040, guided by the specially commissioned Roadmap to Net Zero, which outlines the actions required to achieve this goal. Delivery is underway, with eight task and finish "sprint groups" established, to accelerate emissions reduction across key areas identified in the Roadmap, including retrofitting residential buildings, active travel, skills, procurement and freight consolidation.
 - b. The council has completed its stock EPC base data and has determined a pilot programme of retrofit for properties using a combination of grant and base budget funding, with work in the pipeline (potentially supported by grant funding) to target void units. An engagement programme has been developed to improve uptake of measures.
 - c. The HRA strategic review has been completed with a budget envelope in place to support new supply purchase from OCHL – supporting OCHL's objectives including carbon reduction targets.
 - d. The Council remains committed to supporting skills and apprenticeships. Options are being explored with local training providers and through the work of "Sprint 6" of the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership.
 - e. Housing developments now being put through Planning to be developed by OCHL are all electric heating and meet 70% carbon emissions below 2013 Building Regulations. Some work broadly to Passivhaus fabric standards or, if more appropriate due to site constraints, to a slightly lower but still very good fabric and heat pump. Passivhaus is being explored at one development, and zero carbon for regulated energy across some developments in 2022.
 - f. As part of Project LEO, OCHL is working in partnership with the Low Carbon Hub to trial a new ground-breaking energy offer using electricity generated by the solar panels. The Solar Saver 'time of use' offer will offer cheaper

electricity at certain times, such as when the solar panels are generating power. The trial will start next summer, after an initial period of learning how people usually use electricity in their new homes.

- g. Technical Advice Notes (TANs) have been published on Sustainable Design and Construction and on Heritage and Climate Change, with a Supplementary Planning Document for the West End due in 2022.
- h. The Asset Management Plan (2021/ 2031) is in development and includes the goal for the operational portfolio to be carbon neutral by 2030 wherever possible.
- i. An EV strategy has been commissioned to guide decision making on infrastructure and support EV uptake across the city.
- j. The City Council is working in partnership to deliver numerous EV projects to further expand EV infrastructure in the city including the cable gully, Go Ultra Low Onstreet, and Energy SuperHub Oxford (ESO) projects – with ESO due to open to the public in 2022.
- k. Under the T-GULO project, six rapid EV charging bays are in place, ten more having been installed in November 2021. Once complete there will be ten units providing sufficient capacity to charge up to 800 vehicles a day (30 min charge).
- l. The Zero Emission Zone (ZEZ) Pilot will launch in February 2022, with a plan in place to launch the wider ZEZ in 2023.

Carbon and environmental considerations

7. Appendix 1 brings together Oxford City Council's actions to achieve city-wide Net Zero by 2040 and Net Zero across the Council's estate and operations by 2030. The actions draw on and support the following plans and strategies:
 - a. The 4th Carbon Management Plan 2021 – 2030
 - b. The Net Zero Oxford Action Plan
 - c. The Council Strategy 2020 – 2024.
 - d. Air Quality Action Plan 2021 – 2025.

Financial implications

1. Where actions have been completed or are on track to be delivered, the financial implications have been included in the Medium Term Financial Plan in terms of capital and revenue spend. Where this is not the case, any such additional financial implications over and above what has been included with the MTFP will be need to be considered and approved by Cabinet and Council before progressing.

Legal issues

1. There are no legal implications.

Level of risk

2. Good progress has been made across the Council's actions listed in the Net Zero Oxford Action Plan. During the update to the plan, officers will consider which actions are no longer relevant and if any actions should be added to the plan. This

will be done in consultation with the Council's Scientific Advisor, Professor Nick Eyre.

Equalities impact

3. The clear mandate from Oxford's citizens from the climate change assembly has included representatives from a broad cross-section of groups and ages across the city. No adverse impacts on any part of the community have been identified at this stage, however Oxford City Council will continue to consult with Legal Services to ensure all projects have due regard to the public sector equality duty. The Council will be mindful of communicating clear messages on the purpose of this programme of carbon emissions reduction.

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Appendix 1: Zero Carbon Action Plan – Update to Scrutiny Committee

Net Zero Council by 2030

<u>Action Number</u>	<u>Carbon reduction area</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Estimated completion date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Update and RAG</u>
					<p><u>Blue</u>: complete</p> <p><u>Red</u>: at risk</p> <p><u>Amber</u>: neutral</p> <p><u>Green</u>: on track</p> <p><u>Grey</u>: to be removed</p>
1.	Operations and buildings	Purchase renewable gas for all its sites and offset remaining emissions during 2021	December 2021	Scrutiny response 2021/ Carbon Management Plan	Oxford City Council has adopted advice from its Scientific Advisor and is prioritising emissions reduction and local “authority based insetting” over green gas

					purchase and offsetting. This is in line with emerging best practice on achieving Net Zero. Following a decision taken at December 2021 Cabinet, budget has been reallocated accordingly in a new “Net Zero Transition Fund”, which will follow a strict hierarchy to ensure it is used to fund additional carbon reduction measures in alignment with advice from the Scientific Advisor.
2.		Deliver the City Council’s 4 th Carbon Management Plan, which aims to achieve zero carbon by 2030	Ongoing	4 th Carbon Management Plan	Oxford City Council’s Decarbonisation Programme will contribute significantly to the Council’s 2030 zero carbon target, replacing gas boilers with heat pumps at 4 leisure

					centres, reducing carbon emissions from the council's operations as a whole by around 21%. Funding received via the Low Carbon Skills Fund will provide detailed heat decarbonisation plans of three Council buildings, providing the basis for potential future funding bids.
3.		Continue to support the installation of renewable energy in and around the city, particularly where this links to local energy balancing and retaining money within the local economy, through working with organisations such as the Low Carbon Hub	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	<p>The City Council has agreed to provide significant funding towards the development of Low Carbon Hub's first ever ground mount solar park at Ray Valley Solar, near Bicester.</p> <p>This will be the UK's largest community-owned solar park, generating enough</p>

					clean energy every year to power the equivalent of 6,000 homes.
4.	Fleet vehicles	Publish a plan outlining steps toward full decarbonisation of fleet vehicles, <i>including a feasibility study to assess opportunities for electrification and assessing opportunities for innovations such as more use of alternative fuels.</i>	March 2023	4 th Carbon Management Plan	<p>The due date has been amended (2022 to 2023) to correspond to the completion of the Council's pre-existing commitment to transition 25% of its fleet to EV by 2023.</p> <p>The action has been amended (see italics) to include a feasibility study as part of the development of this plan.</p>

5.		Undertake a feasibility study to assess opportunities for electrification, costings and opportunities for funding and delivery. Assign a fleet carbon reduction champion and delivery team to focus on rapid tackling of reduction of carbon emissions across entire Council fleet (including Oxford Direct Services vehicles).	Ongoing	4 th Carbon Management Plan	This will be removed and incorporated into action 4. NB: this is currently unfunded.
6.		Explore and implement innovations such as more use of alternative fuels	Ongoing	4 th Carbon Management Plan	This will be removed and incorporated into action 4. NB: this is currently unfunded.
7.	Procurement of goods, works or services to Oxford City Council	The Council will undertake soft market testing to see whether typical suppliers can meet or adapt to a requirement to measure the carbon cost of their activities, which the Council would include within its carbon reporting. This will be considered further at the next iteration of the procurement strategy.	September 2022	Scrutiny response 2021	This will form part of the contract management documents that the Council is currently updating.

8.	Internal communications and staff	Projects are ongoing to increase recycling of waste arising from the Council's own office accommodation and operations and eliminate waste to landfill.	March 2022	Cabinet Paper 2019	<p>Introduced new internal recycling bins to ODS Cowley Marsh as a trial. These have not yet been extended to any other Council buildings.</p> <p>This has been delayed due to lockdown and home working</p>
9.		The council will use the opportunity of the central government's removal of the £1000 Cycle to work cap to support staff in the purchasing of electric bikes through statements of support, internal awareness raising of the Cycle to Work scheme, and organising trial opportunities for electric bikes.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	<p>This will be removed.</p> <p>Many more staff are working at home, meaning this is lower priority.</p>

Net Zero City by 2040

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<u>Action Number</u>	<u>Carbon reduction area</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Estimated completion date</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Update and RAG</u>
					<p><u>Blue</u>: complete</p> <p><u>Red</u>: at risk</p> <p><u>Amber</u>: neutral</p> <p><u>Green</u>: on track</p> <p><u>Grey</u>: to be removed</p>
10.	Residential buildings (existing)	ODSL will continue to develop retrofit services as an area of expertise and is discussing opportunities with partners in the development of their supply chain. This has been included in the Draft Business Plan 2021/23 for ODS.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	ODS have attained preliminary PAS 2030 accreditation and are currently working towards full accreditation. ODS are working with OCC on a number of pilot properties on whole house retrofit works as case study

					examples for full certified accreditation.
11.		<p>The Council has established a target of 95% of its housing stock to be EPC level C or above by 2030. The Council agreed its 4 year MTFP which included a 7.2m investment programme to support this outcome.</p> <p>This includes developing a set of standard packages of work that can be undertaken simultaneously to ensure energy efficiency measures are also delivered at least inconvenience to the tenant.</p>	Ongoing	MTFP/ Scrutiny response 2021	<p>Stock EPC base data has been determined</p> <p>A pilot programme of retrofit measures to 240 properties is underway using LAD and base budget funding. A further £1.4m bid for SHDF to retrofit 125 void units has been made. External professional Services support has been procured to develop and deliver the work packages over the next 4 years, The draft 22/23 MTFP budget has been increased to £8m</p>
12.		The City Council is reviewing possible options to establish what improvements are required to the building fabric to its housing properties, so	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This will be removed – covered by action 11.

		they are zero carbon.			
13.		The Council will explore all avenues that could lever in additional funds for retrofits, including levying separate charges on residents in lieu of reduced energy bills.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	The maximisation of external funding is a priority. We have had a successful LAD bid and the decision re a bid to SHDF is awaited. The development of our forward programme of works will put us in a strong position to access further funds. We have researched the charge to tenants proposal and concluded it is not workable
14.		The Council is looking to review the business case as to the value of properties purchased by the HRA when whole life costing is considered which has the potential to help the viability of schemes built to the equivalent of a passivhaus standard.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	The HRA strategic review has been completed with the HRA BP having an overall budget envelope over the next 10 years for new supply purchase from OCHL with the purchase price mechanism being agreed to support the overall objectives of

					OCHL including support for carbon reduction targets
15.		The Council will monitor and develop a strategy to reduce the high refusal rate for energy efficiency improvements in Council-owned properties	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	A communications and engagement plan has been developed and funding agreed
16.		The Council will identify retrofitting champions amongst its own tenants and those in other accommodation who are willing to talk about their experiences of retrofitting to those interested in following suit.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This forms part of the engagement plan referred to at 15. We already have a network of ambassadors with further proposals to recruit more
17.		The Council is seeking to collaborate across public bodies who have made bids under the decarbonisation fund.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Research has been undertaken regarding other Housing provider pilot schemes and arrangements are in place to track and monitor best practice going forward
18.		The Council will ensure its tenants and purchasers of Council-built homes are	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This is part of our engagement plan but is yet to start at scale

		supported as much as possible to engage in low-carbon lifestyles, such as through welcome packs providing information and potentially discounts at local food coops, bike shops and bus passes. This will be pursued in consultation with tenant champions and ambassadors.			
19.		The Council will use its position to increase the number of local apprenticeships available in energy-efficient construction methods.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	The Council remains committed to developing apprenticeship opportunities in energy efficient construction methods and renewable energy. We are currently exploring what options are available through training providers.
20.		The Council will consider the use of carbon monitoring and reduction to estimate energy use from Council housing, rather than simply their	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This will be a part of our implementation plan on a sampling basis with results feeding into our

		communal areas.			engagement plan
21.	Private rented sector	<p>The Council will lobby government to raise energy efficiency standards in the private rented sector and to give Oxford City Council selective licensing to raise standards.</p> <p>The City Council will be proactive on enforcing Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES).</p>	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	<p>The Council responded to the government's consultation on raising the minimum EPC rating to C in the PRS which was launched in September 2020 and ended in January 2021.</p> <p>A bid for Selective Licensing of the PRS in Oxford has been worked up following consultation and cabinet approval and subject to legal advice will be submitted to MHCLG by the end of October 2021.</p> <p>F & G rated EPCs have continued to be used to identify PRS properties for inspection, however,</p>

					the impact of Covid meant that proactive enforcement had been limited until restrictions were removed in July. The restart of the HMO Licensing Scheme in June has also renewed attention on EPCs and compliance inspections are underway as are visits to assess the status of potentially unlicensed properties.
22.	Residential buildings (new build)	The Council will work with OCHL to further explore the appropriateness of developing KPIs/ targets to measure the rate of heat transfer through a structure (u-values) and the airtightness of the properties they develop to Passivhaus levels	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	OCHL has worked mostly to Uvalues of 0.15 external walls and 0.10/0.11 roof/ floors from its inception, and these are now set as a minimum requirement in our Employers' Requirements. We currently report final 'As built' carbon

					reduction figures from 2013 Building Regulations and are now adding heat transfer values to the reporting mechanism for Board/ Executive Management Team. This includes all U values and also the Air tightness. Where meeting close to Passive House this will be indicated
23.		<p>The Council has adopted an aspirational target that all private homes built through the Council's companies are electric-only and built with a 'fabric-first' Passivhaus approach, ensuring that, if not fitted initially, on-site renewable energy can be easily retrofitted at a later date.</p> <p>OCHL and HRA new builds are currently working to a</p>	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Developments now being developed by OCHL are all electric heating and meet 70% below 2013 Building Regulations. All meet a fabric far exceeding that required by Building Regulations. Some work broadly to Passive House fabric standards or, if more appropriate due to

		carbon reduction target of 70% below 2013 Building Regulations. Fabric standards already far exceed Building Regulations.			site constraints, some a slightly lower fabric and heat pump. Passive house being explored at one development
24.		OCHL is in the process of establishing a framework of MMC/ Off site manufacture suppliers to support the 'fabric first' approach	Summer 2021	Scrutiny response	Invitation to Tender documents went out and it has been awarded. 3 options – 40% below future Building Regulations, Passive House and Zero Carbon for all operational energy
25.	Planning	The Council will produce a Technical Advice Note (TAN) on Sustainable Design and Construction which will include advice and further guidance to support the Local Plan policy RE1. This is committed within the Local Development Scheme agreed by Cabinet in July 2020.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This has been published.
26.		The Council will seek to bring forward a Statutory Planning Document (SPD) for the West	Ongoing	Scrutiny response	Underway and key milestones met (early consultation in March

		End, which explore whether there is any specific advice on sustainable design and construction in this area that should be included.		2021	2021, consultants appointed, and stakeholder workshop in July).
27.		The Council is preparing a TAN looking at heritage and climate change – listed in Local Development Scheme (LDS) agreed by cabinet in July 2020.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This has been published
28.	Council owned community and commercial buildings	The Council has commissioned condition surveys for the whole commercial portfolio, and this will provide essential data with an indicative cost. This will result in a business case being presented for the necessary upgrades to the building fabric. The condition survey will inform and help us to develop a programme to work towards an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) 'B' rating where this is possible	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	The consultants providing the condition survey have been disengaged. A new brief is being prepared and appropriate requirements will be incorporated to capture potential improvements towards EPC B rating.
29.		For all new-build community building projects the Council will explore the costs and	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	Ongoing

		practicalities of delivering Net Zero energy schemes as part of the feasibility process			
30.		The City Council will rely on partnerships with other freehold landlords in the city and working with leaseholders – many of whom are on long leases - to create an environment where all are ready to take advantage of any grant or demonstration funding and to respond to any new legislation	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	A number of re-gears of long leases are planned which will allow these discussions to take place. There is insufficient capacity to engage with city wide landlords.
31.		The City Council will explore the principals of 'Green Leases' on all new lettings. We will also secure agency advice on new lettings in respect of sustainable energy and if we are able (without a loss of income), we will require tenants to use sustainable solutions.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Ongoing
32.		Where the Council is considering purchasing new buildings, these will be constructed to BREEAM standards	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	This has been implemented
33.		Where existing in-use	Ongoing	Cabinet	Ongoing

		buildings are being considered for purchase officers propose to look at cost-effective ways of improving the environmental performance of these assets		Paper 2019	
34.		The new Asset Management Plan (2021/2031) will provide the strategy for the environmental sustainability themes (which includes the goal for the operational portfolio to be carbon neutral by 2030 wherever possible) and provide an annual monitor for the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) April 2023, which will apply to all existing lettings not just new ones, together with its programme for achieving EPC Grade B, subject to business case	September 2021	Scrutiny response 2021	Ongoing
35.		We will consult with our commercial tenants to understand interest and appetite to ascertain their 'buy-in' to Zero Carbon and what measures they are undertaking in their businesses to add to this	March 2022	Scrutiny response 2021	Not an appropriate time to engage with tenants still concentrating on covid effects

		agenda.			
36.		We will provide 'welcome packs' for all new tenants signposting them to renewable energy sources.	June 2021	Scrutiny response 2021	To be completed end Jan 22
37.		We will obtain specialist commercial advice on future portfolio operating models and leasing approaches of commercial assets to inform whether additional costs could be passed onto tenants and/or use of Salix e.g., the City Council pays the bills or recharges our tenants in a service charge type arrangement. If this becomes possible additional internal resources would be required to administer this process.	March 2022	Scrutiny response 2021	No resource to progress currently and timing wrong for majority of our tenants. Suggest post pandemic rental issues calming down and market stabilised.
38.		Wherever possible OCC will look to encourage tenants wanting to make improvements to their properties to reflect Zero Carbon aims.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Ongoing. Tenant dependant but OCC happy to encourage.
39.		We will seek opportunities to ensure future proofing is included in advance of the 2023 date where we are	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	

		planning repairs and maintenance projects.			
40.		The City Council has contacted other authorities (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham and Cambridge with similar property portfolios) to ascertain how they are incorporating zero carbon aims. This best practice will be incorporated into future planning to reduce carbon	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	To be removed. No firm advice from other authorities. Once sustainability officer for GF in post will give resource and expertise.
41.		We will propose what basic standard of measurement is appropriate for new build and refurbishment projects in the Asset Management Plan (E.G. BREEAM / NABERS and the target level within that standard.)	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Likely to be BREEAM which is currently being used.
42.		The Council's internal business case for all major capital projects (>£500k) will consider and cost for zero carbon (shadow cost) to allow it to make informed investment decisions and to go beyond building regulations where possible	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Threshold return to be agreed.

		and where budget is available. To inform this process, we will establish an appropriate threshold / return for the additional costs.			
43.		OCC will actively review opportunities for carbon offsetting initiatives on its land assets e.g., tree planting, exploration of solar etc.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	Requires resource but offsetting should be limited to Council schemes.
44.		We will continue to explore various funding models, take expert advice, and ascertain where we will be able to utilise Salix funding for these improvements or such other government funding initiatives such as Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grant.	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	The City Council is actively exploring funding opportunities, having recently been successful in securing funding under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and the Low Carbon Skills fund.
45.	Transport	Introduce a pilot zero emission zone from 2021 in the city centre and a wider zone from spring 2022	June 2022	Cabinet Paper 2019	The Pilot will be introduced in February 2022.
46.		Continue to partner with Oxfordshire County Council on Connecting Oxford, which	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	An updated programme for Connecting Oxford

		includes proposals for a workplace parking levy, rapid bus transport and enhanced walking and cycling facilities			and the Zero Emission Zone is being prepared. Some elements of Connecting Oxford will be launch in 2023.
47.		Work with Oxfordshire County Council to develop the creation of cycle greenways into the city	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	<p>Paused since the start of Covid.</p> <p>The Council, Oxfordshire County Council and the University of Oxford has committed funds to develop a concept masterplan for active travel routes which can cater for the daily mass movement of people into the city. (Original decision notice from March 2020). The funding remains in place, awaiting prioritisation alongside both councils' revised transport work plans accounting for changes relating to</p>

					transport since March 2020.
48.		The Council will seek additional external funding to expand Oxford's electric vehicle charging capacity	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	<p>The City Council has commissioned an EV strategy to guide decision making on infrastructure and support EV uptake across the city.</p> <p>The City Council is working in partnership to deliver numerous EV projects to further expand EV infrastructure in the city including the cable gully, Go Ultra Low Onstreet, and Energy SuperHub Oxford projects.</p>
49.		All taxis licensed in Oxford will be zero emission capable by 2025 and, through our electric vehicle charging infrastructure and other	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	The Council's Try b4 you Buy scheme for Black Cab operators has restarted it again (following a pause

		support, we are incentivising the Black Cab fleet to be zero-emission capable			<p>during the pandemic). The purpose is to enable a 2-4 week chance to use an EV Taxi and break down the barriers to EV adoption. The trial is free of charge to users. Furthermore, the Council recently initiated (Aug 21) a £5K grant offer for the next 15 x EV black cab adopters.</p> <p>Under the T-GULO project, six rapid EV charging bays are in place, ten more being installed by November 2021. Once complete there will be ten units providing sufficient capacity to charge up to 800 vehicles a day (30 min charge). Currently part public use permitted.</p>
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50.	Waste and recycling	A zero-waste festival, trialled in 2019, will return in 2021 (coronavirus restrictions permitting).	September 2021	Cabinet Paper 2019	This event was cancelled this year and is rescheduled for next year – subject to covid situation.
51.		The City Council is helping resource a revitalised countywide Oxfordshire Waste and Resources Partnership to drive behaviour change around waste reduction and recycling.	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	The waste partnership manager is in post and regular meeting have now been established. Current joint projects include recycle week, analysing waste compositional analysis and joint correspondence on the Resource and Waste strategy. Oxford City Currently chairs the partnership
52.	Community action and engagement	As part of the Council's review of its grants programme it will consider assigning a portion of the small grants pot to a prospectus for voluntary and community responses to the	April 2022	Scrutiny response 2021	The report is currently being finalised.

		Climate Emergency.			
53.	Democratic discussion and engagement, and scientifically informed action	The Council will join, promote and support the website of Oxford Together on Climate Change	Ongoing	Scrutiny response 2021	This will be removed. NB: The Council provided support to the OTCC rally during COP26, but is focusing on working directly through ZCOP and a wider community-based campaign rather than through OTCC.
54.		The Cabinet member for Zero Carbon Oxford will be participating in a parish council meeting on the climate emergency in early 2021. A virtual event will be delivered in 2021 on local action.	Early 2021	Scrutiny response 2021	The Council participated in an event with parish councils on the Climate Emergency in early 2021. A further virtual event is yet to be arranged.
55.		The City Council will explore with others the opportunity to establish a retrofit summit, to bring together manufacturers, contractors, and designers in the domain of retrofitting.	December 2022	Cabinet Paper 2019/ Scrutiny response 2021	This event will take place in 2022, details to be confirmed.

		A proposal will be taken to the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership to suggest that it convenes a zero-carbon building summit			
56.		The Council's outreach and curriculum programme with Oxford schools will be expanded to cover broader climate change issues. We will develop our work in this policy area with the city's Local Education Authority, Oxfordshire County Council, as part of a shared effort to tackle climate issues.	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	This has been delayed by the pandemic. The Council plans to utilise channels we already have with schools, material produced by partners, and will commission modules – to raise awareness of children on climate change and local actions to address it.
57.		Produce a roadmap to Net Zero, to inform the work of the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership, which aims to achieve Net Zero emissions in Oxford by 2040. The roadmap will provide the evidence base for the ongoing work of the Partnership, as it establishes "sprint groups" to achieve emissions cuts through	DONE	N/A	The roadmap is complete and has been published. It provided the evidence base for the "sprint groups" which have been initiated by the Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership.

		collaborative action in key areas.			
58.	Governance and monitoring	The Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership will provide regular reporting against its interim targets to Net Zero.	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	An approach to reporting will be developed as a next step, following publication of the roadmap.
59.		The Council will extend consideration of carbon impacts to all areas of its activity and policy making by introducing Environment Impact Assessments into the Cabinet process.	Ongoing	Cabinet Paper 2019	An approach to EIA is currently being piloted across the Council.
60.	Biodiversity and offsetting	Develop and deliver a biodiversity strategy that takes a holistic approach to carbon reduction and biodiversity net gain	March 2022	Scrutiny response 2021/ Cabinet Paper 2019	The Council has recruited a new ecologist/biodiversity officer. A new action plan will be developed.
61.		Develop an offsetting policy that supports the delivery of the Council's commitment to biodiversity net gain	March 2022	Cabinet Paper 2019	On track with revised timetable.
62.		Publish an Urban Forest	March 2022	Cabinet	UFS going to Cabinet

		Strategy, which provides a strategic approach to tree planting in the city which supports our biodiversity and climate adaptation objectives		Paper 2019	in September 2021 with the intention of publication in October 21
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