

To: Cabinet
Date: 16 October 2024
Report of: Climate and Environment Panel
Title of Report: Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership (ZCOP) Expansion

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To present Panel of the Scrutiny Committee recommendations for Cabinet consideration and decision
Key decision:	No
Scrutiny Lead Member:	Councillor Emily Kerr, Panel Chair
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Anna Railton, Deputy Leader (Non-Statutory) and Cabinet Member for Zero Carbon Oxford
Corporate Priority:	Zero Carbon Oxford
Policy Framework:	Council Strategy 2024-28
Recommendation(s): That the Cabinet states whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations in the body of this report	

Appendices	
Appendix A	Draft Cabinet response to Scrutiny recommendations

Introduction and overview

1. The Climate and Environment Panel met on 10 September 2024 to consider a report on Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership (ZCOP) Expansion. The report set out the work of the ZCOP and ambition of its corporate members to expand focus from a City to an Oxfordshire scale.
2. The Panel would like to thank Councillor Anna Railton (Deputy Leader (Non-Statutory) and Cabinet Member for Zero Carbon Oxford) and Mish Tullar (Head of Corporate Strategy) for attending the meeting to answer questions.

Summary and recommendations

3. Mish Tullar, Head of Corporate Strategy introduced the report. The report set out the work of the ZCOP and ambition of its corporate members to expand focus from a City to an Oxfordshire scale.

4. The Panel asked a range of questions, including questions relating to the goals of other local authorities and members of ZCOP; ensuring that ZCOP membership had representation from the most significant carbon contributors in Oxfordshire; ZCOP membership of organisations outside of Oxfordshire; and ZCOP engagement levels in different sectors.
5. In particular, the Panel noted that there were organisations which were not located in Oxfordshire, but that had an operational footprint in Oxfordshire through supply chain or other means. Examples of this were identified as catering and cleaning businesses which were employed by the university colleges and/or private schools. The Panel was advised that some companies, such as the energy company SSEN, were already actively engaged in ZCOP despite not being directly located in Oxfordshire, however the Panel agreed to formalise its discussion as a recommendation.

Recommendation 1: That the Council works with the expanded ZCOP to explore the feasibility of there being a mechanism by which organisations that are not located in Oxfordshire, but that have an operational footprint in Oxfordshire, can engage with the ZCOP.

Report author	Alice Courtney
Job title	Scrutiny Officer
Service area or department	Law and Governance
Telephone	07483 010160
e-mail	acourtney@oxford.gov.uk