

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - TASK AND FINISH GROUP SCOPING DOCUMENT

Task and Finish Group Title:	
Membership of Working Group:	The group to be comprised of approximately ten nominated members from the Climate and Place Scrutiny Committee, additional wider members may join the group at the Scrutiny Chairs discretion
Service Area:	Climate and Place / Cross-cutting
Key Officer Contacts: [Lead and support]	Mickey Green Kirsty Larkins Jon Doyle Jacob Hall
Scoping form completed by:	Jacob Hall
T&F Group requested by:	Jacob Hall
Criteria for inclusion in work programme:	(If yes please provide details)
External or National Priorities:	Internal: One of the key objectives within the Somerset Wide Climate Emergency Strategy under the energy theme
Priorities identified in SC Business Plan or other Key Policies/Plans:	One of the council's four objectives is to create a "Greener more sustainable Somerset" The energy plans ultimate objective is to expediate and proliferate renewable energy generation across the county.
Planned Key Decisions or Forward Plans:	n/a
Evidence from Public Consultation or trend from Councillor Case Work:	n/a
Summary of anticipated benefits and outcomes:	Ensure that the energy plan developed is robust, comprehensive, deliverable and sufficiently collaborative.

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	Ensure the outputs from the plan are applicable, understandable and useful for all stakeholders across the county including the council itself, community energy groups, renewable energy developers and Somerset businesses
Indicators of success:	<p>To develop a Somerset Wide Energy Plan that meets the objectives below</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a high-level assessment of renewable opportunities and constraints to support the development of the new Somerset-wide Local Plan to identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the council and on council-owned assets 2. Identify investment projects and opportunities, ensuring evidence is in place to allow the new Somerset Council to take these forward directly or in partnership and having the evidence available to bid for potential future funding 3. A roadmap towards the objectives outlined in the Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy, including a target of net zero by 2030 and a stakeholder-led plan to invest and grow renewable energy generation in Somerset.
Scope:	
In Scope:	<p>Formation of a joint task and finish group to input and review into the following three work packages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A baseline assessment and mapping of potential locations for renewable technology - A road map of net zero scenarios aligning to nation and local policies and scenarios. - An economic benefit assessment of the road map and

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	<p>recommendations on policy routes and viable projects.</p> <p>To understand and help lobby government and the distribution network operators to improve the electricity network across Somerset</p> <p>To ensure the energy plan is owned by the council and taken forward upon completion</p>
Excluded from Scope:	<p>Defining the scope of the Energy Plan</p> <p>Prescribing the actions, outputs and outcomes of the Energy Plan</p> <p>Prescribing the Stakeholders involved in the development of the Energy Plan</p> <p>Committing to any actions that will incur costs to any party without prior agreement of the Council</p>
Council and Partner Involvement:	
Who would need to be involved from the Council?	A separate internal stakeholder officer panel has already been formed based on mapping of relevant directorates key for the development of the plan
Which of our partners, stakeholders and Members of the community should we discuss this with?	<p>An external stakeholder exercise is being undertaken. A workshop was held in July 2023 with a second planned for November 2023. In addition, a number of one-to-one interviews have taken place with key external stakeholders</p> <p>External stakeholders include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Town and Parish Councils - Community Energy Groups - Renewable energy developers - Local businesses - NHS - Environmental NGOs
Review of Resources:	
Evidence:	Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy

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Witnesses:	Regen Distribution Network Operators ~(DNOs)
Site visits:	No site visits are planned to take place
Democratic Services & Other Service Resource:	Steve Taylor
Consultation:	n/a
Expert Advice:	Regen have been appointed by the Council to develop the energy plan and can support with expert advice
Risks:	
What are the risks to the review?	Ensuring buy in from across directorates in Somerset Council Resourcing for implementing proposed projects identified in the energy plan
Timescales:	
Anticipated Review Start Date:	October 2023
Anticipated Reporting Date:	Spring 2024
Frequency of Meetings:	Monthly, lasting from October 2023 to February 2024