

**Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee**  
**Scrutiny Committee Response Tracker – September 2023**

	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Query raised</b>	<b>Response/ Update</b>
1.	24 July 2023	<p><b>Update on Complaints Performance</b></p> <p>The Committee requested that a further update on the Resident Experience Programme to be scheduled in six months' time.</p>	This has been scheduled for the January 2024 meeting.
2.	24 July 2023	<p><b>Corporate Performance – Year End 2022-23</b></p> <p>The Committee requested that detailed update on staff sickness absence be scheduled for a future meeting.</p>	This is now scheduled for the December 2023 meeting.
3.	21 September 2023	<p><b>Budget Monitoring Report, Q1</b></p> <p>A member asked for further information on targeting capital spend on greening measures, for example implementing LED lighting. In response, it was advised that a full response would be sought from the Environment department.</p>	A response from the Acting Head of Energy is set out overleaf.
4.	21 September 2023	<p><b>Scrutiny Review of multi-agency response to complex ASB – Introductory Presentation</b></p> <p>A new webform was being developed to support better reporting of ASB. The Committee asked for an update on when this would be available.</p>	The Director of Community Safety, Security and Resilience has advised that this is expected in January 2024.

### **Response to Query 3 on targeting capital spend on greening measures**

As part of its Vision 2030 net zero strategy, the council is seeking to decarbonise its estate. The approach to decarbonisation follows the hierarchy set out in Vision 2030 of removing gas boilers, making buildings more energy efficient, generating renewable energy on site and procuring any remaining electricity needs from renewable sources. The ambition is to have a holistic approach that removes fossil fuel systems and reduces sites' total energy consumption at the same time, with the aim of also reducing running costs.

The council has used its capital programme to achieve revenue savings by implementing greening measures through "spend-to-save" projects for many years. Examples include installing LED lighting at 222 Upper Street, the Town Hall and Waste Recycling Centre, installing solar PV at 222 Upper Street and the Waste Recycling Centre, or smaller projects such as cold aisle containment at 222 Upper Street to reduce cooling demand for the site's servers. Capital has also been invested in the streetlighting LED upgrade programme, which will be complete this financial year when the remaining 5% of streetlights are upgraded. The council also uses its carbon offset fund to deliver greening measures that result in cost savings, for example installing PV on four council buildings this year.

Looking forwards, the council currently has a £5.5m capital allocation for building decarbonisation, which aims to deliver savings through greening measures. The corporate building decarbonisation programme started after the publication of the Vision 2030 strategy. The process begins with a "Heat Decarbonisation Plan" (HDP), which is a high-level feasibility study identifying how best to decarbonise the building. The HDP includes both the replacement of existing gas heating and hot water systems with electric alternatives and other energy efficiency measures that either reduce electricity consumption on site (for example, by installing better heating controls and fabric or lighting upgrades) or generate renewable power (solar PV). While the replacement of the boiler is the primary decarbonisation measure, the other measures are intended to minimise electricity consumption and running costs. In most cases there is an overall decrease in running costs.

The HDPs are then used to apply for funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS), a central government fund for decarbonising public buildings. The council has to match fund these projects, and does this using the £5.5m budget allocation for decarbonising council buildings. Around 160-170 sites have been identified as potentially in scope for the decarbonisation works, including offices, libraries, depots and schools. Decarbonisation works are underway on five sites, with a PSDS bid for a further ten submitted in early October. The council is currently procuring a contractor that would deliver these and any future works through the GLA's RE:FIT framework (a framework of contractors that carry out decarbonisation works). This appointment will speed up delivery of the decarbonisation programme as there will not need to be a separate procurement process for each building.

In addition to the large-scale PSDS projects, other opportunities to improve energy efficiency and reduce costs are being taken where identified. £300k of the £5.5m decarbonisation allocation has been set aside as an “Opportunities Fund” to deliver ad hoc works outside of the main decarbonisation programme. Some of this budget was recently used to upgrade the Building Management Systems of 14 of the main corporate buildings, which enables much improved control over heating and cooling systems and will reduce electricity and gas usage. The council also has an internal energy audit programme that involves visiting corporate buildings and schools each year to identify energy saving opportunities, as well as creating Display Energy Certificates (DECs), a legal requirement for many public sector buildings. The audit programme and DECs identify small-scale measures such as LED lighting, heating and lighting controls or insulation, which can be implemented using the Opportunities Fund. The Opportunities Fund is also being used to upgrade the council’s older PV systems by installing remote metering that allows staff to see whether the systems are working as expected.