

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	RC/22/14
MEETING	RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	5 SEPTEMBER 2022
SUBJECT OF REPORT	SERVICE ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY UPDATE
LEAD OFFICER	Director Of Service Improvement
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>In October 2020, the Authority resolved to declare a climate emergency and to endorse an Environmental Strategy whereby the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (the Service) would, through adaptation and mitigation, seek to address climate change issues.</p> <p>In July and August of this year, a protracted period of extreme weather was experienced. This has brought the risks from climate change into greater focus. It is therefore timely to present a new environmental action plan for 2022-2025 that more widely encompasses a greater range of actions for the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (the Service) to seek to adapt and mitigate against the risks from climate change.</p> <p>This report details progress on the existing environmental strategy action plan and presents a new plan in recognition of the work achieved to date and Service ambitions for a more sustainable future.</p> <p>The action plan for 2022-2025 had been updated to align to ISO140001 (Environmental Management) and following recommendations from the Initial Environmental Review (IER) undertaken in October 2021.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	None
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	None
APPENDICES	<p>A. Environmental Strategy – Initial (18 Month) Action Plan – Progress Update.</p> <p>B. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Calculations and Scopes published for the 2021-22 financial year.</p> <p>C. Action Plan Metrics 2022-25.</p> <p>D. Action Plan 2022 – 25.</p>

**BACKGROUND
PAPERS**

Environmental Strategy

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. At its meeting on 29 September 2021, the Authority approved the following additions to this Committee's Terms of Reference:

Advisory only

Acting as a Working Party, to consider with relevant officers the development of the Environmental Strategy and associated potential performance measures for forthcoming years for approval by the Authority;

Matters with Delegated Powers to Act

To scrutinise and monitor the effectiveness of the Service in meeting the Authority-approved Environmental Strategy objectives.

(Minute DSFRA/21/22 refers).

- 1.2. This paper provides the Committee with an update against the Environmental Strategy.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY AND INITIAL (18 MONTH) ACTION PLAN

- 2.1. At its meeting on 23 October 2020, the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority (the Authority) resolved to declare a climate emergency and to endorse an Environmental Strategy whereby the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (the Service) would, through adaptation and mitigation, seek to address climate change issues (Minute DSFRA/53 refers)

- 2.2. The Environmental Strategy as endorsed contained an action plan for the immediate future (18 months), medium horizon (18 months to three years) and longer term (by 2030).

- 2.3. Appendix A to this report sets out progress to date against those actions identified for the 18 month horizon. All of these actions are either completed or in progress and where in progress will feature either as part of the new iteration of the action plan (see Section 3 below) or will be delivered as part of other workstreams being progressed by the Service. Additionally, a number of new actions have been identified which are contained in the new iteration of the action plan.

3. ACTION PLAN 2022-25 AND ASSOCIATED METRICS

- 3.1. In October 2021, the Service commissioned an Initial Environmental Review (IER) aligned to ISO14001¹ to support its understanding of environmental legislation and compliance. This review included development of the environmental registers of legislation, a gap analysis of the Service position/proposals against ISO14001 and the register of environmental aspects.

¹ ISO 14001 is an International Standard prescribing a structured approach to environmental protection, enabling organisations to develop and implement policies to deliver environmentally responsible and sustainable business practices.

- 3.2. The outcome of the IER contained the following recommendations:
- continued development and implementation of the Environmental Strategy and action plan;
 - taking corrective action over the high priority areas in the site visit report;
 - establishing an environmental management system; and
 - a review each item on the environmental legislation annex to ensure the Service was fully compliant.
- 3.3. The Service has taken corrective action over the high priority areas identified from the IER and has refined its action plan for the period 2022-25 to align with the IER recommendations and ISO14001. A Strategic Environmental Board with dedicated working groups has been established to oversee delivery against the plan. This plan, identifying each stream and associated sub-stream together with the status of each, is set out at Appendix D to this report. Finally, a series of metrics to measure progress against this plan has been developed. These are set out at Appendix C.
- 3.4. The new plan carries forward and builds on the work completed to date and recognises an increasing awareness and knowledge of climate change and environmental factors impacting both on communities in general and the Service itself.

GERALD TAYLOR
Director of Service Improvement

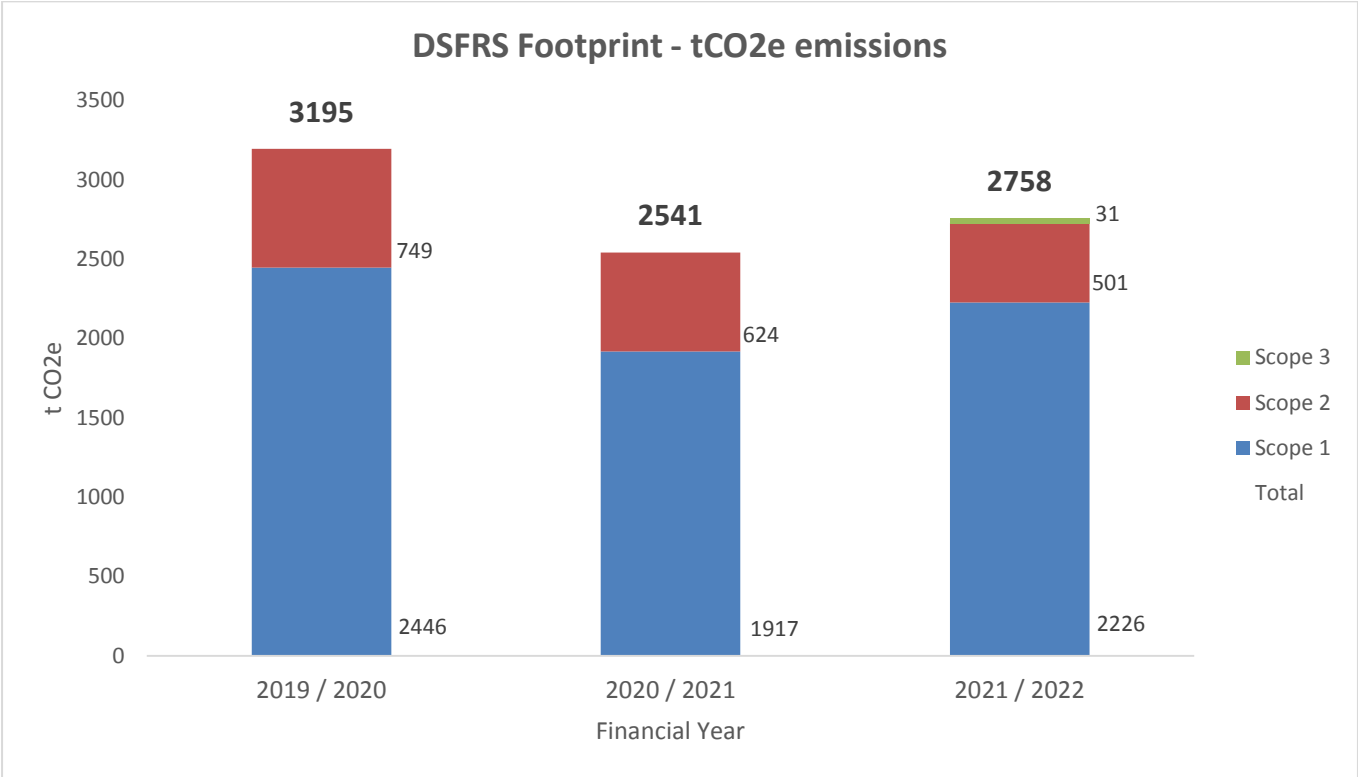
ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY – INITIAL (18 MONTH) ACTION PLAN – PROGRESS UPDATE

Action	How will it be done?	RAGB Update
To consider through the Fire Authority, Chief Fire Officer and Executive Leadership Team our declaration of a climate change emergency and actively promote our strategy with partner organisations and wider community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Declare climate emergency 2. Communications plan to launch Green DSFRS 	<p>Complete. Declaration of Climate Emergency. Communications plan and strategy and measures published on the Service website, intranet and statement of accounts.</p> <p>New actions identified.</p>
Providing funding to deliver our action plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Earmark funding 	<p>Complete. Environmental reserve in place.</p> <p>New actions identified.</p>
Making waste reduction a priority	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning from best practice 2. Co-ordinating with procurement to specify low waste goods and services 3. Digitising/efficiency 	<p>In progress. Site surveys undertaken as part of the IER. Waste streams being identified and being measured in carbon footprint reporting.</p> <p>Key part of the new action plan.</p>
Work collaboratively with DEFRA, Environment Agency, and others to identify and deliver best practice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage in working groups including NFCC 2. Update memorandum of understanding with Environment Agency 	<p>In progress. DSFRS committed and published the Emergency Services Sustainability Charter.</p> <p>Key part of the new action plan.</p>

Action	How will it be done?	RAGB Update
Introduce environmental factors and impacts in our decision-making processes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update templates 2. Introduce Environmental Impact Assessment process 	<p>In progress Register of environmental aspects and legislation in place. A green impact and decision-making process drafted for consultation. Carbon footprint reporting in place.</p> <p>Key part of the new action plan.</p>
develop self-service processes to reduce inefficiency and remove paper-based systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver workbench applications 2. Embed Office 365 3. Review processes for paper and seek to eliminate/ fully digitise 	<p>In progress Delivery through other workstreams.</p>
Putting greater emphasis on environmental changes with our energy companies and third-party providers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review contracts when up for review 2. Consider fully carbon offsetting energy use 3. Embed in next procurement strategy 	<p>In progress Monitoring and measurements of utilities in place. Contract provisions for environmental factors in place.</p> <p>Key part of the new action plan.</p>
Introduce electric vehicle charging points at our pilot sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree optimum locations 2. Agree recharging regime (e.g. assess impact of free) 3. Subcontract installation 	<p>In progress Site surveys across the estate undertaken for electrical installations. Electric vehicles trialled and selected. Tender for charging infrastructure published.</p> <p>Key part of the new action plan.</p>
Design green and carbon reduction initiatives into our new building schemes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess appetite for green initiatives as uplift against building regulations 2. Embed in Estates Strategy 	<p>In progress Site Survey (IER) undertaken at new development site. Tender for an energy feasibility study undertaken and consultant started first site visits 22nd August.</p> <p>Key part of the new action plan.</p>

Action	How will it be done?	RAGB Update
Establish fleet telematics system and start to implement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement fleet strategy 2. Asset management project phase 2 	<p>Complete Telematics installed on 200+ vehicles. Data utilisation and location of fleet being considered by the working group.</p>
Work with Water Companies to understand future impacts of firefighting use of water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish project/ consider PhD study/ NFCC collaboration 2. Publish data and findings to incorporate in to training and product procurement 	<p>In progress Water aspect identified in Aspects register and legislation register. DSFRS part of the NFCC hydrants working group.</p> <p>Part of the new action plan.</p>
Measure and publish our current environmental impact in terms of emissions, waste, water and utilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working group to agree initial metrics 2. Data gathering and publication 3. Development of new metrics as data becomes available 	<p>Complete Reporting on GHG protocols for 21/22 published (see Appendix B to this report), with a summary included in the Statement of Accounts. This reporting will be expanded to increase scope 3 as data becomes available.</p> <p>Part of the new action plan.</p>
Encourage behaviour change and share good ideas for improvement with our staff, partner organisations and wider community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning from best practice 2. Co-ordinating with comms team on campaign 3. Establish staff champions 	<p>In progress Behaviour change working group established. E-learning module being implemented and a green champions network.</p> <p>Part of the new action plan.</p>

GHG Emissions Calculations



GHG scopes as published FY 21/22 (summary within statement of accounts)

Scope	Item incl.	Description	Calculation approach	Metric tonnes of CO2e
1	Natural Gas	Gas purchased and used at our premises.	kWh (gross CV)	685.3
1	Diesel	Fuel used in our owned transport	Litres	1,361.3
1	Petrol	Fuel used in our owned transport	Litres	51.3
1	Burning Oil	Kerosine purchased for use in our premises.	Litres	15.0
1	Gas Oil	Red diesel used in diesel engines and heating systems	Litres	103.0
1	F-gas	Refrigerant top-ups to our air conditioning systems	kg	10.0
			Total Scope 1 tCO2e	2,225.9

Scope	Item incl.	Description	Calculation approach	Metric tonnes of CO2e
2	Electricity	Electricity purchased and used at our premises.	kWh (gross CV)	501.5
			Total Scope 2 tCO2e	501.5

Scope	Item incl.	Description	Calculation approach	Exclusions	Metric tonnes of CO2e
3	Water	Supply of water and wastewater treatment from our premises.	Cubic metres (m3)	None	8.3
3	Refuse	General & recycling waste collected and disposed from our premises.	Tonnes	Other waste streams to be identified and included.	2.1

3	Business Travel	Flights, rail, and overnight accommodation by our staff in support of their operations. (Car hire and business travel by staff in their own vehicles) excluded. Refuelling of vehicles (incl. car hire) captured in Scope 1 fuel consumption.	Bookings made	Land travel	20.6
				Total Scope 3 tCO2e	31.0

Total reported tCO2e (Scope 1, 2 and 3)					2,758.4
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Action Plan Metrics 2022-2025

Measure	Unit of Measure (conversion factor)	Description
Carbon neutral by 2030	tCO2e	Carbon footprint reductions in Scope 1 and 2 (excludes scope 3)
Carbon net-positive by 2050	tCO2e	Carbon footprint reductions in Scope 1 and 2 (excludes scope 3)
Environmental Complaints	Count & Severity	Count and severity impact on the number of public environmental complaints received such as noise & nuisance from our activities.
Environmental Compliance	Count	Number of site audit assessments completed per annum and count and severity of any compliance issues.
Environmental incidents caused directly or indirectly by DSFRS activities	Count & Severity	Number of incidents such as fuel leaks or contaminated firewater runoff from our activities.
Environmental Competence & Awareness	Count	Staff trained and awareness through communication programmes.
Photovoltaic (PV) systems power generation	kWh	Volume of power generated from installed PV systems and volume of power exported by PV systems
Euro 6+ vehicles	Count	The number of euro 6+ vehicles in total fleet numbers.