



Coventry City Council

# Briefing note

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**To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee**

**Date: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

**Subject: Draft Climate Change Strategy**

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## **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To present the City Council's Draft Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030 with an outline of the consultation and engagement process and to seek views and comments from the Scrutiny Board.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to provide views and comments concerning the:
  - a) areas of activity recommended in the Draft Climate Change Strategy;
  - b) the opportunities and approaches for engaging with stakeholders and the public.

## **3 Background and Information**

- 3.1 Coventry City Council has developed a draft 'Climate Change Strategy' and a seven page summary document (see Appendix 1a and 1b to the report). The Strategy sets out a vision for the City Council to work in partnership with others addressing sustainability and climate change issues from 2023 until 2030 for the City as a whole. In total there are 147 Areas of activity which have been identified, each comprising of one or more activities or projects.
- 3.2 Addressing sustainability & climate change is one of the key objectives of the One Coventry Plan and follows a series of public engagement events for that Plan where public support was expressed for addressing sustainability and climate change issues.
- 3.3 As a founding signatory to the 'Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy' this Strategy will help the City to work towards the delivery of the target of 65% reduction in Greenhouse gas emissions (to 1990 levels) by 2030 with the Government's 100 % target for achieving Net Zero by 2050 (at 1990 levels) as laid down in the 'Climate Change Act' (2008)
- 3.4 It is proposed to carry out a public engagement exercise on the draft Climate Change Strategy with a series of face to face and virtual meetings and events aimed at the public and stakeholder groups from February to April, with a view to bringing a report before Members to adopt a final version before the end of July 2023.

- 3.5 The draft Strategy has adopted the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (I.C.L.E.I) five pathways framework for addressing sustainability & climate change
- Low emissions – reducing carbon emissions
  - Circular economy – reducing waste and responding to opportunities for growth
  - Nature based – enhancing biodiversity
  - Adaptation & resilience – minimizing the risks and impacts of climate change
  - Equitable person centred – addressing health inequalities & quality of life issues
- 3.6 This approach has also been adopted by the City's Independent Climate Change Board which has set up Pathway Groups for each of the above. The Board have assigned overall responsibility for addressing behaviour change to its Equitable Person Centred Pathway Group where there is the closest connectivity to the communities we serve.
- 3.7 The Strategy will be fundamentally important to the City Council in its leadership role. Raising the knowledge and awareness of potential partner organisations and inspiring them to develop collaborative ventures with the City Council will be vital in addressing the issues to hand and in working with the City Council in changing public attitudes and behaviours towards activities and lifestyles that are respectful of the environment and reducing the impacts of climate change.
- 3.8 The partner organisations will need to co-operate in order to successfully deliver the strategy and to ensure that appropriate measures are in place to monitor performance, including measuring the reduction in carbon emissions arising from changes to residents' travel habits.

#### **4 Health Inequalities Impact**

- 4.1 Whilst there is not a specific EIA of the Strategy, addressing inequalities is one of the fundamental principles covered by a number of the 17 UN Development Goals covered by the 5 Development Pathways. A significant portion of the Strategy therefore has a direct impact upon addressing inequalities across the City and targets actions specifically to disadvantaged groups including training, skills, addressing health inequalities, food and fuel poverty, accessibility issues etc.
- 4.2 The officers planning the engagement process are also placing a great deal of emphasis on focusing on the engagement of under-represented groups and minorities and ensuring there are systems in place for monitoring their participation and engagement during the engagement period.
- 4.3 The Sustainability Team have also helped to inform the City's Marmot Action Plan and there is a close relationship between actions within this Strategy and the Marmot Plan with a strong emphasis on addressing the wider determinants of health which are key to health inequalities.

Bret Willers  
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