

7. APPROVAL OF THE AUTHORITY'S CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN 2 (MF)

1. Purpose of the report

This report seeks Members approval for the Authority's Carbon Management Plan 2.

Key Issues

1. The 2008 Climate Change Act set a national target to reduce greenhouse gases by 100% by 2050. The National Park Management Plan 2018-23 and our Corporate Strategy 2019-24 have actions to assist in meeting this including the development of our Carbon Management Plan 2.
2. Our first Carbon Management Plan achieved a 29% reduction in carbon at the end of the 2017/18 period against the 2009/10 baseline.
3. Better data and changes to best practice for reporting emissions have meant that we have 'rebased' our 2017/18 data to give an emissions total of 723 tonnes Carbon dioxide equivalent.
4. Significant further progress has been made to reduce emissions with a 129 tonne reduction in emissions over the 2018/19 and 2019/20 reporting periods.
5. Since it has been established, the Member led Climate Change Task Group have been involved in development of the plan.
6. Carbon Management Plan 2 covers the period 2020 to 2050 and has a vision to be a net zero carbon Authority no later than 2050.
7. The delivery plan has been aligned with the current Corporate Strategy period, with projects to 2024.
8. The scope of Carbon Management Plan 2 covers emissions from activities over which the Authority has operational control.

2. Recommendations

1. **That Members approve the Authority's Carbon Management Plan 2 at Appendix 1 to this report.**

3. How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?

As an Authority, we are obliged to adhere to the 2008 Climate Change Act. This set a nationwide goal of reducing greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050 (compared to 1990 levels). In 2019, the goal was updated to a 100% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2050. The Act and Circular are reflected in the Authority's plans and policies.

The National Park Management Plan 2018-23 has an Area of Impact of 'Preparing for the future climate'. The delivery plan action for this Area of Impact is to undertake a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment on the top 25% of the National Park features. However, as climate change is a cross cutting area, other Areas of Impact contribute to reducing climate change, so other delivery plan actions are relevant too.

The Peak District National Park Authority Corporate Strategy 2019-24, has ten key performance indicators (KPIs) that are relevant to climate change, and these are across all strategy outcomes. The relevant indicators are as follows.

KPI 1: Influence the development of a support system that properly rewards farmers and land managers for delivering a full range of public benefits.

KPI 2: Natural beauty conserved and enhanced.

KPI 3: Increase the amount of carbon captured and stored as part of routine land use and management.

KPI 4: Area of moorland blanket bog moving towards favourable condition.

KPI 5: Sustain the area of non-protected, species-rich grassland through retention, enhancement and creation.

KPI 6: Area of new native woodland created.

KPI 18: Number of Peak District National Park Authority interventions facilitating community development.

KPI 19: Number of individuals and groups actively using Peak District National Park Authority digital channels for community development.

KPI 20: Number of residents involved in community life as a result of Peak District National Park Authority grants.

KPI 26: To have a corporate Asset Management Plan.

Carbon Management Plan 2 will also assist in delivering the environmental elements of the Authority's Corporate Asset Management Plan that was approved in February 2020.

Carbon Management Plan 2 will assist in delivering our obligations and policies.

4. Background

In 2010, the Authority created a Carbon Management Plan which set a target to reduce the Authority's carbon footprint by 30% (from 2009/10 levels) by 2015. This programme of work is complete and the Authority has achieved a 29% reduction at the end of the 2017/18 period against the 2009/10 baseline. The reductions were made across electricity, fleet vehicles, water use, energy use, waste disposal and business travel. A summary of the key achievements making up the overall reduction is below.

- Emissions resulting from energy use within buildings have reduced by 24% overall with the most significant reduction being at Aldern House which has achieved a reduction of over 50%.
- Transport related emissions have reduced by 37% which includes over 40% reductions in fleet emissions (pool cars, field vehicles and grey fleet).
- Housing emissions have reduced by 23% and emissions from further sources (water and waste) have reduced by 78% over the lifetime of the Plan.
- It is estimated that emissions reductions measures have achieved actual savings of approximately £149,000 per annum to date against the business as usual cost scenario

Better data and changes to best practice for reporting emissions have meant that we have 'rebased' our 2017/18 data to give a total of 723 tonnes CO₂ e (carbon dioxide equivalent emissions). This rebasing has meant that our reduction against the baseline appears to be slightly less at 24% reduction (it is probably the case that if the data and methodology was available when we established the baseline in the first place, the baseline would also be higher and therefore our 29% reduction would stand). However, our focus is now not on looking back on what we have achieved but forward to what we have to do to achieve zero emissions.

We have now gathered all data for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 years, the results are presented below:

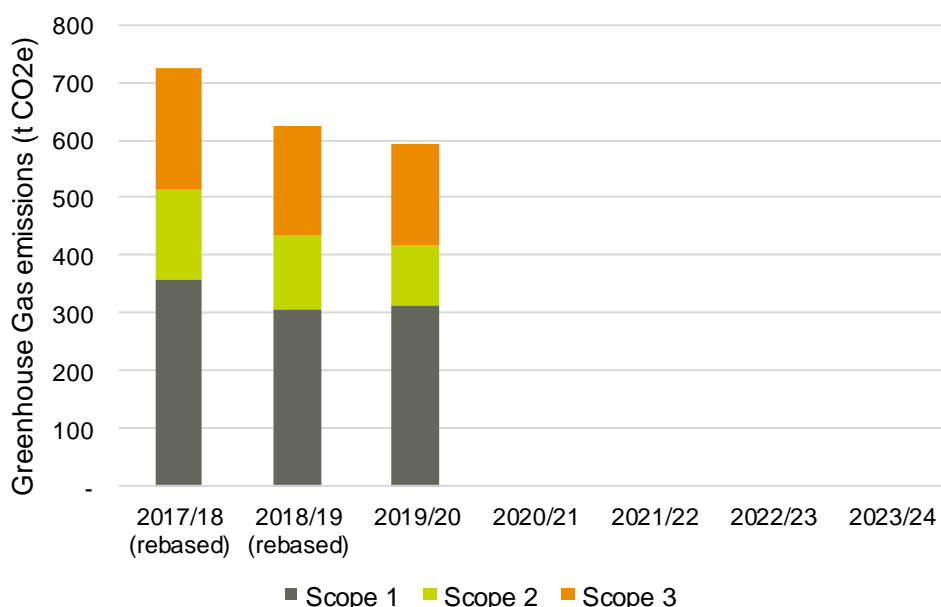
| | Total CO2 equivalent emissions (tonnes) | Reduction from baseline | Annual achievement |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2017/18 (rebased) | 723.08 | -24% | 0 |
| 2018/19 | 623.66 | -34% | -11% |
| 2019/20 | 594.05 | -37% | -3% |

As can be seen, we have achieved a significant further reduction over the course of the last 2 years, we now release a total of 129 tonnes less carbon dioxide equivalent emissions than we did in the 2017/18 period. This has been achieved through the following:

- Significant reductions (59 tonnes) in emissions from electricity usage at our properties. This is partly down to reductions in electricity consumption but also due to significant reductions in emissions from electricity generation through the transition to lower carbon energy.
- Significant reductions in emissions (23 tonnes) due to waste disposal through changes to the way waste is managed and disposed of.
- A reduction in business travel emissions (13 tonnes). This is made up of a significant reduction in fleet emissions (25 tonnes) which is at least in part down to changes to how the fleet vehicles are managed (not being taken home, pooled use etc) which may also be responsible for increases (12 tonnes) in emissions from grey fleet (private mileage).
- Reductions in emissions (43 tonnes) from tenanted properties largely due to reductions in emissions factors from oil fuel use and electricity generation and the conversion of one property to a renewable heating system from solid fuel.
- There has also been small increases in gas use emissions (8 tonnes) perhaps down to variations in winter temperatures and a small increase in biomass emissions as a result of a new installation at Millers Dale Station and greater use at other sites.

A summary of the performance over the preceding 3 years is shown below:

CMP2 progress



A full performance report will be produced summarising achievements for the 2020/21 year onwards but as the focus of this report is looking forwards, the reporting element is intentionally brief.

As the Authority's current Carbon Management Plan has ended, to continue our commitment to reduce the environmental impact of our business activities, we have developed Carbon Management Plan 2. In January 2019, the brief for the work was circulated to Members for comment in advance of undertaking a tender process to select an external consultant to undertake the work. Subsequently, we commissioned Green Arch Consulting to support us to develop our new plan.

We have kept Members updated with progress in developing the plan. In September 2019, we updated the Members Forum on the development of Carbon Management Plan 2. The background to and principles of Carbon Management Plan 2 were discussed with the Member Climate Change Task Group at its inaugural meeting in January 2020. Subsequently, a draft of the plan was shared with the group at its March 2020 meeting. Most recently, we shared a final draft of the plan with the group last month so they could see how their comments had been incorporated and for final comment.

5. Proposals

We have developed Carbon Management Plan 2 to cover the period 2020 to 2050, which is the latest possible date for the Authority to meet the national target of carbon zero. We aspire to achieve net zero before that point if possible. We are aware that some organisations have set themselves an earlier target - often between the years 2030 and 2040. Many of these organisations are using carbon off setting to achieve the earlier target, and for some it is not clear how they will achieve their earlier target.

We have responded to Member feedback that we need to be ambitious and carbon neutral sooner than 2050 by developing a vision to be a net zero carbon Authority no later than 2050. As discussed with the Member Climate Change Task Group, we are not using carbon off setting as a means of achieving the target. In order to achieve the target sooner, it would require more resource to deliver the projects needed, especially as we have already delivered many of the larger carbon savings in our first Carbon Management Plan.

Carbon Management Plan 2 follows best practice, and is broad and strategic, focussing on principles rather than operational. It addresses ways of working and provides a useful steer on future approaches. While the previous Carbon Management Plan was a useful tool in achieving significant improvements, recognising specific projects at the start of a 5 year period is not practicable and a more flexible approach is needed that allows the Authority to respond to opportunities as they arise. Therefore, the plan will remain in place until 2050, or when we become carbon zero, but the delivery plan has been aligned with the current Corporate Strategy period, with projects to 2024. The delivery plan will be updated and aligned with the next Corporate Strategy at an appropriate time.

The scope of Carbon Management Plan 2 covers emissions from activities over which the Authority has operational control: including energy and fuel used by the Authority and within its property portfolio, as well as the operational emissions from transport, waste and water. The scope of a carbon footprint is often defined according to the level of control that the organisation has over its emissions and are categorised as Scope 1, 2 or 3. Scope 1 and 2 cover direct emissions from operations and include the use of fuels and electricity. Scope 3 includes emissions arising from sources such as waste, water and commuting and are generally emissions over which we have no direct control. We have chosen to

include scope 3 emissions relating to waste, water and tenanted properties and grey fleet travel (i.e. staff business travel in private vehicles).

6. Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

Financial: Carbon Management Plan 2 isn't seeking funding for the projects in the delivery plan. It is intended that, as necessary, individual projects will gain funding for implementation at an appropriate time via the usual mechanisms, business cases etc. For instance, moving our pool cars and fleet vehicles to electric is a project in the delivery plan, and RMM have already given approval for the funding for this.

Risk Management: Approving Carbon Management Plan 2 will provide the Authority with a clear plan of how to meet the national target to be carbon zero by 2050. It also outlines clear performance management to ensure that we are delivering the projects.

Sustainability: The Carbon Management Plan 2 will improve the environmental credentials of the Authority.

Climate Change

- 1) How does this decision contribute to the Authority's role in climate change set out in the UK Government Vision and Circular for National Parks?
 - a) Educators in climate change
The Carbon Management Plan and the actions arising from it will form part of the Authority's efforts to communicate how significant greenhouse gas reductions can be achieved whilst not adversely affecting the special qualities of the National Park
 - b) Exemplars of sustainability
The Carbon Management Plan will enable the best practice implemented by the Authority to be communicated more widely.
 - c) Protecting the National Park
Through reducing carbon emissions and encouraging others to do the same, the Plan will contribute to the protection of the National Park asset.
 - d) Leading the way in sustainable land management
Once the land management aspects of the Authority's emissions are added to the scope, the Authority will be able to communicate its actions and promote similar actions from others.
 - e) Exemplars in renewable energy
Renewable energy will form part of the Authority's response to achieving zero carbon.
 - f) Working with communities
Case studies will be produced that will be used to communicate and promote the adoption of similar measures by others.
- 2) How does this decision contribute to the Authority meeting its carbon net zero target?
The plan is central to achieving the net zero target.
- 3) How does this decision contribute to the National Park meeting carbon net zero by 2050?
While the scope of the plan is limited to the emissions from the Authority's operations rather than the park wide emissions, it can be used as an example to others and to inform future Authority policy on issues surrounding climate change.
- 4) Are there any other Climate Change related issues that are relevant to this decision

that should be brought to the attention of Members?
No further issues

7. Background papers (not previously published)

None

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Carbon Management Plan 2

Report Author

Matt Freestone, Corporate Property Manager, 9 July 2020