

SUPPORT FOR UK100 and ADEPT Environmental Initiatives

Summary: The NZSAP board recommends that the council joins the UK100 network to share knowledge and collaborate on environmental issues. This requires a change to the wording of the environmental charter to reinforce our commitment to the wider district to assist decarbonisation.

: In addition, the board recommends supporting the ADEPT Blueprint to accelerate climate action and green recovery at the local level by the portfolio holder for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Environment signing an online petition.

The change in wording to the environmental charter requires Cabinet approval and a formal record of support for these initiatives by Cabinet is sought.

Recommendations:

For cabinet to support:

- **Making the suggested changes to the Environmental Charter**
- **Joining the UK100 network**
- **The portfolio holder for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Environment in signing the online form showing support for ADEPT a Blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level.**

Reasons for

Recommendations:

To access assistance from and show support for initiatives to help the Council meet its Net Zero targets.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AS REQUIRED BY LAW

(Papers relied on to write the report, which do not contain exempt information and which are not published elsewhere)

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Cabinet Member(s) Cllr Nigel Lloyd	Ward(s) affected All
Contact Officer: Kate Rawlings kate.rawlings@north-norfolk.gov.uk	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Following the Council's declaration of a climate emergency, the net Zero Strategy and Action Plan (NZSAP) board and officers in the Climate and Environment Team continue to explore and research methods of best practice to inform projects and workstreams to meet the targets set in the NZSAP Strategy.
- 1.2 By supporting the two initiatives detailed below officer will have access to an increased range of resources to aid projects delivered through the district as well as influencing wider work by joining with others with similar goals.

2. Joining UK 100

- 2.1 UK100 is a network of highly ambitious local government organisations, which seeks to devise and implement plans for the transition to clean energy that are ambitious, cost effective and take the public and business with them. It supports decision-makers in UK towns, cities and counties in their transition to Net Zero. It is the only network for UK local leaders focused solely on climate, clean energy and clean air policy. To accelerate the transition to this Net Zero society, UK100 brings together local authorities across the country to share knowledge, collaborate, and petition the UK government with their collective power. They are working together to create flourishing communities - seizing the opportunities of technology to create jobs and establishing a nationwide project of renewal, focussed on local needs and ambitions. UK100 is a private company, limited by guarantee, without share capital.
- 2.2 The portfolio holder for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Environment and officers would like to join the UK 100 organisation to have access to knowledge and expertise from like-minded councils and industry experts. Our declaration of a climate emergency and Net Zero Strategy and Action Plan mean that we already meet most of the criteria for membership.
- 2.3 The final point is a commitment to the wider community to help reduce the district's carbon footprint, which can be achieved by the change in wording proposed to the environmental charter below.

CHAPTER TWO of the climate change emergency across the District
NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL | Environmental Charter |
(proposed changes in red text)

To meet the challenges of a climate change emergency we are going to need to be outward-looking. Beyond the actions that we take to achieve net-zero carbon emissions across our own estate and operations we will **do our part to** work alongside residents, businesses, schools and community groups to influence positive change and to help reduce **the districts carbon footprints to net zero by 2045.**

3. Support for ADEPT a Blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at local level

- 3.1 ADEPT is part of a coalition of local government, environmental, and research organisations that published a [Blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level](#) in January 2021. This set out the national leadership, policies, powers and funding needed to empower local authorities to deliver at scale, working together with

communities and businesses. In developing the blueprint, they have drawn extensively on the direct experience of many local authorities that have declared a climate emergency and developed local strategies. They sent the report to the Government and senior officials and started a campaign to build support. An [updated summary document](#) was published in July 2022.

3.2 Cllr Lloyd proposes to show support for this initiative to secure more powers and resources for councils to take action on climate change and nature restoration, and to build back better from Covid-19. This will take the form of signing an online form to show support for the following five priority recommendations to government in his position as portfolio holder for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Environment.

- Invest in low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure including public transport, renewable energy and electric vehicle charging
- Support reskilling, retraining and research to accelerate the move to a net-zero economy
- Upgrade our homes to ensure they are fit for the future
- Make it easy for people to walk, cycle, and work remotely
- Accelerate tree planting, peatland restoration, green spaces and other green infrastructure

4. Conclusion

5. The portfolio holder for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Environment and officers would like to join the UK 100 organisation to have access to knowledge and expertise from like-minded councils and industry experts.

The portfolio holder for Environmental Services, Climate Change and Environment and officers would like to support the ADEPT blueprint to enhance the collective voice of like-minded organisations in gaining sufficient resources from central government to achieve these wider net zero ambitions.

6. Implications and Risks

The Environmental Charter already commits us to a community leader role in helping the district to decarbonise. In addition, the County Council has already joined the UK100 and so have pledged to assist the county to decarbonise.

The pledges are not legally binding.

7. Financial Implications and Risks

There is no direct additional cost to the Council in supporting either of these initiatives. Each NZSAP project has its own budget.

8. Impact on Climate Change

This proposal will open the Council to new resources to help tackle climate change

9. Sustainability

There is no ongoing cost to supporting these initiatives.

10. Equality and Diversity

There are no equality or diversity issues to be considered in this report.

11. Section 17 Crime and Disorder considerations

There are no equality or diversity issues to be considered in this report.