

An independent advisory body to bring actors from the public, private and third sectors together to support and guide ambitious climate actions across all parts of Kirklees.

Minutes

Kirklees Climate Commission – Full Meeting
19th November 2021, 10am-12:30pm, Batley Town Hall (and via Teams).

1. Welcome and introductions

A full list of attendees is appended (see Appendix 1).

Apologies were received from Bill Macbeth (BM), Alistair Branch (AB), Katherine Armitage (KA), Cllr Will Simpson (WS).

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Members agreed that the minutes from the previous meeting (17/09/21) were an accurate account of events.

ACTION: Secretariat to upload agreed final version of minutes to website.

3. Matters Arising

a. MP Engagement

Prof. Peter Roberts (PR) provided an update on the meeting with Kirklees MPs.

Key points:

- An invitation was extended to the 4 MPs that cover areas in Kirklees.
- PR and WS met with 3 out of the 4 local MPs covering Kirklees: Jason McCartney (Colne Valley), Kim Leadbeater (Batley & Spen) and Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield).
- The MPs were very receptive, offered to assist locally and through their parliamentary offices. Expressed a desire to be kept up to date with the Commission's work.

ACTION: Secretariat to work with PR and WS to provide quarterly updates for MPs on the Commission's work.

b. A629 Halifax Road Phase 5 Project – Carbon Impact Assessment

Prof. John Allport (JA) & Martin Wood (MW) provided an update following the discussion at the previous Commission meeting.

Key points:

- A meeting between members of the Movement, Innovation & Transport sub-group and relevant Council Officers took place on 1st October 2021 to discuss the consultation document written by the group on the project's Carbon Impact Assessment.
- It was agreed that the Council would look further to understand Carbon Impact for the A629 project between Ainley Top and the town centre. KCC are awaiting the outcome of this.

ACTION: JA to provide update to Commission once feedback from Kirklees Council has been received.

4. Kirklees Council Waste Update

Colin Parr (CP) provided an update on the Council's waste strategy and contract. Presentation slides from this item are appended (see Appendix 2).

Link to Strategy: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/pdf/waste-strategy.pdf#:~:text=The%20development%20of%20the%20waste%20strategy%20plays%20a,best%20decisions%20on%20what%20to%20do%20with%20it.>

Key points:

- New Resources & Waste Strategy for 2021-2030 was approved at Full Council on 8th September 2021.
- Current waste & recycling performance is weak in comparison to other local authorities in the area.
- Currently, the Council is:
 - Delivering food waste workshops
 - Delivering a community recycling champions scheme
 - Working with schools and delivering a new schools recycling service (which is providing a cost saving, as well as better service, for the schools). Over 100 schools have signed up so far.
 - Launching a reuse shop – joint venture with Revive. Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) will have donation points and the reuse shop will be in Huddersfield.
- The Council is currently approaching the end of a 25-year contract (scheduled to end Mar 2023) for waste disposal with Suez. The Council has agreed an interim contract for it to run to end of 2025.
- There will be significant capital investment from Suez for the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility to improve its efficiency. An asset hand back plan is also part of the interim contract.

- As part of the new strategy, Kirklees will be working to expand the range of materials collected from green bins for recycling and there will be longer opening hours for HWRCs.
- Feasibility studies are being carried out to ensure the Council is able to maximise the use of the EfW facility. This includes the Huddersfield Heat Network project.
- A 2017 survey of the EfW facility concluded that the incinerator is expected to reach end of life in approximately 25 years' time.
- Government has mandated Councils to provide food waste collections by 2023. The Council now need to assess if it will develop its own infrastructure, or work with external partners.
- Report on the waste disposal contract will go to Cabinet next month. New contract will go out to procurement in 2022/23 financial year and will likely be a 10–15-year contract.

Comments:

- Commissioners expressed concerns around CO₂ emissions from EfW facility and queried whether carbon capture was being considered. CP explained that carbon capture isn't something the Council are actively pursuing, given the facility is likely to be decommissioned within 2 decades and so would not provide value for money.
- Commissioners queried the state of the historic landfill sites and associated methane emissions. MW explained that there are a number of closed landfills across the district that are actively monitored by Council Officers. MW to follow up with relevant officers and provide more information to Commissioners.
- GR suggested that waste could be merged with the existing Energy sub-group. General consensus from members that this should go ahead.
- Queries raised around the Huddersfield Heat Network project and the lifetime of the EfW facility. CP explained that the lifetime of the heat network would extend past the life of the EfW incinerator, so an alternative heat source will need to be identified. The feasibility study for the heat network is not based wholly on the life of the incinerator only.
- University of Huddersfield is researching systems in terms of energy from waste. JA offered to work with the Council. More efficient technologies, such as gas, are available and it would be valuable to work together on this.
- Youth Panel will be discussing waste at their first meeting on the 24th November 2021. LW requested further information on the offer for school waste collections. RD to provide this.
- SS highlighted that the Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS trust is keen to look at energy and waste. They also have an interest in the reuse shop, as there is a warehouse full of used items e.g., furniture, unused PPE for redistribution. CP highlighted that Council is working with social housing landlords to provide furniture and expressed that this may be worth exploring outside of the meeting.
- TT offered support with linking the reuse scheme with voluntary and community organisations.

ACTION: MW to follow up with relevant Council Officers regarding emissions from landfill sites.

ACTION: GR to broaden scope of Energy sub-group to encompass waste.

ACTION: JA to be co-opted into the Energy sub-group.

ACTION: RD to provide LW with details of the schools' waste collection offer from the Council.

ACTION: CP and SS to pick up a conversation around partnership working around the reuse scheme.

5. A Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Kirklees – Feedback on draft report

Prof. Andy Gouldson (AG) and Andrew Sudmant (AS) attended the meeting to take questions and comments on the draft of the Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Kirklees. The draft report was circulated to Commission members ahead of the meeting. PR expressed his thanks to AG, AS and the University of Leeds team for their hard work on the report.

Discussion Summary:

- Request for the underlying data be made available. AG confirmed that data sheets and summaries can be supplied and would follow this up.
- Request for the report to consider modal shift (e.g., removing the need to make journeys, rather than solely focussing on shift to electric vehicles). AG & AS acknowledged the challenge of establishing the number of people who have the option not to travel to the workplace. In this report, it is assumed that behaviour is 'back to normal' (pre-Covid), and that people walk up to 5km per day, but can provide more detail on the assumptions made.
- Commissioners raised concerns that the report did not consider the importance of land use, biodiversity, and carbon sequestration. This was of particular concern given that there are significant rural areas of peatlands and wetlands in Kirklees. AS provided a response, noting that the team did not focus on nature or land-based solutions, as the scope given was only on housing, buildings, commercial and transport. It is possible to discuss widening the scope if required. Whilst the team acknowledge that land is important for climate and biodiversity, AS explained that the scope for such measures is not substantial for reaching net-zero. Commissioners highlighted that Defra does recognise importance of carbon sequestration and it should not be dismissed entirely.
- General feeling from Commissioners that the full report was not accessible to a general public audience, noting that it is a technical document, focussed on carbon emissions. PR highlighted the importance of considering this report as a 'mini-Stern' document, not a policy document, which is something the Commission needs to develop based on the technical guidance given. AG agreed, explaining this report is a technical assessment of actions that can support in reaching net-zero.
- Queries were raised around the exclusion of scope 3 emissions as a consideration within the report. Explanation on this is contained within the report.
- General agreement that the Commission needs a sufficient communications strategy to support the suggested actions in the report.

- Discussion around considerations on decarbonisation of social housing within the report. AG outlined that the report does consider this and could be broken down further to consider the impact for future funding opportunities.
- AG/AS highlighted that some behaviour change was considered in the projections, particularly around transport and heating.
- AG/AS provided clarification on the scope of the report, stating that this report is not intended to be an action plan, but a technical analysis of how Kirklees can work towards net-zero.
- PR outlined next steps following the final report, which is to consider a readiness assessment and key target areas. The Commission will need to work towards the next stage, using the report as a starting point.

ACTION: AG to provide technical annexes for report.

ACTION: ALL to provide any final feedback to secretariat by end of w/c 22/11/21.

6. Sub-group updates

a. Movement, Innovation & Transport

Professor John Allport (JA) provided an update.

Key points:

- Sub-group members had the meeting with Kirklees Council around the A629 Carbon Impact Assessment (update given in item 3).
- Sub-group also looking at hydrogen internal combustion engines.

b. Buildings & Homes

Chris Herring (CH) provided an update.

Key points:

- The sub-group has had 2 meetings now, with the next meeting happening on 19/11.
- The group have identified 4 key areas of focus:
 - Delivering an event for housing developers
 - Skill development for workforce
 - Guidance for the planning system
 - Readiness report
- The group recognises the value of the roadmap report, as it provides direction for the groups work programme.

c. Natural Environment & the Countryside

Karen Hill (KH) provided an update.

Key points:

- Focus on biodiversity offsetting and land use

- Work to encourage the Council to mandate at least 10% offset at developments
- Engagement through public speaking

d. Young People

Lisa Woods (LW) provided an update.

Key points:

- LW has contacted all schools in the district, with 25 responses.
- First meeting with schools taking place on 24/11/21 , which will introduce the Climate Commission.
- Each school will have its own 'council' and pick aims to work on.
- LW has submitted a bid for a grant for the youth panel through the National Lottery Together for Our Planet Community Fund – outcome expected within 12 weeks.
- Would like to consider applying for further funding but requires clarity on Commission's legal status.

e. Business & Economic Activity

PR provided an update on behalf of Bill Macbeth.

Key points:

- The proposal from the Sustainable Huddersfield Group to the Community Renewal Fund was shortlisted but not supported. The group will be talking to the LEP, the WYCA and Kirklees Council about potential support for 'Green Start-Up' companies.
- The Textile Centre of Excellence ran the first 'Creating Value from Sustainability' workshop on 13th October. The Workshop included 21 delegates from 14 companies. The workshop was led by Dr. Mark Wade who joined Shell in 1979 as a founder member of the Sustainable Development Group and who was Shell's Liaison Delegate to the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. The workshop also featured case studies from leading companies and a representative of the WYCA outlined the support available for businesses to improve their sustainability.
- The feedback from the workshop was excellent and the Centre is now preparing a proposal for a programme to work with companies to help them develop their own Sustainability Strategies. The 12-month programme will provide a series of monthly sessions facilitated by Mark alongside learning content from the IMD in Lusanne, Switzerland.
- Arrangements are being made for the group to meet in mid-December.

f. Energy

Gideon Richards (GR) provided an update.

Key points:

- GR is currently looking for more support, both from existing Commission members and external co-optees.
- Waste will be incorporated into sub-group scope.

g. Communication & Engagement

Tom Taylor (TT) provided an update.

Key points:

- TT has started new role working with Kirklees Third Sector Leaders, which provides excellent links to community groups and organisations.
- Kiran Bali (KB) spoke at COP26 events in both Huddersfield and Leeds.
- Kath Shackleton (KShackleton) is exploring opportunities in Marsden area and has linked up with LW.
- Established that aim is to encompass two-way communications, both providing information and listening to people.
- TT highlighted that there is a need for support on delivering a communications plan and proposed considering paying an external profession to support.

7. Climate Voices Events – 29th & 30th November 2021

TT presented information regarding the upcoming Climate Voices events, which he has been leading on, with support from CH. A poster for the event is appended (see Appendix 3).

Links to KCC Event pages:

<https://www.kirkleesclimate.org.uk/event/climate-voices-29th-november-2021>

<https://www.kirkleesclimate.org.uk/event/climate-voices-30th-november-2021>

Key points:

- Climate Voices is a small group of local people working in partnership with: Kirklees Climate Commission, Zero Carbon Yorkshire, Global Assembly, Third Sector Leaders Kirklees, and Kirklees Council.
- The events focus on small groups of people to meet and talk about climate issues.
- It is based on the [Global Assembly](#) model - COP26 had an event of 100 people to represent the world's population.
- The events are designed for local people, not campaigners or politicians.
- People can meet anywhere, for example with community/voluntary organisations, churches, mosques.
- Each is an informal meeting with the same agenda, with groups feeding back via Zoom to wider group.

- Facilitators will then collate a report, which will come back to the Commission and feed into the Global Assembly work.

Comments:

- Discussion around the timing of the engagement, specifically in relation to the Commission being in its early stages.
- These events are focussed on reaching communities that historically have not shown any interest. This is a complex issue with huge disagreements and vested interests.
- Discussion around engaging with faith communities. Acknowledgement that it's not one size fits all within the faith community and there is a large amount of groundwork to do.
- TT highlighted that this is part of a 'bottom-up' approach, listening and talking to people. PR echoed that the Commission needs to do things 'with' the community, not 'to' it.

ACTION: All to circulate information on the sessions amongst own networks.

ACTION: All to consider supporting in a facilitating role for the events.

8. Work Programme

Key points:

- The planned work of each sub-group needs to be consolidated into an overall Commission work programme.
- Important to ensure the sub-groups work are complementing the direction of the overall Commission.

Comments:

- General consensus that there needs to be greater awareness across the Commission around the work of each sub-group.
- Majority of the Commission's work will require external knowledge and experts, which raises queries around finance and resource availability. PR advised that the Commission needs to establish what work is needed first, so that it can then find resource to facilitate.
- MW stressed the need to ensure the Council and Commission have an oversight of what each other is doing, so not to duplicate efforts. There may be opportunities to work with the Council if we identify there are joint needs for a piece of work to take place.

ACTION: Sub-groups to develop an initial programme of activity and synopsis to be completed by Christmas, covering the next 12 months.

9. COP26 Regional Roadshow – Feedback

Riognach Dewhirst (RD) gave an update on the Kirklees Climate Commission webinar, hosted by Kirklees Council as part of its COP26 Regional Roadshow events.

Throughout the COP26 fortnight in Glasgow, the North East & Yorkshire Energy Hub hosted COP26 Regional Roadshows to mirror the activity and themes happening in Glasgow. These roadshows were supported and funded by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, through the five regional Energy Hubs.

Link to view webinar:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6GikLeUMNCI>

Key points:

- The webinar took place on 11th November 2021 from 18:00-19:30.
- Hosted on YouTube, the event was open to all members of the public.
- During the webinar, viewers found out more on how the Commission works, why it is needed, and its future projects.
- The meeting was chaired by Commission Vice-Chair, Cllr Will Simpson.
- There were addresses from Cllr Simpson, Prof. Roberts, Katherine Armitage, as well as short film clips and presentations from Commissioners.
- The webinar concluded with a Q&A with questions from the public, put to the panel.
- As of 19/11/21 there were over 200 unique views of the webinar. It will remain available and has been embedded on the KCC website.
- RD reiterated her thanks to all those involved in the webinar.
- Some interest in sub-group participation has been generated.

Comments:

- PR thanked RD and the team for the work to deliver this event.
- PR asked to extend thanks to Olivia and the behind-the-scenes team at the Council for their support with the team.

Secretariat & Administration

PR led a discussion, with input from MW, around the secretariat and administrative functions of the Commission.

Key points:

- PR has had a discussion with MW and SB around available resource from the Council.
- Currently all the resources come from the Council's Energy & Climate Change team, but capacity is limited.
- Established that requirement is approximately 0.8 FTE person to cover administration.

- The Commission needs to seek resources from elsewhere and need help from other sources with this.
- Request to look within other organisations linked to the Commission for support.
- Requirement for greater professional/secretariat resource than there is currently available, and the Council does not have sufficient budget to cover this gap.
- The Council will continue to support the Commission, but it doesn't have the capacity to support all its activities. The Energy & Climate Change team is small and relatively new, with very significant work programme.
- Primarily the Council is able to support with clerical tasks such as arranging meetings, minuting for full Commission meetings.

Comments:

- Agreed that the Commission needs support and resources in addition to the support already provided by the Council. The current level of resource does not match the Commission's ambitions.
- Discussion around refreshing the Commission's Terms of Reference, to be more relevant to how it is actually operating.
- Several Commissioners queried the legal status of the Commission. General feeling is that this needs clarifying. This is important in terms of funding opportunities. Clarified that at present, its legal status is an 'unincorporated association'.
- Jimmy Dickinson (JD) offered financial support for commissioning a piece for the Natural Environment & Countryside sub-group.
- Jennifer Hirst (JH) highlighted that at Cummins, all 1,000 staff have time committed to volunteering. At present, they are struggling to find environmental projects they can work on, so supporting the Commission might be a way to utilise this time.
- Stephen Moore (SM) expressed a desire to work on a pilot for social housing with Abdul Ravat (AR), but would need advice for how to get funding/match funding.
- KShackleton added that Kirklees is an Arts Council priority place, applications will be seen favourably, as climate is a priority.
- SB was approached by a course convenor at Salford University who is looking for placement options to send their masters and PhD students. SB has and signposted them to the Commission. The Commission may to explore similar opportunities with local universities.

ACTION: PR and members to explore options around legal status.

ACTION: Secretariat to add discussion around legal status and governance to the next meeting agenda.

10. Any other business

a. Readiness Assessments

- Roadmap report is to be finalised, then work can proceed on readiness assessments.
- Sub-groups are to look at readiness assessments for particular sectors.

ACTION: Final roadmap report to be supplied to Commission once complete.

b. Governance

- Discussion around importance of equality and diversity monitoring within the Commission's membership.
- Highlighted that Commissioners may need to declare conflicts of interest at the beginning of Commission meetings.

ACTION: PR and supporting members to look into governance further and to feedback at next Commission meeting.

c. Social event

- Suggestion of a festive social event for Commissioners.

ACTION: KShackleton to discuss organising this with PR.

11. Next Meetings

Workshop Session - Friday 14th January 2022

Full Commission Meeting – Friday 4th February 2022

Appendix 1 – Attendees

Chair

Professor Peter Roberts (PR)

Commissioners

Abdul Ravat (AR)– Abbeyfield Society

Gideon Richards (GR) – Consulting with Purpose

Chris Herring (CH) – Green Building Store & UK Passivhaus Trust

Stephen Moore (SM) – CityFibre

Tom Taylor (TT) – TSL (Third Sectors Leaders) Kirklees

Lisa Woods (LW) – Upper Batley High School

Daniel Bedford (DB) – Kirklees College

Kiran Bali (KB) – United Religions Initiative

Jimmy Dickinson (JD) – Longley Farm

Kath Shackleton (KShackleton) – Fettle Animation

Stuart Sugarman (SS) – Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust

Jennifer Hirst (JH) – Cummins

Professor John Allport (JA) – University of Huddersfield

Karen Hill (KH)– Independent

Kathy Scott (KScott) – Yorkshire & Humber Academic Health Science Network

Tony Newham (TN) – Key Commercial Finance Solutions

Kirklees Council Senior Officer Nominee

Colin Parr (CP) – Strategic Director for Environment and Climate Change

Guest Attendees

Professor Andy Gouldson (AG) – University of Leeds

Andrew Sudmant (AS) – University of Leeds

Martin Wood (MW) – Kirklees Council (Head of Public Protection)

Secretariat

Riognach Dewhirst (RD)

Bonni Jee (BJ)

Shaun Berry (SB)

John Atkinson (JAtk)



Climate Commission

Waste Update

Friday 19th November 2021

Kirklees Resources & Waste Strategy 2021-2030

Our Vision


Our overall vision for Kirklees is to be a district that combines a strong, sustainable economy with a great quality of life - leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity, and low inequality where people enjoy better health throughout their lives.

One of our shared outcomes to achieve our vision, is that people in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean and green environment. Our built and natural environment contributes to people's quality of life and makes the district a more attractive place in which to live and invest. We want to connect people and places, improve air quality and be resilient in the face of extreme weather, as well as helping people reduce waste and recycle more. Tied into our corporate vision and outcomes, our vision for waste management is:

Kirklees' ambition is to be at the forefront of the national drive towards tackling Climate Change, eliminating waste and valuing resources by empowering our residents to live sustainably. As a council, we will enable our residents and businesses to reduce, reuse, and recycle their waste. For us to achieve this, we will need to work together and take ownership and responsibility for the waste we generate and make more sustainable decisions on what we do with it.

We shared our vision with the people of Kirklees in 2020 and this strategy sets out our pathway to a zero-waste future, based on the views and ambitions shared with us by our communities.

"a clean, green, sustainable future for Kirklees with zero waste to landfill and where waste is valued as a resource through re-use, recycling, and recovery."



Resources & Waste Strategy 2021-2030

Within the **next 12 months** we will deliver the following...

Food Waste Workshops May 2021	A Recycling Champions scheme September 2021	A new recycling collection to our commercial waste service September 2021	A reuse shop in Huddersfield November 2021	A composting scheme February 2022	Improved litter facilities March 2022	A new bulky waste collection system April 2022	Create an improved fly-tipping response model May 2022	Commence a trial on glass collections at kerbside November 2022
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Within the **next 5 years** we will deliver the following...



A robust communication and engagement plan will support each improvement project



Waste Disposal Contract Update

Interim contract: July 2021– March 2025

Key benefits:

- It will deliver investment in the EfW
- Allows the Council to develop a 'handback' plan in keeping with modern contracts and best practice
- Allows for more materials to be collected via recycling collections
- Increased opening hours at HWRCs

Strategic benefits of the Interim Contract:

- It affords the Council more time to consider the shape of the new contract in order to ensure that we maximise the benefits of the new Waste Strategy
- Provides time to consider and properly implement the requirements of the Environment Act
- It will ensure that the Huddersfield Heat Network and its associated benefits can be integrated into the new contract



Waste Disposal Contract Update

- Other related local arrangements:

- Climate emergency
 - Fleet Strategy, carbon emission reduction targets, etc.
- District heat network:
 - Supporting Town Centre buildings ; readiness for DHN
- Local Plan
 - Housing growth, business growth, depot strategy, strategic sites for waste
- Cultural Transformation programme (lens)



- Related national policies & legislation:

- 25-year Environment Plan
- National Resource & Waste Strategy
- Circular Economy Package
- Environment Bill

} Uncertainty on local recycling targets
e.g. £300m budget announced for food waste



Current Position on Disposal

- Interim contract commenced 1 October 2021 and ends 31st March 2025 with assets handed back to the Council, including:
 - Energy from Waste facility (EfW)
 - Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)
 - 2 x Waste Transfer Stations (WTS)
 - 5x Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)
 - 1 x transfer pad (for garden, gully, and street sweeping waste)
 - 2 x closed landfill sites
- 2017 condition surveys identified life left in the facilities
 - 15-25yrs with investment
 - 2021 updated survey near completion
- Reviews completed:
 - DEFRA
 - Infrastructure & Projects Authority (IPA)
- Procurement: 2022-24



Appendix 3 – Climate Voices Poster



**Our planet is heating up, reaching dangerous levels.
Polluted air, water and land impacts on every living thing.**

Political and business leaders are talking about climate change and campaigners are working hard to influence decisions. But how do local communities have a voice in decisions about climate change?



Mon 29 Nov, 12.30 to 3.00pm or Tues 30 Nov, 6.30 to 8.00pm

These events are part of the Global Assembly on climate change (www.globalassembly.org), giving a voice to communities all over the world to help make fair and effective decisions and action on climate change.

How it will work:

- At each event, small groups will meet in community centres, schools, businesses, charities and homes across Kirklees to talk about climate change. Each group attends only one event.
- The groups might be teams, clubs, committees, colleagues, friends or neighbours - it is up to you which group you choose. At least five people and not more than twelve in a group works best.
- Training will be available for group facilitators who will help groups keep to time, to learn, listen respectfully and share their views and ideas. Could you be a facilitator for your group?
- We hope groups from all parts of our diverse Kirklees community will take part – all ages, abilities, perspectives, cultures and faiths. Diverse perspectives can create innovative thinking and we know citizens assemblies can produce real solutions. Groups can develop their own action plans too.
- The groups taking part across Kirklees will link into one big Zoom meeting for a few minutes during the event, so each group can hear from others. Technical help will be available.
- All the notes and videos from the events will be presented to the Global Assembly and the Kirklees Climate Commission, so small group voices become part of big decisions.

Email: hello@climatevoices.org.uk to find out more

Climate Voices is a small group of local people working in partnership with:

