

## **9. CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT 2020/21 (A595 / MF)**

### **1. Purpose of the report**

This report details the environmental performance data for the 2021/22 financial year (the 'reporting period') and progress towards the Authority's goal of becoming zero carbon by 2050. The data relates to the greenhouse gas emissions arising from the Authority's operations and reflects the scope and methodology of reporting as established in the Authority's [Carbon Management Plan 2 \(CMP2\)](#).

#### **Key Issues**

The report attached at Appendix 1 gives a comprehensive breakdown of the Authority's performance over the period.

At the end of the reporting period, the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions resulting from Authority operations have decreased by 56% against baseline, leaving a further 471 T Co<sub>2</sub>e to eliminate before our goal of achieving zero carbon can be achieved.

Data on the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions and stored carbon associated with the Authority's land is reported for the first time and indicate significant emissions, particularly from some tenancies on the Warslow Moors Estate. A fuller report will be made available soon.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 1. That the environmental performance data detailed in Appendix 1 be considered and adopted as the detail supporting the position on the Authority's operational environmental performance over the 2020/21 reporting period.**
- 2. That the data on emissions, sequestration and stored carbon resulting from the Authority's land is noted.**

#### **How does this contribute to our policies and legal obligations?**

3. Reporting on environmental performance is either an implicit requirement of the below objectives or is essential to monitor progress and achieve further improvements.
  - a) Corporate Strategy, KPI 23: To have a corporate Asset Management Plan (CMP2 is a 'Strategic Intervention')
  - b) National Parks Group Indicator CD3: % change in greenhouse gas emissions from National Park Authority operations
  - c) National Park Management Plan links: Area of Impact 1: Preparing for a future climate, and intention 1.1 Reduce the effects of climate change on the special qualities

#### **Background Information**

4. CMP2 established a commitment to report annually on our progress towards becoming zero carbon and this report forms the first year of this process. This builds on previous annual reports (which have been undertaken since 2007/08) but the format of the report at Appendix 1 was amended for the 2020/21 reporting period to reflect the format of

CMP2.

## Proposals

5. The report attached at Appendix 1 gives a comprehensive breakdown of the Authority's performance over the period. The key trends are as follows:

- At the end of the 2020/21 reporting period, the carbon emissions resulting from Authority operations have decreased by 56% compared with the 2009/10 baseline and by 6% during the reporting period.
- The greatest reductions in emissions resulted from reductions in heating gas emissions across our operational properties within the reporting period.
- The report recognises a number of key areas for future action if we are to achieve zero carbon. They are:

Scope 1 emissions arising from fleet travel

Scope 1 emissions arising from tenanted properties (agricultural and residential)

Scope 3 emissions arising from business travel in private cars and on public transport

- The report also recognises some areas where, with current technology and procedures, some residual emissions will be unavoidable and this is acceptable in the internationally adopted definition of net zero.

The report also summarises data concerning the emissions, sequestration and stored carbon associated with the Authority's land holdings. This is a complex picture but reflects the challenges of managing large areas of land within existing restrictions. In summary, the key points of note are:

- Woodlands and the North Lees tenancy are the largest sequesters of carbon.
- Some tenancies on the Warslow Moors estate are the largest emitters of carbon reflecting existing tenancies and farming practices.
- The land owned by the Authority stores nearly 2,000,000 tonnes of carbon and our land management practices ensure that it continues to be stored rather than released.

It is also important to note that the land based emissions are based on the current best available data and the nuances of land managed for conservation are not necessarily reflected in the data. This will continue to be reviewed and the data updated as and when better, more robust data emerges.

## Are there any corporate implications members should be concerned about?

### Financial:

6. Reductions in carbon emissions also often have financial benefits but as recognised within the report at Appendix 1, as we look to address the more difficult sources of emissions, the cost benefit will decrease and in some cases may be negative. The long term financial impact of achieving zero carbon will be covered within the Asset Management planning process and Capital Strategy as we move forward. This process was established within CMP2 and is covered in more detail there.

**Risk Management:**

7. There is a risk that the target of achieving zero carbon will not be met within the agreed timescales. This risk is best managed by careful and regular monitoring of progress and target setting. This report forms an important part of that process and will continue to do so into the future.

**Sustainability:**

8. Sustainability is implicit within the subject of this report and is adequately covered elsewhere.

**Equality:**

9. No implications

**10. 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 and Exemplars of sustainability  
Monitoring progress towards zero carbon is a key step in educating others in the actions required for others to do the same within a National Park setting.
  - b. Protecting the National Park
  - c. Leading the way in sustainable land management  
As described within the report, the impact of land management practices on achieving zero carbon is an area in which work is currently progressing and will form an important part of our efforts to become net zero carbon.
  - d. Exemplars in renewable energy  
Renewable energy forms an important element of our work to become zero carbon and provides excellent case study information for how this can be achieved while protecting the special characteristics of the National Park.
  - e. Working with communities  
As described above, the work to become net zero carbon presents opportunities for working with our communities in support of their efforts to achieve the same objective.
2. How does this decision contribute to the Authority meeting its carbon net zero target?  
Achieving net zero is central to this report.
3. Are there any other Climate Change related issues that are relevant to this decision that should be brought to the attention of Members?  
None.

**11. Background papers (not previously published)**

None

**12. Appendices**

Appendix 1 - PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

## CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT 2021/22

### **Report Author, Job Title and Publication Date**

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