



## Report to Policy Committee

**Author/Lead Officer of Report:**  
Mark Whitworth

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**Report of:** Mark Whitworth  
**Report to:** Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
**Subject:** Task and Finish Group for Decarbonisation Routemap

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 1066				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
This report is a proposal to establish a Task and Finish group and as such is not considered necessary to undertake a CIA.				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### **Purpose of Report:**

This report seeks approval to appoint a Task and Finish Group to oversee work to develop the Decarbonisation Routemap, as discussed in the committee briefing November 2022. Membership will be drawn from the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee.

The Terms of Reference of the Group are appended to this report.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee:

1. Approve the appointment of a Task and Finish Group on the terms of reference at Appendix A described in this report to oversee work to develop the Decarbonisation Routemap to the point of bring these through for approval at the relevant committee.
2. Agree in principle to future reconvening of the Task and Finish Group for the chapters due to development in 2023-24, subject to Committee schedule.

**Background Papers:**

10 Point Plan for Climate Action

Route map Progress Update to Transport Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee – November 24<sup>th</sup> 2022

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: N/A
		Legal: N/A
		Equalities & Consultation: N/A
		Climate: Mark Whitworth
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	<b>SLB member who approved submission:</b>	Kate Martin
3	<b>Committee Chair consulted:</b>	Cllr Mazher Iqbal
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Mark Whitworth	<b>Job Title:</b> Sustainability and Climate Change Service Manager
	<b>Date:</b> 10/01/2023	

## 1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 Sheffield City Council has acknowledged and responded to the Climate Emergency by setting an ambitious target to be a net zero carbon city and Council by 2030. In January 2022 the 10 Point Plan was approved and committed the Council to developing Decarbonisation Route maps to set out the evidence-backed strategic direction for achieving this and the action required between now and 2025.

Progress is being made in the development of the first tranche Routemaps, which includes overarching/enabling actions, Our Council and The Way We Travel, however to date there have been challenges in securing adequate time for member briefing given the workload of the committee. The Task and Finish Group will help to mitigate risks around the timetable.

The breadth of strategic and investment issues which will be set out in the Routemap is significant. These actions will relate to an extensive range of interventions, from cycle parking/storage and heat storage to renewable energy generation and grid decarbonisation.

The route maps will also need to consider matters including approaches to financing the transition, the role of the Council in facilitating this and how we can work effectively across the city, to ensure that everyone is able to play their part and that there is a just transition.

The scope of this work means it is essential that Members are engaged in the development and understand the issues and able to shape plans. It is important that appropriate time is set aside for members to consider the context and options and advise officers of future priorities to developing the Routemap and progressing towards our 2030 Net Zero target.

We seek to establish a Task and Finish Group to oversee work to develop the Decarbonisation Routemap, initially focussed on Our Council and The Way We Travel. The Group will allow discussion with members on strategic direction, emerging issues and detailed conversation around specific issues that is not achievable through other methods of member engagement. The Group will bring together a small, focused group of members to examine key issues and provide clear advice to officers developing the Routemap.

Membership would be drawn from the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee, and will include at least one of the Committee Co-Chairs. The Group will meet 4-6 times on a fortnightly basis and cover the following topics:

1. Introduction, Engagement and City-level Vision
2. Transport decarbonisation
3. Council decarbonisation
4. Wider route map cross-cutting issues
5. Member options / Review and recap

Cross party representation will mean that political agreement is reached at an early stage of the process allowing the strategy to progress. This has been a significant barrier to progressing decarbonisation in the past. The group will feedback advice given, and progress on the work programme to the Transport Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee, so the Committee can make informed decisions on the Routemap when it is presented for approval.

It is proposed that the Task and Finish Group will be reconvened in 2023-24 to oversee development of the remaining Tranche of Decarbonisation Routemap chapters.

The proposed terms of reference are at Appendix A

## **2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?**

The Task and Finish Group will enable key policy issues to be debated by Members from across the political parties. This will ensure collective agreement on issues which need to be addressed by the Routemap.

This will result in a more rounded and effective delivery plan, benefitting the Council, its residents and partners. Political endorsement at an early stage will also provide traction for the development of further chapters.

This decision will contribute towards the Council achieving key climate-related goals it has set itself in its One Year Delivery Plan and its 10-point plan for climate action.

This approach will enable the Council to meet the first clean growth action set out in the Our Sheffield Delivery Plan to deliver all chapters of the decarbonisation Routemap by October 2023. In September 2022 the Council approved the Our Sheffield Delivery Plan, setting out a strategic goal of clean economic growth, recognising that following the adoption of the 10-point plan for climate action in March the Council needs to urgently progress actions to help facilitate a sustainable transition to decarbonisation and meet its climate change ambition to achieve Net Zero by 2030.

The production of the route maps will also ensure that the Council delivers on one of the ten objectives that were agreed in the 10-point Plan earlier this year. This will address the main elements of climate action and decarbonisation and are intended to provide iterative,

delivery focussed and agile delivery plans that will support the Council's wider climate commitments.

### **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

#### Internal

Key officers have been engaged throughout the Routemap development to date through on-boarding workshops, briefings, discussion and responding to requests for information.

The Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee has received a number of written briefings and progress updates on the development of the Routemap:

- Routemap Progress Update (24/11/2022)

The Committee has also received two virtual Full-Committee knowledge briefings:

- 28/06/2022 Climate Change Briefing
- 08/12/2022 Knowledge Briefing

The Committee was briefed on our intention to request a Task and Finish Group to support the development of the Routemap at the Knowledge briefing on the 08/12/2022. The members in attendance (3) agreed unanimously to the proposal.

#### External:

The Council is not required to publicly engage/consult on the proposal for a Task and Finish Group, however we have begun to engage externally on the overall approach and held the City Partnership Climate Summit on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 where the decarbonisation themes covered in the Routemap were discussed with a wide range of city partners and stakeholders.

We are still developing the Public Participation and Engagement approach, and this will be the topic of an early T&F group session.

Consultation and Engagement on the majority of specific actions within the Routemap will be completed as part of the wider programme/individual project on a case-by-case basis as they each move through the committee approval process.

### **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

#### Equality Implications

The Task and Finish Group will have Member representation from the 3 largest political parties, ensuring that advice is reflective of the political makeup of the Council.

Members will have the opportunity to discuss equality and inclusivity relevant to each of the session topics.

#### Financial and Commercial Implications

There are no direct financial and commercial implications because of creating a Task and Finish Group. However, the group will consider the financial implications of policy advice provided.

#### Legal Implications

The Task and Finish Group will be formed in line with the Council's Constitution.

#### Climate Implications

There are no direct climate implications as a result of creating a Task and Finish Group. However, climate implications is the area of policy the Group will consider therefore its creation

CIA's on the majority of specific actions within the Routemap will be completed as part of the wider programme/individual project on a case-by-case basis as they each move through the committee approval process.

#### Other Implications

The Transport Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee can establish limited Task and Finish Groups each year. Setting up a Task and Finish Group for the Routemap will leave lower opportunity for the Committee's remaining annual work plan.

A rejection of the request to form a Task and Finish Group will have significant impacts on the deliverability of the first tranche of Routemap Chapters by June 2023. This will also result in slippage on future chapters due to be developed and delivered by October 2023.

## **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

An alternative would be to deliver a series of Knowledge Briefings for the Transport Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee. This was rejected as it would not enable constructive debate and advice to be provided to officers, and the existing Committee work plan commitments would mean this would add further time to the process.

**6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Task and Finish Group will bring together a small, focused group of members to examine key housing policy issues and provide clear advice to officers developing the strategy. Cross party representation will mean that political agreement is reached at an early stage of the process allowing the strategy to progress.

This has been a significant barrier to the development of decarbonisation activity in the past. The group will feedback advice given, and progress on the work programme to the Policy Committee, so the Committee can make informed decisions on the Routemap.

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