

Clay Cross Town Board

16 June 2023

Clay Cross Town Deal
Local Area Energy Plan

Report By: Bryan Harrison, Senior Regeneration Officer

Contact Officer: Bryan Harrison, Senior Regeneration Officer

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

- To present the Clay Cross Town Board with the findings and recommendations of the Clay Cross Local Area Energy Plan
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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Clay Cross Town Board agree:

1. To note and support the recommendations in the Clay Cross Local Area Energy Plan
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IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

1. No additional financial implications.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

1. The Council is the accountable body for the Clay Cross Town Deal and whilst the spirit of the Towns Fund and its intent, to be private sector- and community-led, should be reflected in the governance and assurance framework, the Council and S151 Officer more specifically are responsible for ensuring robust process to protect the interest of the public.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

No staffing issues arising from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 The Clay Cross Town Deal Investment Plan originally identified interventions under a low carbon theme made up of three component parts; Low Carbon Workspace, Low Carbon Housing and Low Carbon Energy Network Strategy totalling £3.1m.
- 1.2 During the development of the Town Deal programme the Low Carbon Housing and Low Carbon Workspace elements were combined into a single Low Carbon Challenge Fund approach and allocated £1.95m. This is the subject of a separate report.
- 1.3 £1m was allocated to the redevelopment of Sharley Park Leisure Centre for energy efficiency measures, with the balance of £0.15m for the preparation of a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) for Clay Cross.
- 1.4 A LAEP is an industry standard based on an Ofgem model and is a data-driven/evidence-based approach to identify the most effective route for a specific location to achieve its net zero ambitions.

2 Report

- 2.1 In October 2022, NEDDC commissioned consultants Mace to deliver the LAEP for Clay Cross to provide a route map for the town to achieve net zero carbon by 2050. Mace subsequently appointed Siemens to provide technical support with the final draft report delivered in March 2023.
- 2.2 The Clay Cross LAEP is made up of three stages:
 - Stage 1 – Shaping and Baselineing
 - Stage 2 – Opportunity Assessment
 - Stage 3 – Route Map
- 2.3 Throughout the preparation of all three stages of the LAEP, a rolling and comprehensive stakeholder consultation exercise was carried out. This enabled organisations and individuals with specific technical skills to monitor and challenge the findings of the ongoing study and make a significant contribution to the final report. Stakeholders included NEDDC members and officers, NE Derbyshire MP, local businesses, energy suppliers, Midlands Net Zero Hub, University of Derby, The Coal Authority and DCC.

2.4 The key findings and recommendations are:

- There is limited electricity capacity in Clay Cross which will need to be addressed if the net zero ambition is to be achieved. Early dialogue with suppliers is required.
- Suppliers predict an increase in energy demand in Clay Cross with a forecast to double by 2050, requiring significant energy saving measures to achieve net zero.
- 70% of building related carbon emission in Clay Cross is associated with domestic heating.
- Domestic retrofit to achieve net zero is forecast to cost £64m. Costs associated with renewable energy generation for domestic and non-domestic buildings is estimated at £115m.
- Wall insulation and glazing targeted as main improvement areas for domestic properties.
- There would be significant financial benefits if measures are put in place as early as possible.
- Potential alternative provision solutions include solar farms and heat from mine-water, which would require significant investment.
- The pathway to net zero for Clay Cross has not been modelled to incorporate hydrogen as the technology is not yet commercially viable.
- There is good capacity in further and higher education of upskilling opportunities to support growth of green jobs.

3 **Next Steps**

3.1 The LAEP provides a well-evidenced and deliverable route map to achieve a net zero Clay Cross by 2050. The report also presents a foundation for taking a number of short-term practical steps towards net zero, including:

- Publish and raise awareness of the LAEP strategy
- Engage with and lobby Western Power Distribution to address potential future supply issues
- Develop and roll-out the £1.95m Low Carbon Challenge Fund to deliver sustainable energy opportunities already identified
- Continue dialogue with the Coal Authority to explore the feasibility of heat from mine-water
- Improve access to electric vehicle charging points
- Work with employers and FE/HE institutions to increase the opportunity for green jobs and training.

4. **Reasons for Recommendation**

4.1 To enable the delivery of the recommendations and findings of the Clay Cross LAEP

5 **Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

5.1 No other options considered

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report)	
Clay Cross LAEP	