



<b>Review Group Overview &amp; Scrutiny (O&amp;S) Committee Member Lead</b>	Councillor Grace Conway-Murray
<b>Membership</b>	Councillor Grace Conway-Murray – Chair Councillor John Broad – Vice Chair Councillor Barry Wood Councillor Rebecca Biegel Councillor Isabel Creed Councillor Les Sibley
<b>Executive Portfolio Holder</b>	Councillor Tom Becket - Portfolio Holder for Cleaner and Greener Communities.
<b>Departmental Officer Support</b>	Emma Faulkner, Democratic and Elections Officer Jo Miskin, Climate Action Manager Ian Boll, Corporate Director Communities Ed Potter, Assistant Director Environmental Services
<b>Objectives</b>	<p><i>Aim</i></p> <p>To review the development and implementation of the Council's Climate Action Strategies and consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i). how Cherwell District Council is reducing its own carbon emissions and</li><li>ii). how the Council can support the reduction of carbon emissions throughout the District.</li></ul> <p><i>Objectives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Examine the work of Cherwell District Council (the Environmental Services, Climate Team and other departments) in pursuit of the corporate net zero targets.</li><li>2. Monitor progress on reducing Cherwell District Council greenhouse gas emissions.</li><li>3. Monitor progress of reducing the district's greenhouse gas emissions.</li><li>4. Provide guidance on the strategic direction of CDC's climate action.</li></ul>
<b>Background</b>	At Full Council in July 2019 a motion was adopted which declared a climate emergency in Cherwell and pledged to make Cherwell District Council carbon net zero by 2030.

	<p>Work has been underway towards the net zero target, and through the award of £6m funding via the public sector decarbonisation scheme, air source heat pumps, a solar heat array and photo voltaic car ports have been installed in council buildings.</p> <p>Initially the group focussed on how the council should adopt the principles of Bioregional's One Planet Living and recommended to Executive that the OPL principles be adopted. Work is still required to identify which principles should be fully incorporated into council policy.</p> <p>During 2023, a Climate Action Plan was produced under the guidance of this group and the implementation of the plan will become a focus of this group.</p>
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>Since the climate emergency declaration work started towards the carbon net zero target, initially, there was not a unified update to Members on progress of the work. The endorsement of the OPL framework was an opportunity to restart conversations on climate activities taking place across the council, whilst providing officers with additional resource to work through the detail of the framework and what can realistically be incorporated into policy. This was developed further by the production of the Climate Action Plan.</p>
<b>Indicators of Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear action plan for the incorporation of OPL principles in council policy</li> <li>• Ongoing progress towards the 2030 net carbon target regularly reported to Members (format to be determined during the review)</li> <li>• Updates on progress made on completing elements of the Climate Action Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Out of Scope</b>	<p>Although the OPL principles will impact on the ongoing Local Plan work, detailed Local Plan work will be picked up by the relevant Member and officer working groups. This working group will focus on understanding current and future climate activity work.</p>
<b>Method / Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions with Bioregional to understand the details and potential complexities of the OPL principles.</li> <li>• Discussions with relevant CDC officers to understand how OPL principles can be aligned with existing and developing council policy, and how they may form the basis of future strategic priorities and delivery themes.</li> <li>• Individual working group members will be expected to carry out research on agreed areas between meetings</li> <li>• Virtual meetings and MS Teams to be primary method of meeting, as this offers more flexibility to all working group members.</li> <li>• Updates on progress to be provided to formal O&amp;S committee meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>Guest speakers / Witnesses / Experts</b>	<p>Councillor Tom Becket - Executive Portfolio Holder for Cleaner and Greener Communities.</p> <p>Bioregional - <a href="https://www.bioregional.com/">https://www.bioregional.com/</a></p> <p>Scottish &amp; Southern Electricity Network (SSEN)</p>

<b>Evidence required and documents</b>	One Planet Living Framework <a href="#">Climate Action Plan 2023 – 2024</a>		
<b>Site Visits</b>	None anticipated.		
<b>Risks</b>	Budget implications of adopting OPL principles <a href="#">Budget implications of implementing Climate Action Plan</a> Availability of councillors and officers to progress the work.		
<b>Projected Start Date</b>	25 October 2024	<b>Draft Report Deadline</b>	TBC
<b>Meeting Frequency</b>	4 times a year.	<b>Projected Completion Date</b>	April 2025.

Approved by Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: **26 November 2024**

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