

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

18 February 2025

COUNCILLOR ADAM VARLEY - CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE

For the period December 2025 to February 2026

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

The team is involved in a variety of initiatives relating to the Council's own assets, emerging projects and the wider community. Recently, this has included the following.

- The implementation of the Norfolk Climate Change Partnership project to develop an online home energy hub for Norfolk residents to provide a one stop shop advice centre for householders looking to lower their energy bills.
- Developing the detailed plans for the low carbon heating system for the existing Fakenham fitness centre building, to be implemented alongside the new FLASH, facilitated by public sector decarbonisation grant funding.
- Embedding the updated Environmental Charter and Decarbonisation Strategy into day-to-day Council operations and wider community activities.

The team attended the inaugural meeting of the Greenhoe energy club ([Greenhoe Local Energy Club • Walsingham, Norfolk](#)) based in Wighton which is hoping to set up a community energy scheme for residents served by the Egmere substation to receive locally generated and cheaper electricity for residents. We provided general energy saving advice and details of grants available in the hope that this will become the first community energy scheme established in the area.



It is a year since many members took part in the carbon literacy programme run by the team. Now may be a good time to review the commitments that were made as part of the certification. Have you been keeping your pledges and considering the carbon impact of the decisions you have made on behalf of the Council?

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

[The Warm Homes Plan](#) has been announced, pledging support to upgrade the thermal performance and heating systems of all households including those struggling with their energy bills. Further details are awaited on how the scheme will be administered and the role of the Council in it, but we aim to build on the success that the NNDC has had in delivering ECO4, HUG and Warm Homes: Local Grant to north Norfolk residents.

3 Meetings attended

The team visited All Saints School, Lessingham, to understand the projects that the school has been delivering to save energy, reduce waste, and increase biodiversity. We met both the school's sustainability lead and pupils from the Eco group who spoke enthusiastically about the changes they had made and future initiatives they hoped to complete.

