



REPORT FROM:	Liberata Property Services
TO:	Climate Emergency Working Group
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DECARBONISATION PROGRAMME BRIEFING

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update CEWG on PBC's de-carbonisation programme

RECOMMENDATIONS

To note progress to date and the PBC timescales for accessing the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

To understand PBC's position on accessing the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme.

Background

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme provides grants for public sector bodies to fund heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency measures within their estate.

The department's delivery body, Salix Finance, manages the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.

The 'Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund' provides grants for public sector bodies to put in place a heat decarbonisation plan, providing them with information they need to develop future applications to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.

Phase 3 of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme will provide over £1.425 billion of grant funding over the financial years 2022-2023 to 2025-2026, through multiple application windows. Phase 3c will open to applications in autumn 2023.

The Council currently is not in a position to submit bids for Phase 3c and needs to prepare for grant funding to be released in 2024-2025 as it is expected that a round of Low Skills Funding will be followed by a further round of PSDS in 2024.

The purpose of a heat decarbonisation plan is to describe how an organisation intends to reduce direct greenhouse gas emissions by replacing fossil fuel heating systems with low carbon alternatives (for example heat pumps, electric heating, or other low-carbon fuel sources) within its estate.

Heat Decarbonisation Plans (HDPs) should outline the most cost-effective pathways to decarbonising heat through integration of energy efficiency measures that reduce a site's heat demand, taking a 'wholebuilding approach' to decarbonisation.

A heat decarbonisation plan should describe the current state of an organisation's energy use and utilisation, where the energy is derived from, and the organisation's plans for reducing and/or decarbonising its energy use. The plan should outline what an organisation has already achieved, what it is currently doing to support and deliver decarbonisation, and what needs to be planned for the future. It is expected that a plan will lay out the current thinking and vision of how decarbonisation will be achieved. The plan should reflect the organisation's level of knowledge, an understanding of the technical solutions that are needed to decarbonise, the associated budget costs or estimates, as well as a timeline to show how and when initiatives could be delivered.

The Council has committed funding for HDPs, to be developed for PBC sites with a gas fired heating plant. The following sites have gas fired heating plant:

MAIN OFFICE BUILDINGS

No1 Market Street
Nelson Town Hall

MARKETS

Nelson Market Hall - closed
Colne Market Hall – due for re-development

DEPOTS

Fleet Street Depot
Fleet Street Main Office and Stores
Fleet Street Workshop and Mess

PARKS & CEMETERIES

Marsden Old Hall
Bullholme Pavilion
Edge End Pavilion
Holt House Pavilion
Swinden Pavilion
Victory Park Pavilion
Ball Grove Hall - due to transfer

MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES

Clayton St. Ind. Units - Admin. block
Clayton St. Ind. Units - Woolshed
39/41 Scotland Road, Nelson

PBC is expecting HDP quotes for the above sites by mid-October. Subject to quotation return, the HDPs will be completed before April 2024. PBC will then prioritise the sites/ schemes to be carried forward into detailed designs for Salix funding.

It should be noted that the Council has also agreed funding for HDP for the 3 main Pendle Leisure Trust sites. Pendle Leisure Trust has engaged with APSE to provide HDP's for these sites by mid-October.

Upon completion of the HDP process in 2023, both PLT and PBC aim to apply for the Salix funding in 2024.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: PBC declared a Climate Emergency in 2019. The PBC Decarbonisation project will be an integral part of achieving any long term carbon reduction targets.

Financial: PBC has provided 2023/24 funding to support the DHP process for both PBC and PLT building stock.

Legal: None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management: Without accessing funding such as the Public Sector Decarbonisation Programme, the Council runs the risk of failing to deliver on the climate emergency declaration.

Health and Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Sustainability: Addressing climate change and reducing PBC's carbon footprint is fundamental for long-term environmental sustainability.

Community Safety: None arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from this report.