

Crawley Borough Council

Report to Overview and Scrutiny Commission

25th November 2024

Report to Cabinet

27th November 2024

Updated Climate Emergency Action Plan and Climate Emergency Declaration

Report of the Head of Service for Economy and Planning, PES/473

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides an update on Crawley Borough Council's commitments to reduce carbon emissions in accordance with the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration, originally made in 2019 and updated by Full Council in December 2021. These commitments are being delivered through the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- 1.2 The report makes recommendations as to how the declaration and action plan could be refreshed to accelerate action on climate change and reduce environmental impact.
- 1.3 The report also presents proposals for the Council to declare a nature emergency to accompany the refreshed climate emergency declaration.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To the Overview and Scrutiny Commission:

That the Commission consider the report and decide what comments, if any, it wishes to submit to the Cabinet.

- 2.2 To the Cabinet:

That the Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Approve and adopt the updated Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) structure as set out in Appendix A of report PES/473, whilst noting the implications set out in section 9 of report PES/473.

- b) Agree that the Council applies to be a member of the UK100 organisation, and that this be included in the updated Climate Emergency Declaration, and should the application be successful:
 - i. That the Leader of the Council signs the UK100 membership pledge,
 - ii. That the Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change be nominated as the Council's representative to the UK100 organisation, and
 - iii. That the above Portfolio Holder Responsibilities be amended to include this appointment within the Constitution.

- c) Request Full Council to approve and adopt the updated Climate Emergency Declaration, which is accompanied by a new declaration of a Nature Emergency (Appendix B of report PES/473) and the ambition to join UK100.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The Council is currently committed to reduce all its carbon emissions by 50% by 2030, and to net zero by 2040 at the latest. The proposed updated Declaration would accelerate the reduction of emissions that are under the Council's direct control, whilst allowing more time for reducing the Council's indirect emissions (procured goods and services, and emissions from social housing and commercial leased assets).

- 3.2 Declaring both a 'climate and nature emergency' acknowledges the strong links between climate change, biodiversity loss and air quality, and the Council's responsibility for halting biodiversity loss as defined in the Environment Act 2021. It also acknowledges the recently arisen opportunity for the Council to raise funding through the planning process to invest in Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) within the borough.

- 3.3 Halting climate change cannot be achieved in isolation, and joining the UK100 organisation will provide opportunities to collaborate with other local authorities in responding to climate change, strengthening the Council's voice in advocating to government for action on climate, and improving its ability to access the funding needed for decarbonisation.

- 3.4 The updated declaration acknowledges the influence that the Council has over emissions and biodiversity across the borough and will help to coordinate action, whilst also acknowledging the dependencies outside of our control.

- 3.5 The updated Climate Emergency Action Plan is more delivery orientated with a clearer pathway for the Council to reduce its own direct carbon emissions to net zero.

4. Background

- 4.1 In July 2019, Crawley Borough Council declared a climate emergency, committing to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030, and to net zero by 2050.
- 4.2 A set of proposals for delivering this commitment was approved by Cabinet in November 2021 in the form of a Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- 4.3 In December 2021, the Council passed a [Motion](#) 'updating the targets in the action plan' to reduce emissions by at least 50% by 2030, and to reach net zero by 2040 at the very latest.
- 4.4 The 2021 Environment Act requires local authorities to consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity in England. In December 2023, the Council published a [Biodiversity Duty Report](#) which set out its obligations under the act to halt the loss of biodiversity.
- 4.5 Progress reports have been presented on the Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan delivery, the latest of which was in [March 2024](#) (see section 5.2 below).

5. Progress against current Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP)

- 5.1 Under the current CEAP, 18 of the 80 actions have been completed and 60 are in progress, and two are at risk. Completed actions include the following:
 - a) The establishment of a Climate Emergency Board and governance mechanisms to oversee the delivery of the plan,
 - b) Heat Decarbonisation Plans which identify the most effective way to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions across the Council building stock. These Decarbonisation Plans are providing key technical details to inform external funding bids to unlock resources to decarbonise the Council's stock,
 - c) Completion of trials to develop methodologies for 'retrofit' of insulation and low carbon heating in Council owned buildings,
 - d) The completion of Phase 1 of the Town Centre District Heat Network, with plans for expansion and decarbonisation,
 - e) The introduction of transformed working practices and cloud-based computing which enable online and hybrid working and therefore a reduction the Council's carbon footprint associated with computing and employees commuting to work,
 - f) The inclusion of Sustainable Development Policies in the new Local Plan to tighten standards for energy efficiency and low carbon heating in new developments, and
 - g) New working practices and the introduction of a Tree Planting Strategy to support an uplift in biodiversity and carbon sequestration within the Borough.

The two actions considered most at risk are the development of a funding plan (as referenced in the Financial Implications section below) and the reduction of supply chain emissions, both of which are being addressed through the updated Declaration and Plan.

- 5.2 An update on progress in delivering the CEAP was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission (OSC) on 11 March 2024, along with the proposal to refresh the plan. The [presentation was published](#) and the relevant extract from [the OSC meeting minutes](#) is as follows: “The action plan would be refreshed to focus on delivery, trends of decarbonisation and also link to service plans. It would also identify dependencies outside the Council’s control. The action plan would be brought forward to OSC and Cabinet via a report in the autumn.”
- 5.3 This report responds directly to the above commitment made at the OSC meeting in March 2024.
- 5.4 The structure and targets in the CEAP (Appendix A) are being refreshed to make it more delivery orientated and provide a clearer set of pathways to accelerate decarbonisation of the council’s building stock and service provision. It will be better aligned with the Council operations to make it easier to monitor and report on progress. The CEAP will remain a live document with oversight of individual projects through Heads of Service and the Climate Emergency Board.
- 5.5 Financing ongoing CEAP delivery and the transition to net zero remains a significant risk given the Council’s current budget challenges and is dependent on securing third party funding resources. External grant funding has been secured through applications to the government’s Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (£6.8m) and Low Carbon Skills Fund (£98,000), and further funding will be sought through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, but the Council is still required to contribute match funding and the prospects for future rounds of capital grant funding are uncertain. Further information is set out in the Financial Implications section below.

6. Description of Issues to be Resolved

Updating the Climate Emergency Declaration – The Rationale

- 6.1 In December 2021, Full Council passed a [Motion](#) to Amend the Targets within the Climate Emergency Action Plan “to reduce emissions by at least 50%, and as close to net zero as possible by 2030, and to reach net zero by 2040 at the very latest”.
- 6.2 The Motion set a single target for carbon emissions and does not differentiate according to their source and the degree of control which the Council has over them.
- 6.3 The [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#) identifies three categories of carbon emissions depending on their source and the degree of influence the Council can have over reducing them, as follows:
- a) Scope 1 emissions come from the Council’s direct use of fossil fuels, typically natural gas for heating and hot water, and diesel and petrol for transport. These are considered direct emissions over which the Council has full control.
 - b) Scope 2 emissions come from the generation of the electricity used by the Council. These are considered direct emissions over which the Council has full control.

- c) Scope 3 emissions come from the goods and services procured by the Council, emissions from assets owned by the Council and leased to third parties (both social housing and commercial assets), and other sources, including from employees commuting to work. These are considered indirect emissions over which the Council has only partial control.
- 6.4 The proposed update to the climate emergency declaration set out in Appendix B would enable the Council to prioritise the reduction of those direct Scope 1 and 2 emissions over which the Council has more direct control. The update also recognises the overall need to bring borough-wide emissions to net zero as quickly as possible. The proposed updates to the declaration would therefore:
- a) Bring forward to 2030 the Council's commitment to reduce to net zero the greenhouse gas emissions that we directly control (Scope 1 and 2 emissions – see 6.3 a) and b)),
 - b) Push back to 2045 the commitment to reduce to net zero our indirect emissions (Scope 3 – see 6.3 c)),
 - c) Acknowledge the influence the Council has over borough-wide emissions and to commit to using this influence to achieve net zero across the Borough by 2045.
- 6.5 The need to reduce to net zero overall carbon emissions across Crawley Borough, including from residents, stakeholders and businesses was not included in the 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration or in the update in December 2021. While the Council's carbon footprint only represents around 5% of total borough-wide emissions, the 2021 UK government [Net Zero Strategy](#) estimates that '82% are within the scope of influence of local authorities'.
- 6.6 Climate change and poor air quality are both driven largely by the burning of fossil fuels. These are societal challenges and require a wholistic response. The proposed update to the Climate Emergency Declaration links these issues and will help to accelerate action to resolve them, whilst also noting that strong collaboration (such as through UK100 and Sussex Energy) is essential to ensure a just transition to a cleaner, low carbon economy.
- 6.7 If the decision is taken to adopt Borough-wide emissions reduction targets, a period of public consultation would be needed to communicate the reasons for the target, address concerns, and build a coalition of organisations and individuals for delivery.

Declaring a Nature Emergency – The Rationale

- 6.8 The Proposal for the Council to declare a Nature Emergency alongside a Climate Emergency is in recognition of:
- a) New research from [the Wildlife Trusts](#) finding that 'one in six species is at risk of being lost from Great Britain', for example populations of European Hedgehogs have declined by 50% since 2000,
 - b) The additional responsibilities and obligations for halting biodiversity loss that the Environment Act 2021 has given local authorities across the country, and

- c) The financial resources that the Council can unlock through the planning process to invest in protecting biodiversity and “green infrastructure” within the Borough. This is due to the new “Biodiversity Net Gain” (BNG) requirement, to which most planning applications must adhere.

6.9 As a Local Planning Authority, the Council is assessing planning applications against criteria for BNG and has produced a Biodiversity Duty report which sets out the Council’s obligations under the Environment Act, while the new Local Plan contains Green Infrastructure policies to protect and enhance biodiversity. The introduction of habitat banks for Biodiversity Net Gain requires further consultation but would allow the Council to attract investment from developers and plan where within the Borough biodiversity enhancement would be best placed to protect nature and ensure access for residents.

Refreshing the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) (Appendix A) - The Rationale

- 6.10 Progress in delivering the Action Plan has previously been reported to Members (including OSC on 11 March 2024, see 10.1d for a link to the presentation) and the progress to date is summarised in section 5 above. Early-stage actions relating to the establishment of governance mechanisms, measuring and defining the Council’s emissions and establishing a Heat Network have been completed. Most actions (such as retrofitting the Council’s building stock and phasing out the use of gas boilers) are in progress, but the current plan does not include clear mechanisms for tracking this. Identifying sources of funding to deliver the plan is a significant action that has been highlighted as incomplete.
- 6.11 This wide-ranging Action Plan was necessary at the time as pathways to net zero were not clear and the plan needed to cover the direct implementation of immediate action at the same time as exploring solutions to issues that were not yet understood.
- 6.12 The proposed updated Action Plan (Appendix A) distils the activity from the current plan into 15 summary actions, along with steps to implementation and suggested Key Performance Indicators. The proposed structure will help to accelerate the reduction of the Council’s Scope 1 and 2 emissions to net zero by 2030 in accordance with the proposed updated Climate Emergency declaration, whilst also addressing priority long term actions such as engaging with suppliers and improving building energy efficiency to reduce Scope 3 emissions.
- 6.13 Individual carbon reduction projects identified through the CEAP will still require a business case and approval through the existing governance channels.
- 6.14 The CEAP is a live document, and the Implementation Steps will be overseen by officers through the Climate Emergency Board and Corporate Management Team and updated regularly to reflect progress made.

7. Options Appraisal Summary

- 7.1 **Retain current Climate Emergency Declaration.** Retaining the current declaration has been considered, but for the reasons set out in this report it is considered appropriate to update the Declaration to establish separate net zero target dates for the Council's direct carbon emissions and those "third party" emissions produced by Council contractors and leased assets (housing stock and commercial buildings). Pushing the commitment for these "indirect" emissions back to 2045 will allow time for external dependencies to take effect (such as the decarbonisation of the national grid and the planned banning of the sale of internal combustion engines and gas boilers (set by government at 2035) and for the Council to implement plans currently being developed, such as the 30-year business plan for Crawley Homes and sustainable procurement practices. **The option to retain the current Climate Emergency declaration wording is not recommended.**
- 7.2 **Set aside and discontinue all carbon emissions reduction commitments.** The option to set aside and discontinue the Council's climate emergency declaration and CEAP and wait for national legislation to deliver emissions reduction has been considered. This would put the Council at odds with most UK local authorities and expose the Council to reputational risk, continue to expose Crawley residents to particulate emissions from burning fossil fuels, and delay adaptation to the changing climate. This would expose the Council to a less organised transition to a low carbon economy, more volatile energy prices and higher overall costs. **This option is not recommended.**
- 7.3 **Accelerate to 2030 the commitment to achieve net zero for the Council's direct carbon emissions by securing third-party funds.** The emissions directly under the Council's control are limited in scope and a clear pathway for reducing them to net zero has been identified in the Climate Emergency Action Plan. These are the "Scope 1" and "Scope 2" emissions as defined respectively in sections 6.3a) and 6.3b) above. The costs associated with achieving emissions reduction to net zero for these direct emissions can be predominantly mitigated via grant applications, and engagement with the private sector. While this brings the Council's net zero commitments in line with many other local authorities, it should be noted that achieving this will be dependent on the Council being successful in securing third party funds from government grant funding schemes and other private sources. It is also subject to some Council capital funding being available as match funding to invest in heat decarbonisation. The achievement of net zero by 2030 for the Council's emissions will also depend to an extent on sufficient electricity grid capacity at the local and sub-regional level given the need for the widespread electrification of heating to enable the move away from fossil gas. This option is a requirement of UK100 membership. **This option is recommended.**
- 7.4 **Defer to 2045 the commitment to achieve net zero for Scope 3 emissions.** Scope 3 emissions are defined above in section 6.3c) of this report. Previous Council targets for reducing Scope 3 emissions did not include emissions from leased assets, but following updated advice, emissions from leased assets (including commercial properties and all Crawley Homes housing stock in the Borough) are now included (see section 8.2 for further detail). This results in a significantly larger and more complex target for Scope 3 emissions reduction to net zero that will be dependent on major external capital funding

for energy efficiency improvements and heat decarbonisation. This adds to the fact that the Council does not have direct control over supply chain emissions. Due to the challenges set out above, it is considered that continuing to commit to reduce Scope 3 emissions to net zero by 2040 (as per the current declaration) is a more significant risk. For the reasons explained in this report it is therefore proposed to defer the achievement of net zero for Scope 3 emissions to 2045. **This option is recommended.**

7.5 **Committing to Borough-wide net zero emissions by 2045.** The climate emergency has far-reaching global impacts, posing existential risks for humanity and therefore for the Council to limit its climate ambition to its own emissions and not drive decarbonisation across the wider Crawley Borough would be a missed opportunity. Taking on this target (whilst also linking emissions to air quality) is an opportunity for the Council to demonstrate clear leadership. Achieving net zero across the Borough will require broad engagement from residents and businesses, and a period of consultation will be needed to listen and develop detailed plans. Any statement on reducing borough-wide emissions should be seen as an ambitious challenge, and not something over which the Council has direct control. This option is a requirement of UK100 membership. **This option is recommended.**

7.6 **Joining UK100.** Joining the UK100 network will provide access to information and resources that can support the Council's environmental ambitions and strengthen the Council's advocacy for policies and resources from government to support carbon reduction. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for the Council to exchange experiences and share good practice with other local authorities and bid together for funding to deliver decarbonisation. The inter-authority dialogue possible through UK100 will help to strengthen the momentum in the Council's approach to decarbonisation and progress towards the achievement of net zero by consistently feeding in new ideas and opportunities. **This option is recommended.**

7.7 **Declaring a nature emergency to accompany the climate emergency declaration.** The Environment Act contains significant new obligations for local authorities which will need to be implemented in Crawley. Declaring a nature emergency alongside a climate emergency will help to raise the profile of biodiversity loss and support the delivery of new projects and initiatives when they are ready, some of which will be financed through "Biodiversity Net Gain" (BNG) credits secured through the planning process. The advent of BNG offers access by the Council to significant new resources through the planning process to support biodiversity enhancement in Crawley. **This option is recommended.**

8. Information & Analysis Supporting Recommendations

8.1 **Council direct emissions and bringing forward the net zero target to 2030.**

- a) Council direct emissions have been monitored annually by the Council Sustainability team since 2014 and reported to OSC since 2019.
- b) Council emissions from our use of electricity have reduced significantly over the last five years, due to efficiency improvements and the ongoing decarbonisation of the UK electricity grid.

- c) In comparison, emissions from the use of fossil gas and diesel have reduced by a relatively much smaller amount in that time, but a set of key projects have been identified that will enable the Council to achieve net zero by 2030 (Appendix C).
- d) Ending the use of coal for generating electricity in the UK has been a major achievement and the most significant step in reducing national emissions. The government have set a target for the national grid to be supplied by 95% low carbon sources by 2030 and net zero by 2035, which is a critical dependency for the Council's own decarbonisation plans.

8.2 Council indirect and borough wide emissions – net zero target by 2045

- a) The Council commissioned a review of its indirect emissions from consultants City Science who calculated our carbon footprint for the two years 2022/23 and 2023/24 (Appendix D).
- b) A 'spend based' analysis is used to allocate a carbon footprint according to the goods and services being procured. This means that one-off projects and capital expenditure (such as the construction of the new town hall, and the purchase of a new waste collection fleet) increase our carbon footprint in the short term, and this analysis is best conducted over a longer period.
- c) A recommendation from City Science (supported by [Greenhouse Gas Protocol standards](#)) is that emissions from leased assets (both commercial leased assets and social housing provided by Crawley Homes) should be considered as the Council's scope 3 emissions. These were not included under previous guidance and increase the size of the Council's indirect emissions by around 50%, supporting the recommendation to push back net zero commitments to 2045.
- d) Investment in decarbonising the Council's assets (improving energy efficiency and installing low carbon heating) results in capital expenditure that increases carbon emissions in the short-term with the expectation that this will then lead to long term reductions in emissions.
- e) Additional plans will be needed to shape Council engagement on Borough-wide emissions. This will require particular focus on vulnerable people and those from diverse backgrounds, and additional funding will be sought to enable this.

8.3 UK100 membership

- a) [UK100](#) is a network of local authorities seeking to coordinate and accelerate action on net zero and clean air, working through collaboration to share knowledge and agree priorities for legislative and regulatory change. Membership is free of charge but a commitment to reduce direct emissions to net zero by 2030 and area-wide emissions to net zero by 2045 are a condition of membership, although there is no financial penalty if this is not achieved.
- b) Joining UK100 would provide opportunities for learning, partnership and collaboration, which will be critical in achieving widespread decarbonisation as quickly as possible and at the lowest cost. The Council's involvement with the [GBEB Sussex Energy Mission](#) is another example of the vision, ambition and collaboration needed to achieve net zero.
- c) To become a member of UK100, the Council must sign and adopt a '[net zero pledge](#)' with decarbonisation targets aligned with those proposed in section 6.4

above and committing to ‘do everything within our power and influence to rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and work with our residents and businesses to bring our wider communities’ emissions in line with Net Zero as soon as possible.’

- d) The pathway required for signing the pledge and becoming a member of UK100 is as follows:
- *Officers and Cabinet members of the interested authority contact the membership team to schedule an introductory conversation to answer any questions.*
 - *Then, an official invitation to join the network is sent to the Leader of the Council from UK100’s Network Membership Director, to which the Leader should respond confirming membership via email.*
 - *A nomination is required as the Council’s representative to the UK100 organisation.*

8.4 **Climate adaptation and resilience**

- a) The impact of climate change is already being experienced in the UK through warmer, wetter winters, hotter, drier summers, and more extreme rainfall.
- b) The Met Office have recently released [guidance for local authorities](#) on climate change impacts and West Sussex CC have supported the development of a [Climate Vulnerability Index](#) which identifies how communities across West Sussex are likely to be impacted by a changing climate. As an urban borough with some deprivation, Crawley has greater vulnerability than many communities in West Sussex.
- c) This highlights the importance of action to reduce our climate impact, prepare our services for action and adaptation, and engage widely with people across Crawley to ensure a fair transition to a low carbon economy.
- d) Protecting and enhancing green spaces across Crawley is a key element of climate adaptation and resilience. Bringing trees and green spaces into urban areas will help to reduce heat build-up and improve air quality, whilst also being beneficial for health.

8.5 **Biodiversity Net Gain and the “nature emergency”**

- a) The requirement for all new developments to increase biodiversity by at least 10% was introduced by the government in February 2024. This follows on from the Environment Act 2021 and is controlled and enabled through the planning process.
- b) The Council is working with consultants to develop plans for creating habitat banks which will be brought forward for consideration in 2025. If adopted, these would enable the use of developer financial contributions secured through the planning application process to enhance biodiversity and protect green spaces in “habitat bank” locations in Crawley.

8.6 **Consultation**

- a) The refresh of the CEAP is supported by the Climate Emergency Board and was acknowledged by OSC in March 2024.

9. Implications

9.1 Financial Implications

- a) The total cost of achieving net zero for the Council's direct emissions by 2030, is expected to be approximately £19 million, within which there would be an estimated contribution required from the Council of £3m (Appendix E).
- b) The remaining £16m contribution is anticipated to come from a combination of private sector investment (for example the expansion of the Town Centre District Heat Network) and other third-party sources including grant funding, although there is uncertainty over the future of government funding schemes such as the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS).
- c) The cost of mitigating indirect emissions is far larger and has greater uncertainty. Updated procurement practices and decision-making tools are being proposed separately to highlight how decision making can support environmental protection and encourage the Council's suppliers to reduce their emissions. Crawley Homes are currently undertaking a stock condition survey which will feed into the 30-year HRA business plan. The purpose of stock condition surveys is to understand the condition of our stock and the investment required generally but the process of undertaking these surveys and detailing our 30-year business plan will help to determine the longer-term possibilities and affordability of decarbonising the stock. The extremely large costs associated with achieving net zero for indirect emissions provides further justification for deferring the net zero target date for indirect emissions to 2045.
- d) Calculating cost savings from decarbonisation projects is challenging due to future policy uncertainty and significant variability. It is expected that price differences of gas and electricity will be reduced to incentivise the electrification of heat and transport. Investing in renewable energy generation (such as rooftop solar) will reduce exposure to the price volatility of energy produced from fossil fuels.
- e) The cost of emitting carbon is not currently considered in financial analyses, but the government produces an annual report on the '[social cost of carbon](#)' suggesting a cost of £87 for emissions equivalent to one tonne of CO₂ (tCO₂e) in 2030, rising to £142 per tCO₂e in 2040. If Council direct emissions remain the same in 2030, this would represent a 'social cost' of £350,000 per year for the Council's direct emissions (scope 1 and 2 only), and £3.65M per year for the Council's total carbon footprint (including scope 3).
- f) Individual projects to reduce emissions will be subject to the normal scrutiny and require a business case. Interventions should be aligned with maintenance schedules to minimise disruption and maximise the lifespan (and embedded carbon) of existing assets.
- g) The Head of Corporate Finance and Section 151 Officer has noted that there is no allowance for climate change budgets in the Council's financial forecast.

There is a significant risk that bids for grant funding are unsuccessful and that the Council would therefore be faced with a significant challenge in finding the funds to address the resulting unmet additional costs. The Council has a significant budget deficit for the current year, with a further significant increase forecast from 2025/26. The Council does not have any readily available capital receipts to finance these projects which would result in consideration of the need to borrow. Additional expenditure in this area would require additional savings to be made.

9.2 Legal Implications

- a) These proposals do not place additional legal obligations on the Council. UK100 membership is not legally binding and carbon reduction should be recognised as a firm ambition, rather than a binding commitment.

9.3 Procurement Implications

- a) The proposals do not introduce specific procurement obligations, but input will be needed to assess climate impact through procurement. An update to the Social Value charter will be proposed to increase expectations on suppliers to monitor and reduce their carbon footprint.

9.4 Environmental Implications

- a) These proposals support the Council's environmental and climate ambitions, are aligned with efforts to improve air quality, and will enhance biodiversity.

9.5 Risk

- a) The main risk associated with this proposal is of reputational damage if there is inconsistency between the Council's ambition, and action on climate change, carbon reduction and environmental protection. The proximity of the 2030 target for reducing direct emissions to net zero will invite some scrutiny and mean that every opportunity to reduce emissions should be taken.

10. Background Papers

10.1 The following papers provide background information to the recommendations in this report.

- a) Motion to declare a Climate Emergency on 17 July 2019:
<https://democracy.crawley.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=161&MID=2723#AI4234>
- b) Adoption of current Climate Emergency Action Plan on 24 Nov 2021:
<https://democracy.crawley.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=12455&optionId=0>
- c) Motion by Full Council to 'Amend targets in Climate Emergency Action Plan' on 15 Dec 2021
<https://democracy.crawley.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=161&MID=3354#AI10437>

- d) Presentation given to OSC on 11 March 2024 containing progress report on delivering CEAP and proposals for refresh:
<https://democracy.crawley.gov.uk/documents/s29959/Appendix%20A.pdf>

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