

Environment Scrutiny Committee	
Report Title:	GLOUCESTERSHIRE CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY, PROGRESS REPORT 2022
Meeting Date:	22 November 2022
Chair:	Cllr Vernon Smith
Presenting Officer:	Peter Wiggins, Outcome Manager – Sustainability 01452 328536, peter.wiggins@gloucestershire.gov.uk
Purpose of Report:	To review the third annual Climate Change Strategy report and the refreshed 5-year action plan for 2022/3 to 2027/8 and provide comments ahead of its consideration by Cabinet on 21 st December.
Planned Dates	21 December 2022, Cabinet – ‘Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy 3 rd Annual Report & Action Plan 2023/24 – 2027/28’
Background documents:	Cabinet (December 2021), Item 9: 'Leading the response to the Climate Emergency: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy Annual Report & action plan, 2021/02 – 2026/27' , Gloucestershire County Council.
Appendices	Annex 1: Gloucestershire Climate Change Strategy – Third Annual Report and 5-year Action Plan, Draft
Recommendations	To note the report, for discussion at the meeting.

1. Background

- 1.1. Gloucestershire County Council's (GCC) Cabinet approved the current Climate Change Strategy and 5-year rolling Action Plan in December 2019 and committed to reporting annually on progress against that plan.
- 1.2. At its meeting on 21 December 2022, Cabinet will consider the third annual report and the refreshed 5-year action plan for 2022/3 to 2027/8. This will consider feedback from this meeting of Environment Scrutiny Committee.

2. Third Annual Report & 5-year Action Plan

- 2.1. The draft report is attached as Annex 1. This report summarises the progress that has been made in 2021-22, and our proposed actions over the next 5 years. More detailed information is included in the appendices to Annex 1.
- 2.2. As part of the development of the 5-year Action Plan the Council has sought the views of young people.
- 2.3. The Council funds external independent support of **Gloucestershire's Youth Climate Group (GYCG)**, currently provided by Creative Sustainability¹, providing opportunities and events for the young people aged 16-25 to build skills, develop teamwork and provide feedback on Gloucestershire County Council's climate actions. Their comments and the Council's draft response are set out in Annex 1, Appendix 3. Some members of the GYCG have been invited to present their thoughts to today's meeting.
- 2.4. The Council helped to promote a **Gloucestershire-wide youth survey** (July to October 2022), carried out by the InterClimate Network² (ICN) working with GYCG, Creative Sustainability, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust³ and Planet Cheltenham⁴. Nearly 3,000 young people responded from schools and communities across Gloucestershire. The key findings are outlined in Annex 1, with the findings report attached as Appendix 4.

¹ [Creative Sustainability](#), a community interest company based in Stroud, support young people by working to bring about inclusion, sustainability, youth empowerment and wellbeing.

² The [InterClimate Network](#) is a charity who work collaboratively to deliver climate sustainability programmes to engage young people (primarily age 11-18) across the UK with the complexities of climate change, inspire their climate action, and promote their voices in their own sustainable future.

³ [Young Ambassadors Group \(YAG\) – Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust](#) was set up in recognition that the future of nature and our connection with it will in part be decided on by young people, and GWT wants to be pivotal in making this happen by giving young people a voice. They will work closely and be supported by the Board of Trustees and key GWT staff.

⁴ [Planet Cheltenham](#), a community action hub, seeks to connect people to community initiatives that help tackle climate change, fight social inequality and build a sustainable, resilient future for their town.