

Committee(s)	Dated:
Corporate Asset Sub Committee	28 th April 2021
Subject: Year 1 plan for Climate Action	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	NA
What is the source of Funding?	CAS programme funding
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	
Report of: Paul Wilkinson, City Surveyor	For Decision
Report author: Paul Wilkinson, City Surveyor	

Summary

This paper sets out the implementation plan for the areas accountable to CASC during year 1 of the Climate Action Strategy (CAS) programme. It provides Members with an overview of the year 1 activity and outcomes proposed under the following service areas:

- Design Standards
- Resilience in Buildings
- Net Zero in Corporate Property Group and Housing

Recommendations

The Corporate Asset Sub Committee is recommended to:

- i. Approve the year 1 programme plans for the delivery of CAS outcomes under the areas accountable to the CASC as included in the Y1 Implementation Plan in Appendices 1-3.
- ii. Note the Y1 budget and action plan of the enclosed plans have been included in Y1 composite program approved by Policy and Resources Committee on 8th April 2021. Any dependencies with the wider CAS programme have been included.

Background and context

1. In January 2020 the City of London Corporation set out on a fast-paced, cross-corporation journey to develop an ambitious Climate Action Strategy. At that point, the Corporation needed to assess the carbon footprint across both its own varied holdings, and across the Square Mile - as well as develop a plan to achieve Net Zero.

2. This was a major challenge, particularly during the first lockdown. We undertook an in-depth organisational and Square Mile carbon foot-printing assessment to create our pathway. Alongside this, we conducted an analysis of the climate resilience in the Square Mile across buildings, public realm and infrastructure. The pathway and analysis formed the basis of the Climate Action Strategy adopted at Court of Common Council on the 8th October 2020.
3. The Climate Action Strategy (CAS) marked the start of a new and transformative programme of action. It set out three interlinked primary objectives for the City Corporation and the Square Mile:
 - to support the achievement of net-zero emissions,
 - to build resilience, and
 - to champion sustainable growth.
4. It committed the City Corporation to mitigating the impact of climate change by achieving net-zero emissions for the City Corporation and the Square Mile. It highlighted the need to take preventative steps to protect the City and its assets from the physical and commercial risks from climate change. Fifteen costed project delivery areas have since been consolidated into ten project plans. Upon adoption, it was agreed that a year 1 programme plan would be presented for approval at P&R at the start of the inaugural year as well as the relevant service committees.

Current position

5. Based on the year 1 plans, the net zero trajectories have been updated to reflect planned activities and a series of interim targets for the wider programme have also been set. We are still on target to achieve our overall ambitions of being:
 - Net Zero in our own operations by 2027
 - Net Zero in our value chain by 2040
 - Net Zero in the Square Mile by 2040
 - Climate resilient in our buildings, public spaces and infrastructure

Corporate and strategic implications

6. Strategic implications: The CAS supports delivery against the following outcomes in the Corporate Plan, 2018-23:
 - Outcome 1: People are safe and feel safe
 - Outcome 5: Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible
 - Outcome 7: We are a global hub for innovation in financial and professional services, commerce and culture
 - Outcome 10: We inspire enterprise, excellence, creativity and collaboration
 - Outcome 11: We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment
 - Outcome 12: Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained.

7. The wider CAS strategy builds upon existing strategies and policies, including: The Responsible Business Strategy 2018-23, the Responsible Investment Policy, the City Procurement Strategy 2020-24, the Local Plan 2015, the draft City Plan 2036, the Transport Strategy 2018-43, the Air Quality Strategy 2015-20, the Climate Mitigation Strategy, the Carbon Descent Plan, the Transition to a Zero Emission Fleet Policy, the Renewable Electricity Policy & Sourcing Strategy and related campaigns, such as Plastic Free City. It is aligned to ongoing reviews of our financial and property investment portfolio.
8. Resource Implications – This proposal requires approval of a budget of £10.48m to support the year 1 programme, from the total envelope for CAS of £68m as agreed by RASC and P&R in September 2020.
9. Risk Implications – To manage risk effectively in the programme, all projects have a risk register and the overall risks are controlled through a corporation level risk CR30 – Climate Action Strategy.
10. Equalities Implications – A Test of Relevance was undertaken on the Climate Action Strategy and several positive impacts were identified for people in at least one of the following five protected groups - age, disability, race, pregnancy/maternity and gender. No negative impacts were identified. Potential equalities impacts will be investigated and assessed on an ongoing basis.
11. No new legal, security, climate implications arise from the recommendations in this report.

Conclusion

12. In Year 1 of the Climate Action programme, we will make tangible carbon emission reductions across the Square Mile and within our own operations. We will do this through both energy reductions in our buildings and carbon removals on our open spaces. We will roll out an exciting programme of activities across all 10 of the workstreams to meet our Net Zero and Resilience goals. We will also focus on deepening our skills and expertise to build a strong foundational base for the life of the Strategy. Crucially, we will create an enabling environment to support delivery departments with focus on performance, reporting and improving our data quality, stakeholder engagement, integrating CAS into the wider organisation, and strong financial and risk management.