

To: Cabinet

Date: 9 April 2025

Report of: Climate and Environment Panel

Title of Report: Recommendations from the Climate and Environment Panel 27 March 2025

Introduction

1. The Climate and Environment Panel met on 27 March 2025 and reviewed the following items:
 - Energy Efficiency Update
 - Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update
 - Zero Carbon Industrial Decarbonisation Update
2. Following the meeting, Cabinet Members, in consultation with the relevant Officers were asked to either, agree, agree in-part, or disagree with the recommendations.
3. The tables below detail the Panel's recommendations for each report which Cabinet has considered ahead of their meeting on 9 April 2025. If no recommendations were suggested for an item, no table has been produced.
4. Cabinet has provided a commentary on each recommendation to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the rationale behind its decision.
5. The draft minutes of the meeting are available [here](#).
6. The Scrutiny Committee would like to thank Councillor Anna Railton, Cabinet Member for Zero Carbon Oxford, Vikki Robins, Environmental Sustainability Manager, Emily Green, Energy Efficiency Officer, Ruth Harris, Net Zero Transition Officer, Lucy Fairchild, Zero Carbon Community Engagement Officer and Samantha Morgan-Price, Zero Carbon Oxford Partnership Manager for their participation in presenting reports and responding to questions from its Members.

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Table 1 – Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Climate and Environment Panel – Energy Efficiency Update

The table below sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Climate and Environment Panel on 27 March 2025 concerning the Energy Efficiency Update. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) A brief assessment of the heat mapping exercise as part of the District Heating Network across the city of Oxford, and to confirm when the data would be available.	Yes	Heat Mapping is a key part of both the District Heat Network (DHN and Local Energy Area Planning (LAEP) projects. The mapping will assess current and future heat demand and supply, including where a district heat network could provide the lowest cost solution for decarbonised heat. This exercise should be completed during 2025.
2) Explore the properties in Oxford that have already installed air source heat pumps (i.e commercial properties, private landlords, private properties).	In Part	<u>Domestic Properties</u> The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) data shows Oxford currently has 309 ASHPs and EPC data shows 346 properties with an ASHP. Further work would need to be done to determine tenure type. <u>Commercial properties</u> Data on commercial property ASHPs installs is not currently collected. It may be possible to gain indicative figures from commercial EPCs. Local Energy Area Planning (LAEP) will provide an audit of the baseline data for commercial EPCs. It is likely that numbers of commercial ASHPs could be possible via this process and data can be reported back to the panel once completed.

Table 2 – Draft Cabinet response to recommendations of the Climate and Environment Panel – Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update

The table below sets out the draft response of the Cabinet Member to recommendations made by the Climate and Environment Panel on 27 March 2025 concerning the Carbon Offsetting (Local Carbon Oxford) Update. The Cabinet is asked to amend and agree a formal response as appropriate.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Agree?</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1) Update for Local Carbon Oxford project to be provided for the Panel at a later date.	Yes	An update can be provided to the panel when the Innovate UK grant funding support for the project ends in June 2025.

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