

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

December 2024

COUNCILLOR ADAM VARLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND NET ZERO

For the period November to December 2024

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Victory swim and fitness Centre

Work has completed on the Victory Leisure Centre solar array. The project was managed by the Council, following the success of its application for a grant covering 100% of the costs from Sport England. This project will reduce running costs by providing on-site renewable energy; the array should provide a third of the centre's electricity requirements.



PSDF applications

The Council has submitted two applications for grant funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. These are for partial funding of a Cromer Council Office decarbonisation project, and for retrofit measures to improve the energy efficiency and Carbon emissions from the existing Fakenham Sports Centre, which is not funded by the Levelling Up grant for the proposed new facility.

Community carbon awareness training

As part of the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership, NNDC's climate team have developed and trialled an "Introduction to Climate Awareness" session suitable for residents, parish councils, community and voluntary groups which can be provided across the district. The pilot was hosted in Stalham.

Energy efficiency and Warm Homes scheme

The team is assisting Norfolk Warm Homes in finalising its bid for the 'Warm Homes: Local Grant Scheme, which will replace the Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) scheme from April 2025 in providing low cost, low carbon heating for eligible north Norfolk households.

Our Energy Officer has been providing advice at the recent Council PositiviTea events, which are aimed at those with health conditions who are often eligible for assistance in installing low-carbon heating solutions.

Let's Go Zero and North Norfolk Schools

Working with let's Go Zero, the team have contacted all the schools in the district to promote the free consultancy services available to help them reduce their carbon emissions and become zero carbon by 2030.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

There are still opportunities for members to attend Carbon Literacy training. Please contact Cllr Varley for more details.

December will see the inaugural meeting of the staff climate change forum which will provide a space for staff to share best practice in making energy and efficiency savings in their Council roles as well as championing projects to make the office more sustainable. The forum will report to the Decarbonisation Board.

3 Meetings attended

Cllr Varley, Officer Rawlings and Officer Bolton attended the Climate Technology, Electric Vehicle and Unlock Net Zero Homes exhibitions at the Excel. The event was a great networking opportunity and showcased new technology, including retrofit options for hard-to-treat homes and advances in larger electric vehicles.

