Agenda for Overview Committee
Thursday, 30 August 2018; 6.00pm

Members of the Committee

Venue: Council Chamber, Knowle, Sidmouth, EX10 8HL
View directions

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Contact: Debbie Meakin 01395 517540
(or group number 01395 517546): Issued 20 August 2018

1 Public speaking
2 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2018 (pages 3 - 6)
3 Apologies
4 Declarations of interest
Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making declarations of interest
5 Matters of urgency – none identified
6 To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including press) have been excluded. There are **no** items that officers recommend should be dealt with in this way.

Matters for Debate

7 **100% Conversion to Renewable Energy** (pages 7 – 18)

There will be a presentation from Tony Norton, Head of the Centre for Energy and the Environment, College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences at the University of Exeter.
A report has been provided by Andrew Wood, East of Exeter Projects Director, in the agenda papers.

8 **Overview Forward Plan** (page 19)

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Decision making and equalities

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EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Overview Committee held at Knowle, Sidmouth on 31 May 2018

Attendance list at end of document
The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 7.35pm.

*1 Public speaking
There were no public speakers at the meeting.

*2 Minute confirmation
The minutes of the Overview Committee held on the 13 March 2018, were confirmed as a true record.

*3 Declarations of interest
Councillor Steve Hall
Minute *3
Disclosable Personal Interest – Chairman of Licensing & Enforcement Committee

Councillor Graham Godbeer
Minute *4
Disclosable Personal Interest – Chairman of East Devon AONB

Councillor Tim Dumper
Minute *4
Disclosable Personal Interest – member of Transition Exmouth

3 Business Development and Events planning on Council land

The Strategic Lead for Housing, Health and Environment set out his case for an Events Strategy and a new post of Business Development and Events Officer.

The proposal has come forward as part of the Transformation Strategy to deliver increased income generation to fund council services. The proposed Events Strategy gives a clear purpose, direction and ambitions to maximise the potential of some of the Council's assets.

The report set out the work already achieved by services of the Council in delivering events, highlights being the Exmouth Big Wheel, Surf Championships, and an outdoor cinema and theatre. There have also been a number of successful events held on the Council's nature reserves, the Manor Pavilion Theatre and the Thelma Hulbert Gallery.

The proposed new post would provide the expertise on a commercial footing to coordinate with other service interests and liaise with event organisers. The expectation was that the post would quickly become self-funding and progress to providing an income to the Council.

The committee discussed the proposal, including:

- Possibility of creating £100k in additional income to the Council;
- The risks were considered to be quite low and the initial investment required quite modest;
- Opportunity to assist business in East Devon;
- Need to look at East Devon as a whole and where each event would be held;

- The need to attract a younger demographic to events in the district;
- Question over the potential profit margins contained in the report;
- Importance of having a third party partner for arranging larger events on Council land;
- East Devon had some significant assets that needed to be better used to create an income stream for the Council;
- Adopt a cautious approach building on what we have already established would be a good approach, particularly to avoid any potential reputational damage;
- Need for a detailed business plan in due course;
- Emphasise the importance of liaising with the Licensing Service when arranging any events;
- The events business could be developed over a number of years at a pace the authority was comfortable with and using an approach that avoided any damage to our reputation by offering a careful explanation of our motives;
- Post required a different skill set and there was the need to provide some additional capacity to realise the full potential from the project;
- Concerns about the level of work expected in the responsibilities and activities of the Business Development, Marketing & Events Officer;
- This was an excellent initiative for East Devon to put in place a person from outside with a professional budget to manage it.

RECOMMENDED 1. that Cabinet approve the outline Events Strategy, and the recruitment of a Business Development & Events Officer to deliver the ambitions contained in the strategy;

2. that the proposal go back to SMT to discuss where the Business Development & Events Officer would sit within the Council and the duration of Events and report back to a future meeting of the committee.

*4 Overview forward plan

Councillor Rob Longhurst put forward a suggestion based on his drafted motion to Council, set out below:

East Devon seeks a 100% conversion to Renewable Energy by 2030
That this Council orders a feasibility study, a cost benefit analysis and a final report, by suitably qualified consultants into the conversion of the whole of East Devon to 100% Renewable Energy (RE100). (This is to be strictly a fact-finding study with proposals and not a commitment by the Council to a full project). Special consideration must be given to AONB.

The study to be detailed and then overseen by the Overview Committee with a final report to be presented to Cabinet by the end of 2018.

- The move to RE100 is inevitable both economically and environmentally
- East Devon has an enviable record in waste management to the benefit of the Environment
- The initiative dovetails with the EDDC “Outstanding” strategic objectives
- The initiative supports the local Economy objectives since East Devon has one of the World’s Leading suppliers of Solar Lighting who manufacture in East Devon and export worldwide

- East Devon could be at the forefront of RE100 and derive income as a provider of services to other Councils
- Government grants are currently freely available as seed corn to this type of initiative.

The committee discussed the scale and extent of the work needed to deliver the study, cost analysis and final report requested. During discussions, the following points were noted:

- Possibility of asking town/parish councils to see what they wanted to do about introducing renewable energy in their parish;
- Government tariffs for renewable energy had reduced significantly in recent years;
- EDDC had plans for PV panels on the roof of Blackdown House and new council houses had a number of renewable energy measures added to their build;
- The Solar Range company was based in Whimple and would be happy to come to talk to the committee;
- Planning policies could reduce the possibilities of wind turbines in some areas;
- Possibility of adding solar panels to council housing properties when the roofs needed replacing.

RESOLVED 1. that Richard Cohen or Andy Wood be requested to attend a meeting of the Overview Committee to talk about what they have been doing and what could be done regarding the use of Renewable Energy and achieving energy independence I the Growth Point;

2. that Councillor Rob Longhurst be requested to ask Renewable First to attend a meeting of the Committee to discuss Renewable Energy;

3. that the following additional items be added to the Forward Plan: Flat Pack Housing, Help with Seeking Grants, Exmouth Barrage.

Attendance list

Councillors Present:

Graham Godbeer (Chairman)
Ian Hall (Vice Chairman)
Matt Booth
Tim Dumper
Mark Evans-Martin
Peter Faithfull
Steve Hall
Douglas Hull
Rob Longhurst

Councillors Also Present:

David Barratt
Bruce de Saram
John Dyson
Jill Elson
Pauline Stott
Ian Thomas
Tom Wright

Officers

John Golding, Strategic Lead for Housing, Health and Environment
Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Chris Lane, Democratic Services Officer

Councillor Apologies:
Dean Barrow
Chris Pepper
Mark Williamson

Chairman ..... Date.....

Report to:	**Overview Committee**
Date of Meeting:	30 August 2018
Public Document:	Yes
Exemption:	None
Review date for release	None
Agenda item:	**7**
Subject:	**100% Conversion to Renewable Energy**

Purpose of report:

The meeting of the Overview Committee considered a suggestion from Cllr Longhurst that East Devon seeks a 100% conversion to Renewable Energy by 2030. To inform this objective it was proposed that the Council commissions a feasibility study, a cost/benefit analysis and a final report by suitably qualified consultants.

This report considers the background to the deployment of renewable energy in the District, particularly in the West End. It starts with the national, regional and sub-regional context and considers the extensive evidence base that exists. Finally the report makes recommendations as to how best to proceed including focusing future activity. Tony Norton from the Centre for Energy and Environment at the University of Exeter will make a presentation to the meeting.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that Members;

- **a)** Note the considerable evidence that underpins the potential for the renewable energy generation in the District
- **b)** Approve the commissioning of a feasibility study to further define the objective and how it can best be realised
- **c)** Receive a further report when this study has been completed

Reason for recommendation:

To ensure that there is a clear evidence base and framework for progressing the suggestion of 100% conversion to renewable energy by 2030.

Officer:

Andy Wood, email adwood@eastdevon.gov.uk, Tel 07740 024918

Financial implications:

The short term financial implications of commissioning a feasibility study and final report produced by qualified consultants would be a cost to the council which are at present unknown.

In the longer term Financial Services will need to be involved in validating/forecasting the cost implications of any future proposals.

Legal implications:

Legal services will need to be involved in looking at the detail of any proposed contractual or property arrangements in the future but we would have no comment at this time.

Equalities impact:

Low Impact

Risk:	Low Risk No specific proposals are put forward in this report
Links to background information:	• Not applicable
Link to Council Plan:	Developing an outstanding local economy Delivering and promoting our outstanding environment Continuously improving to be an outstanding Council

Report in full

1. Background

1.1 East Devon is already on a journey to securing a low carbon future. Ground breaking schemes such as the roll out of heat networks in the West End of the District and adopting passivhaus standards for Council housing refurbishment have demonstrated the commitment to reducing energy consumption and increasing energy efficiency and the generation of energy from low carbon and renewable sources. This is alongside privately led projects such as wind turbines and the deployment of solar photovoltaic technology (PV). The planned France-Aldernay-Britain sub-sea connector has the potential to harness both low carbon nuclear and tidal power and will come ashore at Budleigh Salterton and connect through to the main national gird sub-station at Broadclyst. This is in itself a critical piece of infrastructure which has the potential to support energy storage projects which in turn could help to support the roll out of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

1.2 The pace of change is rapid with a significant emphasis on decarbonising energy supplies as well as ensuring a resilient supply. It is assumed that the objective to ensure 100% conversion to renewable energy should be defined as meaning that all the energy consumed with the District is generated from renewable sources or, to be more precise, there is sufficient installed renewable energy generating capacity to meet the entire energy demand of the District.

1.3 The objective does need to be carefully defined. The FAB project could lead to the large scale import of low carbon and renewable tidal energy in to the District for example. Also it would be a perverse outcome simply to install evermore generating capacity to meet increasing demand. Reducing energy demand, for example through a retrofit programme of energy efficiency measures to the existing housing stock, should also form an important part of achieving the wider objective.

1.4 The District has considerable renewable energy resources including wind and solar. It is clear that the deployment of renewable energy projects needs to be achieved in a manner which preserves and protects the outstanding natural beauty of the area.

2. National Policy

2.1 The Climate Change Act, passed in 2008, committed the UK to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 when compared to 1990 levels, through a process of setting 5 year caps on greenhouse gas emissions termed ‘Carbon Budgets’. In addition to this, the UK’s commitment to the Paris Agreement, which entered into force in November 2016, requires limiting the rise in global temperatures to well below 2^0C above pre-industrial levels with the intent to limit the increase to 1.5^0C.

2.2 The Government has recently published its Clean Growth Strategy. This recognises that the UK will need to nurture low carbon technologies, processes and systems that are as cheap as possible. The approach maintains that of the Industrial Strategy: building on the UK’s strengths,

improving productivity across the UK and ensuring we are the best place for innovators and new business to start up and grow. Alongside this, the 25 year Environment Plan sets out a number of targets including in relation to air quality and ending the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040.

2.3 This is taken forward in the Government's Road to Zero document which sets out a mission to put the UK at the forefront of the design and manufacturing of zero emission vehicles. This anticipates at least 50%, and as many as 70%, of new car sales and up to 40% of new van sales being ultra low emission by 2030. Furthermore in the recently published National Infrastructure Assessment the Commission recommends that government, Ofgem and local authorities should enable the roll out of charging infrastructure sufficient to allow consumer demand to reach close to 100 per cent electric new car and van sales by 2030.

2.4 Regardless of this framework there is considerable concern that there is a substantial policy gap – simply put that current policies and proposals will not provide sufficient traction to create a credible pathway towards meeting the legally binding targets in 2050. In particular there has been a general diminution of the approach towards achieving zero carbon development since the last recession. Local leadership remains as, if not more, important in terms of setting ambitions and the policies and proposals needed to achieve them.

3. Local evidence base

3.1 As part of the development of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan a considerable body of work has been commissioned to support policy development. The "*Low Carbon and Climate Change Evidence Base for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan*" (Low Carbon Study) evidences that the GESP area will need to reduce emissions from approximately 2.8MtCO_2 (2014) to approximately 1.1MtCO_2 by the end of the plan period in 2040 (equivalent to a 60.7% reduction on 2014 levels) in order to be on track to meet the legally binding UK target for 2050.[1] The relevant Planning Acts bind Local Authorities to ensuring that local plans include policies that contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change[2].

3.2 This essentially means that the GESP local authorities are obliged to ensure that local plans include policies to meet this target of approximately 60% emissions reduction. 'Business as usual' is simply not an option, with this likely to lead to, at worst, approximately 3MtCO_2 of emissions by 2040 (i.e. an increase of 7%). Understanding the roadmap to how this target will be achieved locally is essential. Planning policy is a key place to start but will require wider buy-in to stand a chance of being successful.

3.3 The Clean Growth Strategy sets out the Government's ambition and requirement for low carbon to be central to the delivery of economic growth, and the opportunities that this presents. The Exeter City Futures commissioned Energy Independence report (2017) highlights that Greater Exeter consumes 10 TWh of energy every year. This costs residents and businesses over £900m, money which is lost to the region. The report highlights the opportunity to embrace the industrial opportunities that new energy systems bring including positive-energy buildings, smart grids, low emission vehicles, battery technology, hydrogen use and many different generating opportunities. Setting ambitious local policies can add much needed clarity and certainty to realise that promise.

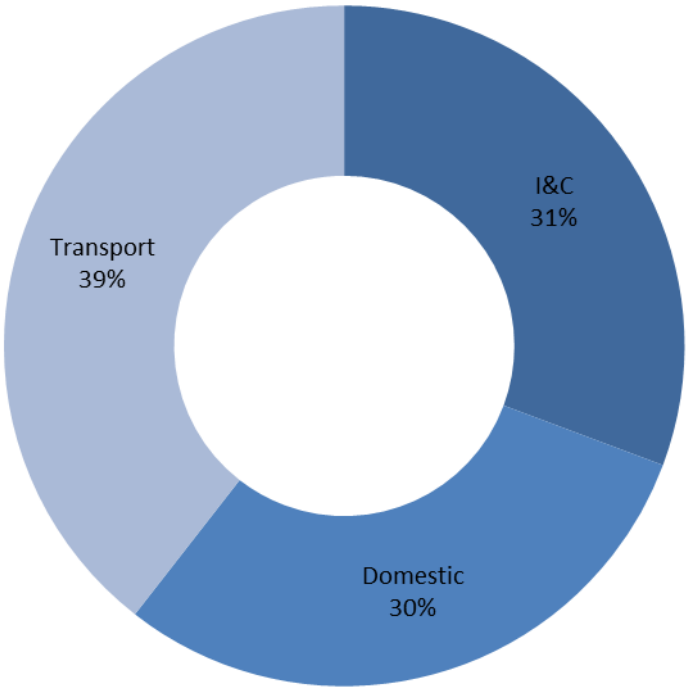
[1] University of Exeter Centre for Energy and the Environment (UoE CEE) (2018) *Low Carbon and Climate Change Evidence Base for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan [(Low Carbon Study)]* https://devoncc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/PublicDocs/Planning/EXc-TJxyWz9Ege_Re1t7NckBMPLGW2LnPBFpK_JmBEbqyA?e=vt08PR

[2] HM Government (2008) *Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by Section 182 of the Planning Act 2008* [online] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/182 Accessed 29/05/2018

4. What would 100% conversion to renewable energy mean for East Devon?

4.1 The GESP Low Carbon Study converts energy consumption into the common currency of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions (because different fuels have more or less environmental impact). A consistent interpretation of 100% conversion to renewable energy would be that there is sufficient renewable energy capacity in East Devon to match the CO_2 emission generated in the district.

4.2 The chart below shows the split of East Devon's CO_2 emissions and the table shows East Devon's emission and those for the rest of the GESP local authorities.



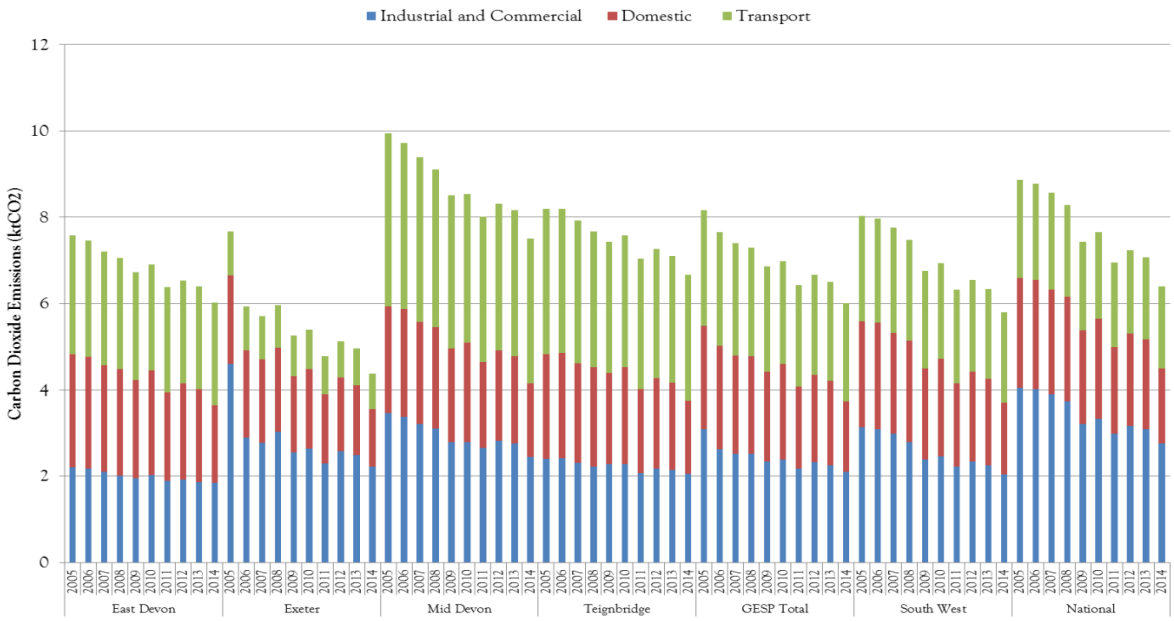
Above: East Devon's 2014 CO_2 emission in kt CO2

Below: Total emissions in 2014 for each of the four GESP districts and the combined value in ktCO_2 with % of the combined total in brackets

	I&C	Domestic	Transport	Total
East Devon	252 (9%)	245 (9%)	324 (12%)	821 (29%)
Exeter	275 (10%)	166 (6%)	104 (4%)	544 (19%)
Mid Devon	193 (7%)	135 (5%)	266 (9%)	594 (21%)
Teignbridge	261 (9%)	216 (8%)	372 (13%)	849 (30%)
GESP Total	***981 (35%)***	***762 (27%)***	***1,065 (38%)***	***2,808 (100%)***

4.3 Emissions in East Devon are approximately evenly split across industrial and commercial, domestic and transport sectors. The split is similar to the overall proportions across the GESP area. However, as a predominantly rural area East Devon has, for example, relative high emissions from transport compared to more compact urban areas such as Exeter.

4.4 Trends in CO_2 emissions since 2005 are generally downwards in each of the GESP local authorities broadly in line with national trends.



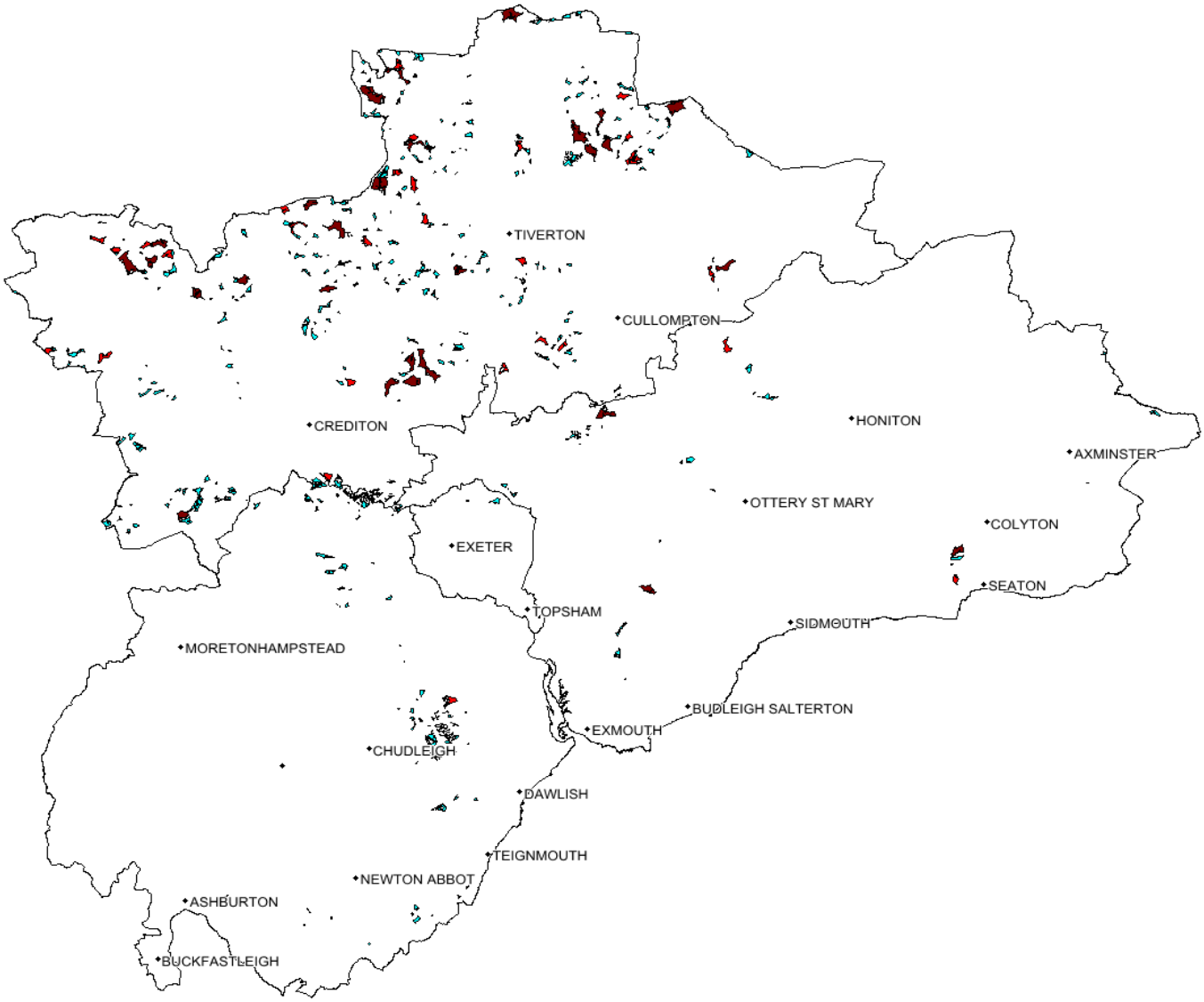
Above: Carbon emissions per capita across the GESP area for each of the three broad sectors from 2005 to 2014 (note: the spike in Exeter's emissions in 2005 is due to an error in the source data, whereby emissions from a power plant were mistakenly allocated to the I&C sector)

4.5 This illustrates the impact of national policies on emission across the UK.

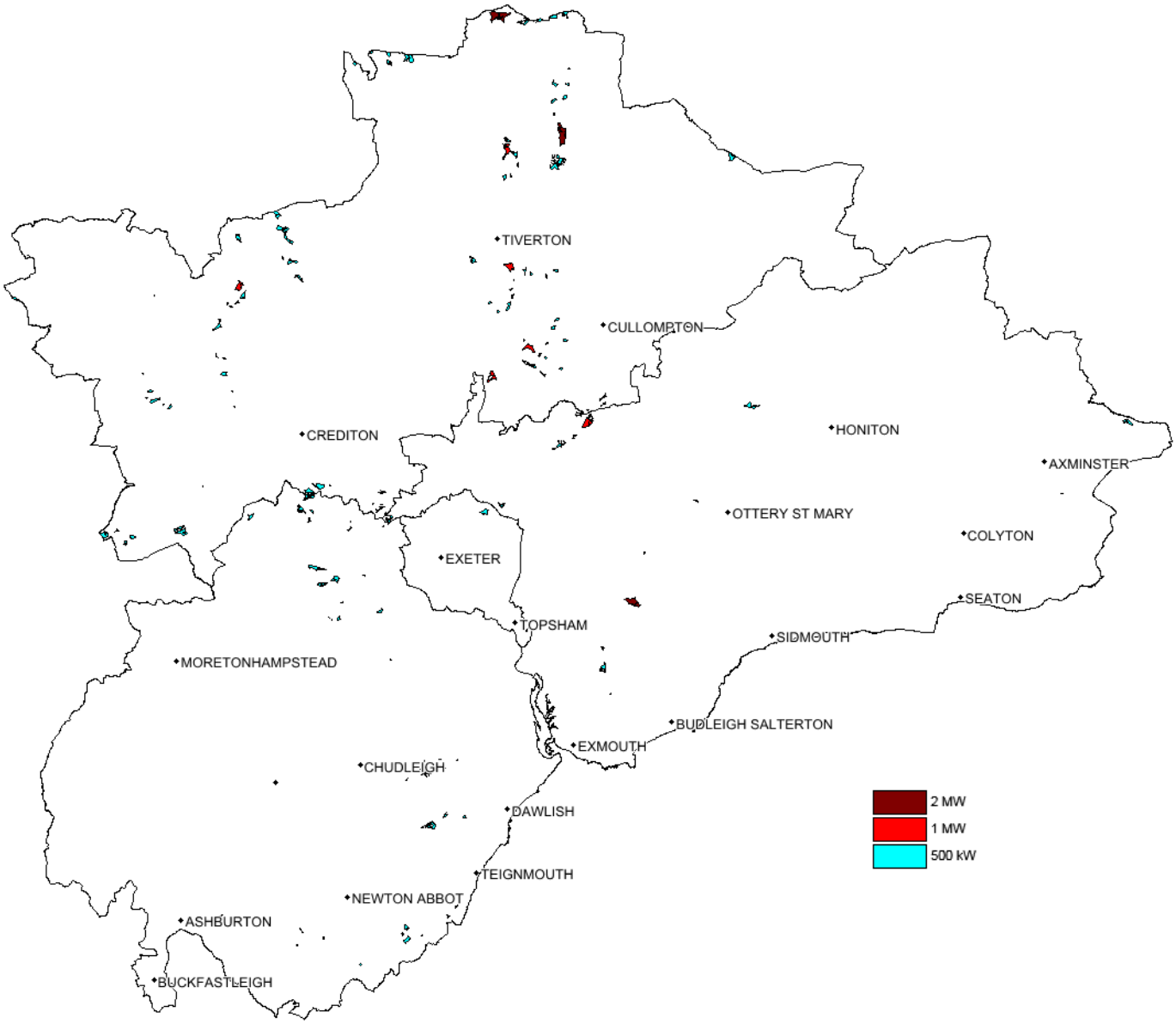
4.6 The GESP Low Carbon Study examines the potential for each renewable energy technology. The table below covers the “long list” of technologies. It considers both unconstrained potential and what, with the benefit of a constraints analysis such as in relation to landscape impact and licensing requirements, etc. could realistically be deployed.

Technology	Comments
Electricity	
Onshore wind	Highest unconstrained RE resource but highly constrained
Photovoltaic (PV)	The South West has the best solar resource in the UK. Ground mounted PV is the highest constrained RE resource
Run of river hydro	Small scale. Negligible resource. Abstraction licences a constraint. Economics difficult without existing civils infrastructure in place
Electricity & Heat	
Biomass energy	Resource not directly linked to location of technology which, to maximise efficiency, needs to be heat led
EfW energy	Resource not directly linked to location of technology which, to maximise efficiency, needs to be heat led
Anaerobic Digestion (AD)	Resource not directly linked to location of technology. Biogas export is the preferred technical solution to electricity generation (only). Combined heat and power (CHP) requires an adjacent heat load
Heat	
Heat networks	Heat demand led
Solar thermal	The South West has the best solar resource in the UK. Large scale solar thermal arrays will play increasing role where there are heat networks as evidenced in Denmark and elsewhere in continental Europe
Heat pumps	Large scale HP important in FAB Link type waste heat recovery opportunities. Potential for increasing standalone role as electricity grid decarbonises subject to electricity prices and grid constraints

4.7 Having identified that the predominant renewable energy resource is wind and PV the Low Carbon Study mapped and quantified the resource as shown in the figures and tables below.



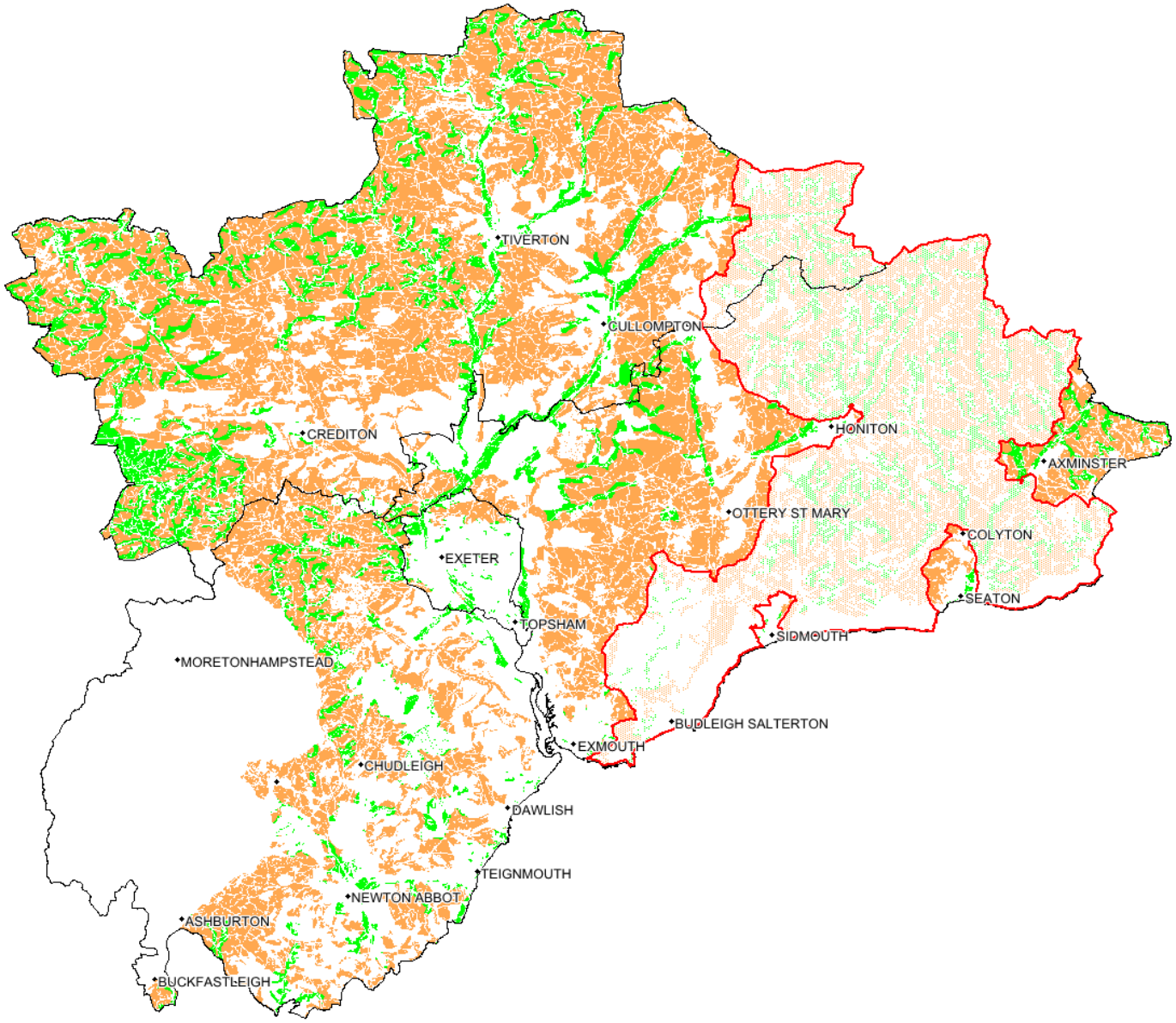
Above: Areas identified for onshore wind development with no constraint on the maximum distance from the WPD electricity distribution grid (the shading refers to the turbine sizes identified in the resource assessment)



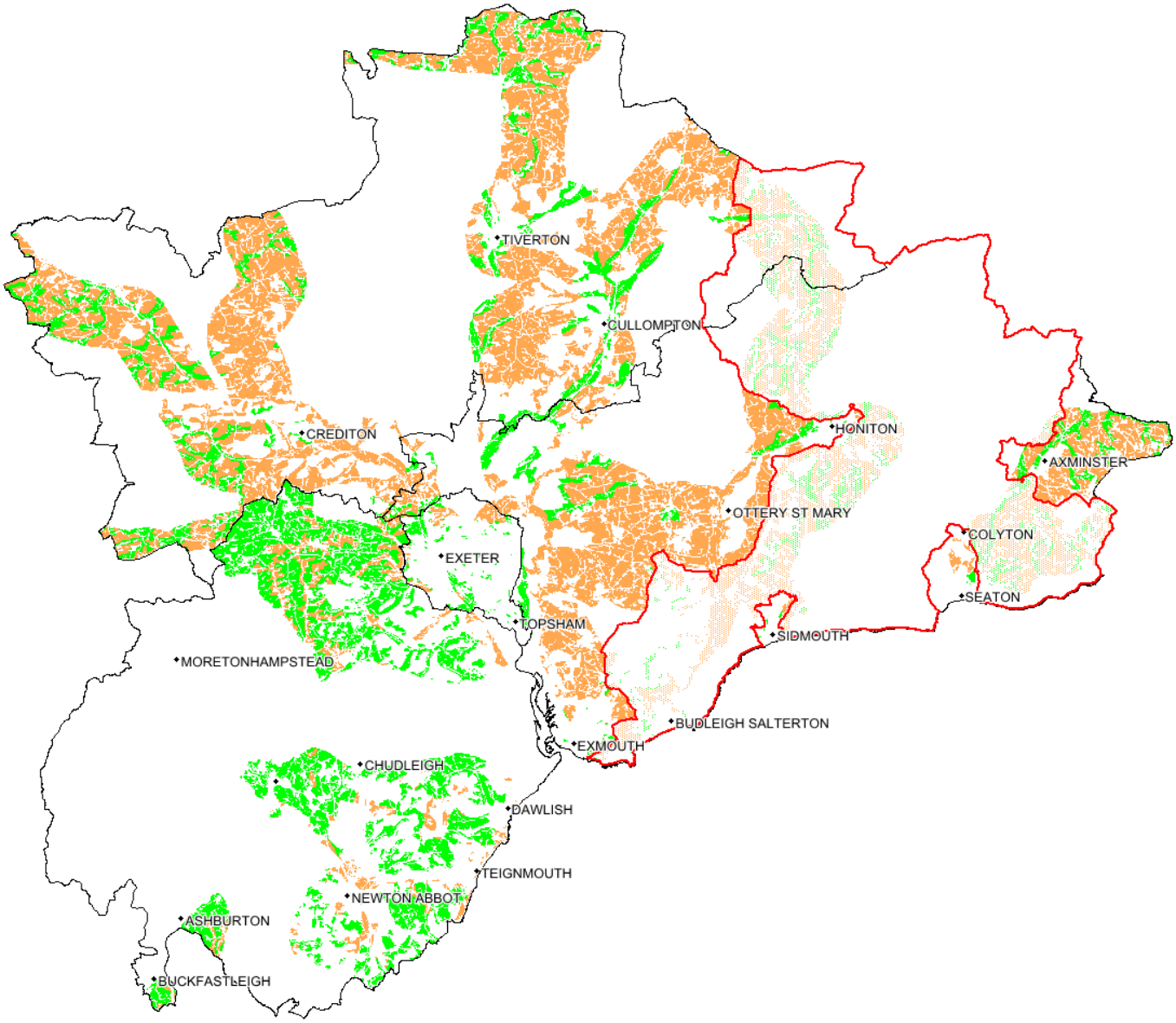
Above: Areas identified for onshore wind development with a 2 km constraint on the maximum distance from the WPD electricity distribution grid (the shading refers to the turbine sizes identified in the resource assessment)

Below: Unexploited wind potential within the East Devon

	Number of sites	Capacity (MW)	Annual Output (GW h)
Without grid constraint			
East Devon	15	16.8	41.3
With grid constraint			
East Devon	3	9.3	22.9



Above: Areas identified for PV development with no constraint on the maximum distance from the WPD electricity distribution grid. Areas in green are agricultural land grade 4 or 5. Areas in orange are agricultural land grade 3. The AONB boundary is shown in red, and possible development within the AONB as hatched areas.



Above: Areas identified for PV development with a 2 km constraint on the maximum distance from the WPD electricity distribution grid. Areas in green are agricultural land grade 4 or 5. Areas in orange are agricultural land grade 3. The AONB boundary is shown in red, and possible development within the AONB as hatched areas.

Below: Unexploited PV potential within the East Devon (constrained to agricultural land grades 3 and above)

	Capacity (MW)	Annual Output (GW h)
Without grid constraint		
East Devon	1,332	1,290
With grid constraint		
East Devon	886	860

Below: Conversion of "without Grid Constraint" resource in GWh into $ktCO_2$ using $0.28kgCO_2/kWh$ 2018 grid electricity conversion factor

Without grid constraint	Annual Output (G**W**h**)**	CO_2 emission reduction $ktCO_2$
***Wi**nd*		
East Devon	41	11.6
PV		
East Devon	1,290	361.2
Total	1,331	372.8

4.8 The figures above show that full development of East Devon's wind and PV resource would save 373 $ktCO_2$ compared to 2014 emissions of 821$ktCO_2$ (45%)

4.9 While this shows the challenge of offsetting 100% of East Devon's CO_2 emissions within the district without very significant energy efficiency and demand reduction it also shows the important contributions which large scale wind and PV development can play in the local generation of zero carbon energy. Strong local planning policies which facilitate renewable energy deployment are therefore critical.

4.10 More specifically and as highlighted previously, the West End has pioneered the roll out of district heating at Cranbrook and, more recently (in collaboration with ECC), at Monkerton / Mosshayne. It is anticipated that some 12,500 homes across that area plus the employment sites at Skypark and Science Park will be connected to the heat network. This scale of heat demand provides the opportunity for the delivery of a sizable biomass combined heat and power (CHP) plant to provide renewable energy at scale for these developments. Such a plant could offset some 30$ktCO_2$ or 4% of East Devon's CO_2 emissions. Facilitating such a project builds on the achievements at Cranbrook and would be a significant demonstration of how local authorities can lead carbon emission reduction.

5. Way forward

5.1 This report sets out headline analysis of the potential for renewable energy generation in the District and the accompanying policy choices including the need for energy efficiency and demand reduction. To take this forward it is proposed to commission a feasibility study from the Centre for Energy and the Environment at the University of Exeter (the Council is a member of the South West Energy and Environment Group, the partnership of local authorities and public sector organisations which part fund the Centre). Within the context of the emerging Greater Exeter Strategic Plan this will need to provide finer grain analysis of how enhanced renewable energy can be secured within the constraints that exist within the District.

5.2 To provide a holistic assessment this analysis will also need to consider the potential for energy efficiency and demand reduction, both within the context of national policy and the ability for local policies to push beyond this. This needs to include the potential for large scale retrofit of energy efficiency measures to the building stock for example. Also we are on the cusp of a large scale transitions to electric vehicles. This creates particular opportunities for the District, including in relation to the strategic road network. Again this demands careful consideration, for example in determining the Council's strategy to supporting the roll out of charging infrastructure.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The Council has a good track record of supporting the deployment of renewable energy generating capacity including ground breaking schemes such as the roll out of heat networks in the West End of the District. This paper sets out the challenge of offsetting 100% of East Devon's CO_2 emissions within the District and the important role that strong local planning policies will have going forward. The recommendation to commission a feasibility study will help to further define the objective and how it can be realised.

Agenda item 8

Overview Committee

Overview Committee Forward Plan 2018/19	
Date of Committee	**Report**
27 Sept 2018	Commercial Property Investment Framework
15 Nov 2018	
16 Jan 2019	Joint meeting with Scrutiny Committee on draft Service Plans and Budget 2019/2020
31 Jan 2019	
28 Feb 2019	
28 Mar 2019	

Work for scoping and allocation to the Forward Plan:

Proposed date	Topic
tbc	Review of service plans in alignment with the Scrutiny Committee for improving the oversight of the draft budget and service plans
tbc	Public Toilet review
tbc	Natural Capital in the Heart of the South West document
tbc	Devon County Council's economic profile document
Spring 2019	"Knowing East Devon" updated document
tbc	Update on the funding application made by the Greater Exeter Group for the DELETTI project (includes charge point infrastructure for electronic cars)
tbc	One Public Estate involvement
tbc	LA examples for other areas of income generation – trying to secure visits from other LAs
To be clarified and scoped – from 31/05/18 meeting	Flat pack housing
	Help with seeking grants
	Exmouth barrage