

<b>Report to</b>	Sustainable development panel	<b>Item</b>
	23 July 2014	
<b>Report of</b>	Executive head of strategy, people and democracy	<b>7</b>
<b>Subject</b>	Climate Local Commitments	

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## **Purpose**

This report is for the panel to consider Norwich City Council's first annual Climate Local commitments.

## **Recommendation**

The panel is asked to consider the attached report.

## **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority Value for money services and the service plan priority % reduction in the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from local authority operations.

## **Financial implications**

None.

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Stonard – Environment and transport

## **Contact officers**

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## **Background documents**

None

# **Report**

## **Climate Local background**

1. Climate Local was launched by the Local Government Association (LGA) in July 2012 and succeeds the Nottingham Declaration.
2. The Nottingham Declaration came in for some criticism nationally as it was mainly aspirational. Climate Local goes further than this and has added in an additional layer of accountability by requiring council's to annually publish progress against their commitments.
3. Following cabinet approval Norwich City Council signed up to the Climate Local Commitment in March 2014.
4. As of April 2014 87 local authorities (out of possible 345) have signed up to the Climate Local Commitment.

## **Climate Local Commitments and reporting**

5. Within six months of signing the Climate Local Commitment each authority must draw up and publish a list of commitments.
6. We have drawn up a list of commitments which are attached. The 9 overarching commitments reflect those in the Annual Environmental Statement in order to ensure cohesion and efficiency across work-streams and services.
7. Each overarching commitment is underpinned by more specific detail on how we will deliver each commitment. These are detailed in the attached Appendix A.

Appendix A - **Norwich City Council – Climate Local Commitments:**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Commitment to:</b>
1	<b>Reduce energy consumption on the council's estate</b>
2	<b>Reduce energy consumption in housing stock and private sector housing</b>
3	<b>Maximise the performance of the city's highway network through balancing the need to encourage economic growth with sustainable travel options</b>
4	<b>Make Procurement More Sustainable</b>
5	<b>Reduce and recycle</b>
6	<b>Ensure future developments are planned and built in a way which is sustainable and uses resources effectively and efficiently</b>
7	<b>To maintain and enhance the natural environment of Norwich</b>
8	<b>Reduce pollution</b>
9	<b>Provide leadership</b>

<b>Commitment 1 - Reduce energy consumption on the council's estate</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Regularly reviewing the estate's potential for energy efficiency improvements
B	Continuing to deliver our Carbon Management plan - we aim to reduce our carbon emissions by 40% by 2018 (from a 2007/2008 baseline).
C	Measuring and publishing the council's carbon footprint annually on our website
D	Developing a tri- annual Environmental Strategy
E	Producing an annual Environmental Statement which details progress made against objectives set in the Environmental Statement.

<b>Commitment 2 - Reduce energy consumption on housing stock and private sector housing</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Implementing a programme to deliver energy efficiency measures in our housing stock and commercial stock
B	Working with our Green Deal partner to promote and deliver Green Deal and ECO energy efficiency measures across tenure under the council's Cosy City scheme.

<b>Commitment 3 - Maximise the performance of the city's highway network through balancing the need to encourage economic growth with sustainable travel options</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Providing high quality routes for cyclists and improved facilities for pedestrians
B	Improving the performance of bus services through the delivery of the bus rapid transport (BTR) network
C	Maintaining traffic flow on the highway network
D	Managing air quality and reducing carbon emissions associated with transport
E	Managing the council's fleet to make it fit for purpose – (this has already included a Fleet Review, the introduction of telemetry into all cars, the introduction of 4 electric cars into the fleet, tighter monitoring of fuel use)
F	Encouraging cycling amongst staff – (introduction of pool bikes for staff meetings, introduction of a Cycle to Work scheme, staff shower facilities, upgrades to the council's secure 24/7 cycle shed already completed)

<b>Commitment 4 – Making Procurement More Sustainable</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Buying goods and services in an ethical and sustainable way which optimises resources, providing value for money and quality goods and services
B	100% of the council's electricity continues to be sourced via a renewable energy tariff
C	Expanding the sustainability pre-tender checklist into the pre-qualification questionnaire (PQQ) and the business quality questionnaire (BQQ) to include a greater number of social, economic and environmental factors
D	Procuring locally sourced water for committee rooms
E	Ensuring that redundant ICT equipment is disposed of in a way that seeks to refurbish and resell the majority of the equipment, via the circular economy 'Raspberry Pi' project, and recycle any remainder
F	Implementing the business relationship and contract management strategy and toolkit for high value and critical contracts and including the requirement to monitor contractor's environmental management system (EMS) and carbon emissions. Seeking to expand the use of strategy and toolkit into high value/ low criticality core contracts in the future

<b>Commitment 5 – Reduce and Recycle</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Delivering a high performing recyclables and residual waste collection service for Norwich
B	Continually achieving a good recycling performance – (the best-performing authority in Norfolk for mixed dry recycling)
C	Continually achieving a good performance on waste minimisation – (the best-performing authority in Norfolk for the amount of waste produced per household)
D	Expanding the weekly waste food collection service to include collections from communal food waste facilities in many hard to reach areas
E	Providing food waste recycling to 19 Norwich schools
F	Introducing an energy efficient waste fleet operating on energy efficient zonal collection rounds
G	Using GIS and In-Cab monitoring to be able to map the most efficient and economical routes
H	Continuing to run media campaigns on waste reduction and recycling
I	Implementing the objectives in the waste management action plan 2013-2020
J	Ensuring every property has access to mixed dry recycling collections or is signposted to their nearest mixed dry recycling bring bank
K	Implementing recycling of WEEE, bulky items and cooking oil
L	Continuing to implement waste reduction initiatives
M	Continuing to develop student-specific waste and recycling campaigns



<b>Commitment 6 – Ensure future developments are planned and built in a way which is sustainable and uses resources effectively and efficiently</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Planning for sustainable development which ensures we can build for the future whilst preserving the heritage of our beautiful city
B	Developing detailed local plan environmental policies to protect and enhance biodiversity and green infrastructure
C	Adopting the Norwich Development Management Policies document (scheduled for adoption in September 2014)
D	Adopting the Norwich Site Allocations document (scheduled for adoption in September 2014)
E	Identifying areas at risk of flooding from heavy rainfall and potential mitigation measures
F	Implementing the Joint Core Strategy - the strategic planning framework for the Greater Norwich area for the next 15 years
G	Implementing the 'Making room' project to promote walking, cycling and public transport in the city centre
H	Implementing the City Cycle Ambition grant funded work to improve cycling infrastructure across the city

<b>Commitment 7 – To maintain and enhance the natural environment of Norwich</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Maintaining and enhancing the environment of Norwich to promote its community, health, wellbeing and ecological benefits
B	Working with local and national groups to enhance green spaces in the city through support, bringing areas back into management, removal of invasive plant species, planting of new trees and shrubs, species surveys, conservation work, tree-mapping
C	Implementing capital and annual management works funded by the Higher Level Stewardship scheme to improve the biodiversity value the sites concerned
D	Introducing conservation grazing where appropriate
E	Updating biodiversity information on the council's website
F	Investigating the viability of a project to improve the management of council owned woodlands
G	Working with volunteer groups to identify new funding sources
H	Completing the Open Spaces strategy
I	Completing the Tree Strategy review

<b>Commitment 8 – Reduce pollution</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Maintaining the street scene and all public spaces so that danger, pollution and noise are minimised
B	Redefining the boundaries of the air quality management areas into one larger area which allows for a more holistic approach to action planning
C	Identifying and implementing infrastructure changes to address traffic congestion areas
D	Drafting an action plan to set out measures to reduce Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ) levels through focussing on traffic issues as well as promoting cycling, walking and bus use
E	Ensuring that risks to land users from land contamination are minimised, together with those to controlled waters, property and ecological systems

<b>Commitment 9 – Provide leadership</b>	
	We will deliver this commitment by:
A	Leading by example and raising the profile of environmental issues and opportunities across the city to encourage residents and businesses to reduce their environmental impact
B	Completion of the council's Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) report – updated biannually, next due March 2015
C	Implementing the objectives in the councils Affordable Warmth strategy
D	Raising awareness and celebrating environmental school, business and community group eco- projects at the councils annual Eco Awards
E	Running a behaviour change campaign with council staff – One Small Step
F	Becoming the country's first city to run a collective switching scheme and consistently achieving the highest switching rates nationwide
G	Demonstrating our commitment to climate change by signing up to Climate Local
H	Working with households to promote greater energy efficiency and to alleviate fuel poverty through both the 'Cosy City' and 'Switch and Save' projects
I	Working with partners to deliver the ECO and Green Deal to residents through the council's Cosy City project
J	Implementing phase 2 of the council Carbon Management plan (working to reduce the councils carbon emissions by a further 11% or 40% total since the 2007/08 baseline)
K	Investigating funding opportunities to help residents to subsidise the cost of energy saving measures on their properties - most recently DECC Greener Communities funding
L	Developing partnerships with other councils and groups
M	Working with contractors to align their carbon emissions reduction targets to the council's targets. We monitor our contractors carbon emissions on an annual basis.
N	Signposting residents to information regarding action they can take to mitigate the impact of extreme weather events/increase climate change resilience

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