

Annex 1

York's various sustainable city commitments are:

The Strategy for York

- 1.1 In 2011 the Without Walls Partnership refreshed the city's long term strategy for York (2011 – 2025). Visit www.yorkwow.org.uk/meetings/
- 1.2 This strategy commits the city to being a leading environmentally Friendly city and to creating a sustainable city.
- 1.3 The long term objective is:
York will be a leading sustainable city by demonstrating strong performance in tackling climate change, resource efficiency, environmental protection and enhancement (natural and built environments), sustainable transport and quality of life for all, and whilst respecting its special qualities and capacity for growth accordingly.
- 1.4 The priorities going forward are to:
 - Change the way we live and work in York by promoting and embedding sustainable lifestyles that will have a positive effect on the natural and built environment;
 - Conserve the natural environment in York for the enjoyment of everyone;
 - Define and communicate the special qualities of York and the distinctiveness of the city and ensure that development and growth strengthen these qualities;
 - Promote pride of place amongst local residents and support them in improving the quality of their communities.
 - Develop sustainable means of travelling within, from and to York that meet the needs of residents, visitors and the economy
 - Be a city with low levels of pollution and waste production and high levels of recycling

The Climate Change Framework and Action Plan 2010-2015

A Climate Change Framework and Action Plan was developed and approved in 2010 to ensure York, over time, accelerates actions to reduce carbon emissions.

It also:

- commits the city to a 40 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2020 (based on a 2005 baseline) and an 80 per cent reduction by 2050 (based on a 1990 baseline)
- commits the city to making full use of the potential for low carbon, renewable, localised sources of energy generation across York
- highlights ten key areas for the city to focus on creating:
 - sustainable homes
 - sustainable buildings
 - sustainable energy
 - sustainable transport
 - low carbon lifestyle
 - sustainable planning and land use
 - sustainable WoW – illustrating the climate change work they are doing as a partnership
 - a prepared York – how we start to prepare and adapt our infrastructure, services, homes and businesses for a changing climate.

More details are available at

www.york.gov.uk/info/200587/climate_change/501/climate_change/3

Covenant of Mayors and Friends of Earth ‘Get Serious’ campaign

In addition to the above the council is also a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors and has a Sustainable Energy Action Plan that aims to deliver at least a 20% reduction in city carbon emissions by 2020. The council is also a signatory of the Friends of the Earth ‘Get Serious’ campaign and therefore, is committed to delivering a 40% reduction in city-wide carbon emissions by 2020.

The Council Plan

For the next four years the Council is committed to meeting 4 key priority areas –

- Create jobs and grow the economy.
- Get York moving.
- Build strong communities.
- Protect vulnerable people.
- Protect the environment.

Under the Protecting the Environment priority the council is committed to:

- York will be better prepared and more resilient in the face of a changing climate and will steadily reduce its carbon emissions
- York's natural environment will be enhanced by more green space managed to balance public, wildlife, habitat benefit and improved public access to green space
- York will be known as a world class centre of excellence for conservation practice and heritage education
- York's built environment will combine 21st century development, modern architecture and sustainable design that complements York's architectural legacy
- York will be one of the best performing areas in the country for waste services; we will produce less waste overall and re-use, recycle and compost more household waste
- York will have a clear energy strategy which prioritises local renewable energy generation

Carbon Management Programme

This internal programme commits the council to reduce its own carbon emissions from across its estate by 25% between 2008 – 2013.