

## Annex A.

# Delivering a Climate Change Strategy for York. November 2007.

### 1. Background.

1.1. In September 2007 the Executive of the City of York Council agreed a city wide Climate Change Strategy to be developed in partnership with other organisations in the city, with the LSP being the best delivery mechanism to achieve this. Executive expect the council to be a key leader in this activity, building on the experience gained through the Local Authority Carbon Management Programme. However it is acknowledged that a successful response to climate change requires the input and involvement from all sectors of the community and as such its production and delivery should be integral to the Local Strategic Partnership. The scope for the strategy and the details of how it will be developed are provided below and were agreed by the Without Walls Board on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

### 2. Proposed scope of a Climate Change Strategy.

2.1 The Climate Change Strategy will identify the evidence base for climate change, the baseline position for York, targets for reduced emissions, and a set of actions by which these targets will be delivered. It is proposed the mechanism for producing and delivering the strategy and action plan focusses on the existing structure of the LSP, directly engaging with all eight Partnership groups.

2.2 The Climate Change Strategy is split into two complementary linked sections; the strategy document and the delivery plan. (see Fig. 1)

**A. The Climate Change Strategy document.** This is the core document that contains the following information:

- Clear statement of intention, with targets for short term and long term improvements.
- Evidence based case for action on the key issues of: food; transport; housing; non-residential energy use; goods and services; green infrastructure.
- For each of these key issues we will examine the actions required for both mitigation and adaptation.

*Mitigation – reduction of green house gas (GHG) emissions now and in the future.*

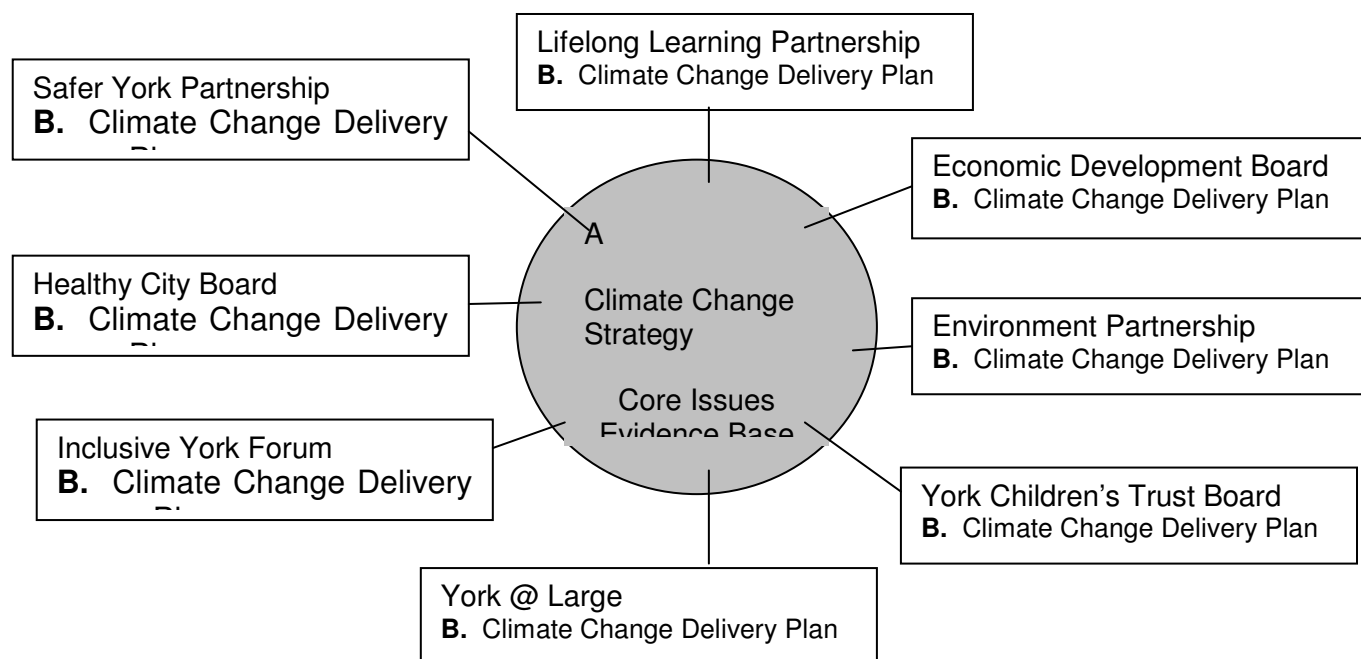
*Adaptation - how will we need to adapt what we do in order to cope with the effects of climate change that we are already and will experience.*

- The case for action will provide information about the causes and consequences of climate change. This will include the baseline information and data on which the delivery plans can be developed. Some of this baseline work is already available:  
The York Ecological and Carbon Footprint provide a baseline of consumption-based emissions from the residents of York. The Council has established a carbon emissions baseline of its own activities

through the Carbon Management Programme. The partnership also benefits from the policy profiling tool REAP (Resource, Energy Analysis Programme) which supports a more informed understanding of the environmental and carbon impact of policies and activities across the city.

**B. The delivery plan.** An implementation or delivery plan is essential to ensure actions are taken to reduce the city’s carbon emissions in line with national and local targets and to prepare the city for the changes in climate ahead. The delivery plan is proposed as a 3 year rolling programme with annual targets. This should allow for planned and co-ordinated action alongside effective monitoring to make sure our actions are reducing emissions in line with our short, medium and long term targets. The key for this element being the ownership of the issues and solutions by as many delivery groups as possible. Whereas responding to key issues such as transport will need to be responsive to the various delivery mechanisms and audiences for each Partnership. The action plans need to reflect the activities and scope of both constituent organisations and collective whole of each partnership. This is where the participation of all Partnerships is critical (see 3.5 below)

Fig 1. Proposed scope and structure of the Climate Change Strategy



### 3. Proposed process for producing and implementing a Climate Change Strategy for York.

3.1 Options have been considered, researched and carefully debated by the LSP Environment Partnership and their recommendation is as follows.

3.2 The Environment Partnership will lead the production of the strategy with the assistance of the council's Sustainability Officers. They will form a core group who will steer the process.

3.3 The Climate Change Core Group will be made up of representatives from:

- Stockholm Environmental Institute.
- Environment Agency.
- Ryedale Energy Conservation Group who are responsible for the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre.
- Sir John Lawton (local resident and Chair of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution) will chair the group.

3.4 The Climate Change Core Group will:

- Be time limited to cover the production of the strategy and delivery plans.
- Produce a draft scope for the strategy to use as a basis for the participation of the Partnerships,
- Representatives of the Core Group and the Environment Partnership will attend each of the LSP Partnership groups to update on progress and seeks views and input into the strategy and tailored delivery plans,
- Report regularly to the full Environment Partnership and LSP Without Walls Board on progress and seek their comments and assistance where necessary.

3.5. Active participation of each LSP Partnership groups.

Actions are required within each of the LSP Partnership groups to ensure successful reduction of York's greenhouse gas emissions and adaptations for the climate change we are and will experience. The Climate Change core group will provide the detailed expertise on climate change and the areas of action required, however the means by which these actions are delivered will be the responsibility of each of the partnership groups. It is proposed that representatives of the core group will attend each of the Partnership meetings over the coming year to support a regular agenda item on climate change.

These agenda items will cover the following items over a number of meetings:

- Raising awareness and understanding about climate change including the legal frameworks and drivers and emission reduction targets (national, local and for organisations).
- Use tangible examples of how different actions will reduce GHG emissions and help us adapt to climate change.
- Information on and discussion of the main issues - the big GHG emitters and the biggest impacts.
- Through discussion with the partnership identify the focus for their action in relation to the above information in the two areas of:
  - Action within the organisations that make up the partnership, and
  - Action in the areas of 'added value' that the partnership brings.
- Through discussion identify at least two areas for action in the 3 year delivery plan; one short term one long term.

3.6 Once the Climate Change Strategy has been produced it will then be endorsed by the Without Walls Board for approval by the City of York Council.

3.7 Proposed timetable for the production of the Climate Change Strategy:

18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 07	Draft scoping report and update on progress to the Council's Executive.
Jan 08 ->	Drafting of strategy and active participation within LSP Partnership groups.
Nov 08	Draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan for York to WoW Board for consideration.
Jan 09	Consultation with the wider community on the Draft of Climate Change Strategy for York.
Sept. 08	Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan to WoW Board
Nov. 08	Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan to CYC Executive