

Agenda Item 8

TO: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

FROM: Deputy Chief Executive Officer - Matthew Warren

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DRAFT SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Fire Authority with a proposed Sustainability Strategy.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Fire Authority is asked to review the proposed Strategy at Appendix 1 and approve the principles so that the Service can begin to construct a detailed plan and roadmap through to 2030.

3. Risk Assessment

- 3.1 **Economic** – the investment in sustainable technology and contracts will need to be fully evaluated to ensure the financial impact is understood and the environmental benefit is clear.
- 3.2 **Environmental** – the Government has a clear ambition to achieve ‘net-zero’ by 2050. As a public body, the Authority has a responsibility to limit its long term impact on the environment by reducing its carbon footprint and the emissions it releases.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Service, supported by the Fire Authority, has implemented a number of environmentally friendly initiatives over a significant period of time. These have included but are not limited to;
- 4.1.1 building all new stations to a BREAM very good standard,
- 4.1.2 modernising the entire fleet to ensure all cars are now petrol and our appliances are the latest Euro 6 diesel engines.
- 4.2 Whilst there has been progress in specific areas, it is now proposed that the Authority and Service embrace the broader sustainability challenges faced and seek to reduce its carbon footprint, with the ambition of achieving a ‘net zero’ position by 2030.

- 4.3 This ambition will be extremely challenging and will need to be supported by a clear Sustainability Strategy, along with detailed plans. The pace of delivery will be dependent on many factors but may be limited by the affordability of the new technologies.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Documents	Location	Contact Officer
Budget Preparation Papers 2022/23	HQ Hinchingsbrooke Cottage Brampton Road Huntingdon	Matthew Warren 01480 444619 matthew.warren@cambsfire.gov.uk

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

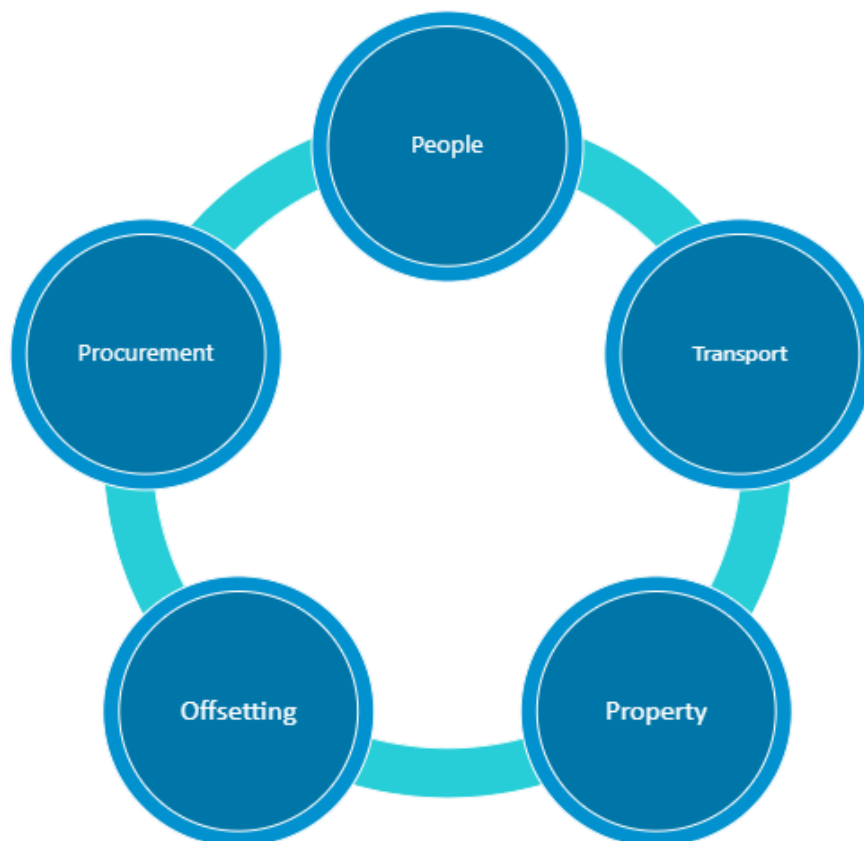
What is 'Net Zero'?

'Net zero' means there is an equal balance in the amount of greenhouse gases being emitted and removed from the atmosphere. In other words it means that we will seek to remove the same amount of carbon that we are responsible for putting into the atmosphere.

How are we going to achieve this?

The starting point will be to understand what our current position is regarding emissions. To do this, we will calculate our level of emissions based on current usage across our fleet and estate. This will represent the baseline level that we will be measured against moving forward. It will also provide the data required so that we can better understand the challenge in specific areas as we move forward with this initiative.

The Strategy has five key themes, which are detailed in the diagram below.



People

The focus for this strand of the Strategy will be on changing our behaviours and attitudes toward sustainability through communicating our intentions with our people.

Transport

Whilst good progress has already been made in moving toward a cleaner fleet there is still much to do. The focus for the Authority and Service will be to continue this journey of reducing the emissions of our fleet through the fleet replacement programme. This will be supported by the Fleet Strategy that will focus on how we use our fleet, the size of our fleet, the fuel used within our vehicles and the move toward electric vehicles. From a wider transport perspective we will seek to reduce frequency of non-essential journeys.

Property

The focus will be on how we use the buildings we need. Technology will be essential in reducing our carbon footprint, with appropriate investment in these new technologies properly planned through the property capital programme.

Offsetting

As a service, we will look at offsetting as a means for reducing our carbon footprint, where other solutions for reducing do not exist or are not effective.

Procurement

Our procurement process will consider the sustainability of the supply chain and consider procurement options should offset be an alternative contractual offer that is financially viable.

How will we realise the Strategy?

The initial focus will be on us understanding where we are currently in terms of our carbon footprint. This baseline calculation will lockdown the position that we will measure our journey towards 'net zero' against.

Each individual sustainability theme will have a detailed plan developed to identify a route map for carbon reduction. An example of what might be included within the fleet action plan could be the procurement of cleaner fuel for all of our fire appliances and reducing the number of pool vehicles, whilst replacing with electric vehicles. These detailed plans will be presented to the Fire Authority for approval and then incorporated into future financial plans, when agreed.

The technology to enable a sustainable environment is developing fast and the decision on when the best time to invest will have to consider affordability, return on investment and the impact on reducing emissions. It is for this reason that the vision of 'net zero' by 2030, will need to be kept under constant review.