



Subject:	Belfast Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap
Date:	12 May 2022
Reporting Officer:	Debbie Caldwell
Contact Officers:	Richard McLernon

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the Belfast Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap, which was commissioned for Belfast through the Place Based Climate Action Network (PCAN) and which is attached for information.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee are asked to adopt the recommended emissions reduction targets for Belfast as set out in the Belfast Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap, which are: 66% by 2025 80% by 2030 88% by 2035 93% by 2040

	<p>97% by 2045</p> <p>100% by 2050</p>
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p>A Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Belfast - Setting Science-Based Carbon Reduction Targets for Belfast.</p> <p>The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) argued that from 2020, keeping within a global carbon budget of 344 gigatonnes (i.e. 344 billion tonnes) of CO₂ emissions would give us a 66% chance of limiting average warming to 1.5°C and therefore avoiding dangerous levels of climate change.</p> <p>The Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap analysis divides this global figure up on an equal basis by population and adjusts the budget to consider other gases that contribute to climate change, which gives Belfast a total carbon budget of c.14 megatonnes over the period between the present and 2050.</p> <p>At the current rate of emissions output, Belfast would use up this budget in just over a decade at some point during the winter of 2030. However, Belfast could stay within its carbon budget by reducing its emissions by c.8.4% year on year. This would mean that to transition from the current position where emissions are 42% lower than 2000 levels to a local pathway that is consistent with the world giving itself a 66% chance of avoiding dangerous, runaway climate change, Belfast should adopt the following carbon reduction targets (on 2000 levels):</p> <p>66% by 2025</p> <p>80% by 2030</p> <p>88% by 2035</p> <p>93% by 2040</p> <p>97% by 2045</p> <p>100% by 2050</p>
3.2	<p>Adopting these targets supports a number of initiatives to address the climate emergency that Council declared in October 2019, including Belfast’s annual report to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), the development of the City Climate Plan, and aligns with the draft NI Climate Change Bill which sets a target of Net-Zero for Northern Ireland by 2050.</p> <p>The Belfast Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap makes a series of recommendations in relation to sectors and identifies buildings and transport as the largest source of Scope 1 and 2 emissions in Belfast.</p>

4.0	Financial & Resource Implications
4.1	Members are asked to note that meeting the recommended targets will require significant additional investment at the city level which to a large extent will depend on the policies, proposals and sectoral plans developed by Northern Ireland departments as well as the resources made available to support decarbonisation projects. Accordingly, the production of the city climate plan will be accompanied by the development of a city climate investment plan.
5.0	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Implications
5.1	None
6.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
6.1	Belfast Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap