

Report to Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel

Meeting Date: 14 October 2021
Portfolio: Environment & Transport
Key Decision: No
Policy and Budget Framework: Yes
Public / Private: Public

Title: Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership
Report of: Policy & Communications Manager
Report Number: PC.37/21

Purpose / Summary:

To update the panel on the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership.

Recommendations:

To consider and comment on the report.

Tracking

Executive:	N/A
Scrutiny:	H&WSP 14/10/21
Council:	N/A

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS) and the Lake District National Park Partnership led Cumbria's first Leader's Summit on Climate Change in April 2019. At the event leaders began to develop a vision for a zero carbon Cumbria and the role they could each play in it.
- 1.2. Cumbria published the Joint Public Health Strategy in 2019. For the first time the strategy contained a commitment to tackle climate change with this key aim: To become a "carbon neutral" County and to mitigate the likely impacts of existing climate change. This was adopted by Council in April 2019.
- 1.3. The Cumbria Leaders Board and Chief Executives Group commissioned a joint working group to oversee action to achieve the key aim set out above. Known then as the Climate Change Working Group this has developed into a cross-sector, partnership made up of more than 70 committed organisations and become the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership (ZCCP).
- 1.4. The Partnership is made up of a wide range of organisations, community groups and individuals that span all disciplines and sectors. The group is currently Co-Chaired by Cumbria Action for Sustainability and Cumbria County Council. The voice of the community and youth groups is central to the work of the Partnership and progress is reported into the Cumbria Sustainability Network of community organisations.
- 1.5. In 2019 the ZCCP commissioned Small World Consulting to carry out a countywide baseline study of carbon emissions in Cumbria. The report provides an assessment of the amount of carbon emitted from different activity in the county such as transport and energy consumption. The report provides an important reference document on which to base future action to reduce carbon emissions in the county. It sets out different dates, scenarios, and pathways to achieving a net zero carbon position as a county. The report recommended a net zero carbon target date of 2037 to which the ZCCP has agreed to work towards.
- 1.6. In 2020 a group of organisations within the ZCCP came together to collaborate on a successful bid to the National Lottery's Climate Action Fund. The funding, £2.5m over 5 years will set up projects with a wide range of partners including community and youth groups to work towards net zero for Cumbria by 2037.

ZCCP Governance

- 1.7. The group is a partnership of committed organisations. It has no decision-making powers that are binding on any partner. Where formal decision making is required, this remains the responsibility of individual organisations.
- 1.8. The partnership will report routinely to the Cumbria Chief Executives Group and Public Health Alliance on progress towards the 2037 net zero target as well as updates on individual sector work programmes, projects, and targets. The group will provide updates to the Cumbria Leaders Board and Cumbria Sustainability Network when appropriate or as requested. (See figure 1)
- 1.9. The broader work of the partnership will be communicated through newsletters and websites to enable the wider public to be kept informed of project progress and targets but also to raise awareness of opportunities to engage with the programme and connect with training/learning/other events.
- 1.10. ZCCP Steering Group (Oversight and Accountability) - To ensure that the project is accountable and transparent a Programme Steering Group with key representatives from organisations in the ZCCP will be set up to monitor progress and targets.

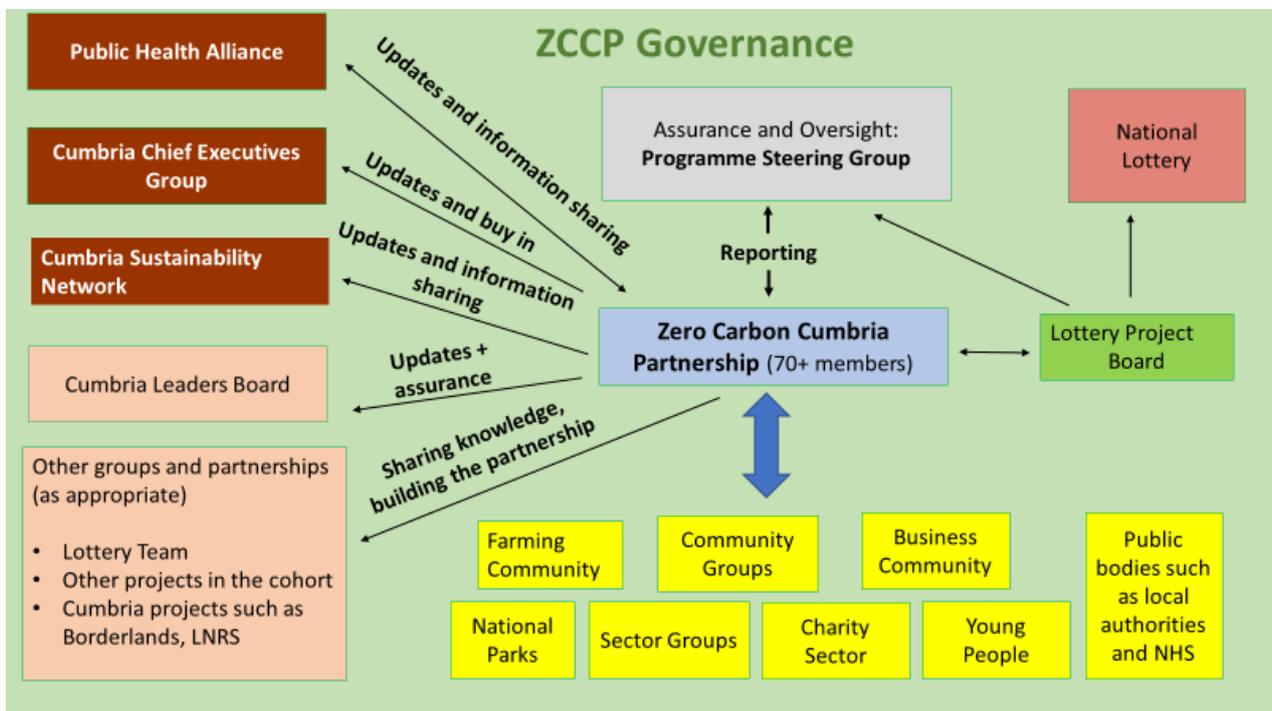


Figure 1: ZCCP Governance Structure

ZCCP Delivery

1.11. The National Lottery's Climate Action Fund is funding 12 roles over various terms for the duration of the programme:

- Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership Manager
- Project Manager, (lottery project)
- Project Support Officer
- Climate and Carbon Literacy Training Manager
- Communications Manager
- Local Authority Climate Coordinator
- Carbon Monitoring Officer
- Cumbria Sustainability Network Coordinator
- Events and Training Coordinator
- Development Worker (Sustainable Carlisle)
- Community Action Officer (PACT)
- Arts Project & Social Media Manager (Art Gene)

1.12. ZCCP Sector Groups are a key part of the partnership delivery. The sectors and the leads are:

- Housing - Jane Meek, Corporate Director Economic Development, Carlisle City Council.
- Waste - Partnership Development Officer (Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership), Cumbria County Council.
- Energy - Head of Sectors, Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership.
- Rural/Land use – Independent Chair
- Future of Transport/Mobility – Chief Executive, Cumbria Action for Communities in Cumbria

1.13. The ZCCP Partnership Plan is currently being developed and will set out the strategic priorities for the programme over the funded period to 2026.

1.14. Initial ZCCP Partnership meetings were focussed on getting agreement and funding for the commissioning of the Cumbria Carbon Baseline Study. Early discussion also looked to agree a shared understanding and definition of carbon neutral and setting a target date for achieving net zero.

1.15. In terms of structure and style, early meetings centred around information updates and sharing of current work and progress at an organisation or sector group level. This approach has allowed the partnership to map current activity, understand critical gaps and progress the formation of sub-groups working at sector level tackling, for example housing or waste matters in relation to net zero. Connecting with best

practice outside the county has also been an important part of ZCCPs work to date. There have been several presentations from local or national organisations to share best practice approaches and maintain interest/variety and develop learning/awareness.

1.16. The Partnership is changing and maturing quickly. Feedback has been received from both individuals and organisations within the Partnership and to respond to these views and a new format is being progressed. The key changes are:

- Shift from a focus on information sharing to one of proactively developing the Partnerships work programme and key actions/projects.
- Reduce time spent on presenting information to allow more time for dialogue and workshop style breakout sessions focussed on priority actions/projects.
- Future role of the Chair/s. Consider and consult on the idea of having a fully Independent Chair or a rolling set of Chairs to lead meetings.
- Put in place an Oversight and Steering Group to ensure the programme and process is accountable, transparent, and delivering on the strategic objectives.

1.17. The gaps between meetings can be used more effectively by:

- Facilitating topic specific sessions that could take a task and finish approach to drive forward critical areas of the work programme. Outcomes from these would then feed into and inform the full Partnership meetings (this could help to achieve wider involvement beyond the larger stakeholder organisations and focus participants time more effectively).
- Provide key updates before meetings as information papers to keep the Partnership informed of progress.
- Use the ZCCP Newsletter/briefing to share ideas, best practice, useful events, funding opportunities and policy updates.
- Bringing appropriate and useful items/information from other related meetings to the attention of the Partnership such as Borderlands, CLEP, national policies and local authority strategies, for example.

1.18. An update on the ZCCP work is set out in the monthly newsletter, the newsletter for September 2021 is attached as an appendix.

2. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES

2.1. Climate change is a cross-cutting issue in the Carlisle Plan. The delivery of the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy forms part of the work programme under the Health & Wellbeing priority.

Contact Officer: Steven O’Keeffe

Ext: 7258

Appendices Appendix A: ZCCP September Newsletter
attached to report:

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- **None**

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL –

PROPERTY SERVICES -

FINANCE –

EQUALITY –

INFORMATION GOVERNANCE –

Newsletter update – September 2021

Welcome to the September newsletter for the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership! It's been a very busy few months since the last edition, with lots of progress to tell you about. Here are some brief updates covering:

- [Events and training strategy / COP26](#)
- [Cumbria Sustainability Network / Funding for community groups](#)
- [Citizens' Juries](#)
- [Weekly climate change news](#)
- [Youth climate summit and other youth projects](#)
- [Sector group updates](#)
- [Spotlight on Art Gene](#)
- [Spotlight on "Home Grown Here"](#)
- [Other news](#)
- [Names and contact details](#)

1) Events and training strategy / COP26

The ZCCP Events & Training programme underpins the Partnership's broader commitments on climate change responses, supporting the county to take the critical early steps on our journey towards net zero.

Initial Events & Training priorities have focused on:

- Development of a draft **E&T strategy**, interconnecting with other work strands including ZCCP's overall objectives, the draft marketing communications strategy, and the developing framework for monitoring & evaluation. Over the next few months we'll give ZCCP sector groups, the local authority climate partnership group, the Cumbria Sustainability Network (CSN) and other partners the opportunity to feed into the E&T strategy as well as reviewing and approving it.
- Preparatory work for a **learning needs analysis** across ZCCP, offering partners the chance to help shape forthcoming training programmes for maximum relevance and benefit.

- Prioritisation of learning needs will be complemented by a **skills audit**, to begin mapping the vast collective knowledge / skills / competences which clearly exists across such a diverse partnership.
- Development of a **database of training providers and learning opportunities**, mapped to learning needs across a range of competences.
- Identifying opportunities to highlight ZCCP's work in the run-up to the **COP26** summit in Glasgow. With heightened public and media interest, it's a great chance to demonstrate the connection and relevance of international negotiations to our work here in Cumbria at strategic and community levels.
- Ahead of COP we've been liaising with CSN groups to encourage local events and activities during the national **Great Big Green Week** (18th – 26th Sept), aiming to coordinate a diverse public-facing programme around Cumbria.
- We're also coordinating a **Zero Carbon Tour electric bus stop-off** in Cumbria in October, at Burneside where there are a variety of sustainability stories to tell about how community and industry are responding, as well as an opportunity for us to communicate the ZCCP vision.
- We're also progressing further opportunities for ZCCP to link to COP, including via development of **case studies**, and supporting **ZCCP youth programmes** to enable young people in Cumbria to effectively communicate their climate hopes and concerns.

For more information about any aspect of the Events and Training programme, please contact Nigel Jenkins - nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk

2) Cumbria Sustainability Network / Funding for community groups

The Cumbria Sustainability Network continues to evolve as a group and has developed new Terms of Reference. It has also generated new interest, most recently from potential groups in Shap, Crosthwaite, Armathwaite and Grasmere. See [Growing the sustainability network - CAfS](#)

A recent example of how groups can support each other across the county was the printing of 2000 copies of Sustainable Carlisle's leaflet on COP26 to be distributed to nine different sustainability groups to assist with their awareness-raising work.

Systems and processes are now in place for the administration of the £100,000 ZCC grassroots community fund, a website page has been developed to enable potential applicants to access the information they require, and discussions have been held within the Funding Steering Group in consultation with the CSN on the fund eligibility

criteria and priorities. We hope this fund will go live in the near future once the formal External Delegated Agreement has been finalised with the National Lottery.

In the meantime, we can provide sustainability groups with financial support to help with the delivery of Great Big Green Week and COP26 events. For more information, please contact Helen Attewell helen.attewell@cafs.org.uk

The National Lottery has also announced a new “**Together for Our Planet**” funding scheme, which will offer grants from £1,000 to £10,000 of National Lottery funding to support communities across the UK to take action on climate change. For further information see [Together for Our Planet | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

3) Citizens’ Juries

The Copeland People’s Panel on Climate Change commenced on 15th July – the first borough wide Citizens’ Jury on climate change to be held in Cumbria. Thirty Copeland residents have come together digitally to answer this important question: *“What action should we take in our homes, businesses and local area to respond to climate change?”*

The panel has met four times to date and will continue in September after a short break. By the end of September, the panel members will have decided on a set of recommendations for Copeland Council and other relevant organisations to consider.

Further information, including recordings of the presentations at each session, can be found on Copeland Borough Council’s website:

[Climate Change People's Panel | Copeland Borough Council](https://www.copeland.gov.uk/copeland-people-panel)

4) Weekly climate change news

As part of the support being provided to local authorities to address climate change, a weekly email update is being produced, which covers items such as key government announcements, news on climate change projects in Cumbria, grant funding opportunities for the public sector, relevant webinars and other information that might be of interest.

Although the target audience is local authority officers working on climate change, it contains information that will be of broader interest to other partners. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list, or have information that would be of interest to local authorities in Cumbria, please contact Natalie Naisbitt, ZCC Local Authority Climate Co-ordinator, email: natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk

5) Youth climate summit and other youth projects

For those who don't know me, my name is Rosie Bradshaw, I'm a Community Action Officer for Penrith ACT (PACT) and since June I've also taken an interim role working on youth projects for as part of the Zero Carbon Cumbria programme. Here is a summary of what I've been up to, what's in the pipeline for the next few months and how you can get involved.

Cumbria Youth Climate Action Summit 2021

I've been working with the fantastic Laura Goad (CDEC), Chris Barry (CCC), and Graham Frost (Robert Ferguson School), to put together the third **Cumbrian Youth Climate Action Summit**, an event which will be held online on **Friday 15 October 2021** for schools in Cumbria.

The audience is from upper primary to upper sixth. We already have interest from seven schools, which we hope will grow in the new school year in September. If you know any school who may be interested, please feel free to forward them this [form of interest](#), and email YouthVoices@cafs.org.uk if you'd like more details.

The day itself will be a mixture of sessions, with speakers and workshops on topics ranging from ZCC aims and objectives, to green jobs, to tackling eco-anxiety, to how young people can get their voices heard by decision makers. The emphasis will be on making sure real decisions are influenced, and youth voices are heard and acted on before and after the event. Part of this is the formation of a Youth Steering Group, outlined below.

The Zero Carbon Cumbria Youth Steering Group

Influencing the agenda and running the workshops at the Youth Summit will be the Youth Steering Group (a group whose first point of order will be finding a catchier name for themselves!). This group of 10 young people, aged 12-18 years old, who live, go to school, or work in Cumbria, will be meeting for six sessions in the run-up to the Youth Summit. As well as planning, they will also learn valuable skills in leadership and advocacy.

Mapping youth and climate organisations

I have also been mapping the youth, climate, and related organisations in Cumbria. You can find the map [here](#), and the different types of organisation are on different layers. This can help you find organisations in your local area where you can collaborate with youth groups. If you'd be interested in a session on how to use it please let me know and I'd be happy to help. There are a few 'Eco Schools' listed who have already or are actively trying to find outside organisations to engage with and the Scouting Association are doing a very active environmental drive right now so it could be a good time to collaborate.

Although, I've mapped many organisations, I'm aware there are likely some I've missed out. If you know of any organisations which should be on the map, please let me know by emailing youthvoices@cafs.org.uk, and I'll get them added asap.

Youth action this summer

Another thing we're highlighting is all the amazing stuff young people are already doing around Cumbria. We'll be contacting schools and youth organisations at the start of September to share, whether it's a litter pick with their school club or going on bike rides with the grandparents. These examples will then be showcased at the Youth Summit. If you have any examples please send photos or videos to youthvoices@cafs.org.uk before 15 September 2021.

If there's any aspect of youth projects you'd like to discuss, please feel free to give me a shout, and I'll keep you all updated with the outcomes of the Youth Summit in a couple of months!

6) Sector group updates

Waste Carbon Reduction Group update

The Waste Carbon Reduction Group held its third meeting on 6 July. It is strengthening links with other sectors and industries, and received a presentation from Emma Porter, Story Contracting Managing Director, on the Rebuild social enterprise, which will divert construction waste by taking unused materials from building projects. It has a meeting scheduled for 21 September to discuss synergies with other sector groups and policy areas, as well as development of an action plan.

Discussions with ZCCP are ongoing to finalise an approach and timescales for the Waste Sector Baseline, to ensure that it aligns with the Cumbria Carbon Baseline methodology whilst also factoring in performance management and monitoring.

Zero Carbon Housing Group update

The next ZCCP Housing Group meeting will include a focus on zero carbon and new build, including the Future Homes Standard and opportunities arising from St Cuthbert's Garden Village in Carlisle South.

A consortium of the six Cumbrian district councils have secured approximately £5 million of North West Energy Hub funding.

The consortium has put together some initial measure mixes (types of installations), which should address some of the private and social tenure homes that are deemed to be fuel poor and have low EPC ratings.

This mix includes:-

- EWI (External wall insulation)
- Solar PV
- Double glazing and doors
- ASHP (Air source heat pumps)
- Loft insulation
- Underfloor insulation
- Cavity wall insulation

Meetings have been held with the Cumbria Housebuilders Group around engaging with Cumbria based contractors to deliver these green energy measures.

The bidding round for Wave 1 Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) competition opened for 8 weeks on 23 August, for which the Government has announced up to £160m in financial year 2021/22, delivering up to January 2023. Wave 1 funding is based on a “worst first, fabric first, lowest regrets approach”, emphasising fabric improvements to ensure heat loss prevention measures are installed before other energy performance measures.

7) Spotlight on Art Gene

Art Gene in partnership with Barrow Borough Council has secured £1.75m through the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership and European Regional Development Fund, to deliver Low Carbon Barrow, a 2-year programme of low carbon initiatives and events for the town. As part of this programme, Art Gene is developing an innovative low carbon demonstration vehicle called a bug-out <https://www.art-gene.co.uk/news/bug-out-tender/> and has just appointed a low carbon grants lead to help community members to access financial support.

During November Art Gene will also be delivering a set of artists' residencies and public climate focused events around food futures and biodiversity, on their Allotment Soup Community Growing space see <https://www.art-gene.co.uk/project/allotment-soup/>.

8) Spotlight on “Home Grown Here”

Cumbrian farmers have dedicated acres of land to growing fruit and vegetables this year, thanks to support from a new initiative, Home Grown Here.

The scheme will see a tasty range of fresh produce grown in the county, from peas and potatoes to apples to rhubarb. Fresh from the fields, it will all be enjoyed by Cumbrians and visitors through local retailers, cafés, restaurants, hotels, farm shops and veg box schemes.

It's the brainchild of the Eden-based growers' co-operative VistaVeg, and is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund as part of the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership's ambitious emission-reduction programme to make Cumbria carbon neutral by 2037. For more information please see [New scheme boosts fruit and vegetable growing in Cumbria - CAfS](#).

9) Other news

- We have been delighted by the success of the **carbon literacy** training courses and have received very positive feedback both in terms of improved knowledge and also that attendees feel more empowered to take action. Any partner interested in the training should contact carbonliteracy@cafs.org.uk. For details of open courses, please see [Events - CAfS](#).
- We are very pleased that **Jaki Bell**, Marketing and Communications Manager at CAfS, will be leading on the strategic communications for ZCC. She is progressing the ZCC marketing and communications strategy, which will come to the partnership for agreement, as well as providing support for active ZCC projects. One of the next tasks will be to collate key comms contacts and resources of each partner in ZCCP and members will receive a form shortly, asking for this information.

10) Names and contact details

Tim Gale	Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership Manager	Tim.Gale@cumbria.gov.uk
John Forbes	Project Manager, (lottery project)	john.forbes@cafs.org.uk
Angela Bewick	Project Support Officer	angie.bewick@cafs.org.uk
Hazel Graham	Climate and Carbon Literacy Training Manager	hazel.graham@cafs.org.uk
Jaki Bell	Communications Manager	jaki.bell@cafs.org.uk
Natalie Naisbitt	Local Authority Climate Coordinator	natalie.naisbitt@cumbria.gov.uk
David Pickup	Carbon Monitoring Officer	david.pickup@lakedistrict.gov.uk
Helen Attewell	Cumbria Sustainability Network Coordinator	helen.attewell@cafs.org.uk
Nigel Jenkins	Events and Training Coordinator	nigel.jenkins@cafs.org.uk
Katie Lock	Development Worker (Sustainable Carlisle)	katie@sustainablecarlisle.org
Rosie Bradshaw	Community Action Officer (PACT)	rosie.bradshaw@penrithact.org.uk
Anna Lichfield	Arts Project & Social Media Manager (Art Gene)	anna.litchfield@art-gene.co.uk