North Northamptonshire Council

Meeting: EAP Sustainable Communities

Date: Wednesday 10th April, 2024

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Virtual meeting, via Zoom

The meeting will be available for the public to view live at the Democratic Services North Northants YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/c/DemocraticServicesNorthNorthantsCouncil

To members of the EAP Sustainable Communities

Councillor Harriet Pentland (Chair), Councillor Tim Allebone, Councillor Jennie Bone, Councillor Dez Dell, Councillor Jan O'Hara, Councillor Roger Powell and Councillor Mark Pengelly

Members of the Panel are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed on the agenda.

Agenda

Item	Subject	Presenting Officer	Page no.
01	Apologies for Absence	Raj Sohal	
02	Members' Declarations of Interest	Chair	
03	Minutes from Meeting held on 7th February 2024	Chair	5 - 6
04	North Northamptonshire Climate Change Strategy	Nick Bolton	7 - 20
05	NN2NZ - Boost for Business (b4b) Initiative	Nick Bolton	21 - 26
06	Close of Meeting	All	

Sanjit Sull, Monitoring Officer
North Northamptonshire Council

Proper Officer
2nd April 2024

This agenda has been published by Democratic Services.

Committee Administrator: Raj Sohal

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Public Participation and Attendance

Executive Advisory Panels are not subject to the full Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). Public meeting requirements do not apply for these meetings. If you wish to attend the meeting, please contact the named Democratic Services Officer or email democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk

Members' Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of their duty to ensure they abide by the approved Member Code of Conduct whilst undertaking their role as a Councillor. Where a matter arises at a meeting which **relates to** a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, you must declare the interest, not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless granted a dispensation.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which **relates to** other Registerable Interests, you must declare the interest. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but must not take part in any vote on the matter unless you have been granted a dispensation.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which **relates to** your own financial interest (and is not a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest) or **relates to** a financial interest of a relative, friend or close associate, you must disclose the interest and not vote on the matter unless granted a dispensation. You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting.

Members are reminded that they should continue to adhere to the Council's approved rules and protocols during the conduct of meetings. These are contained in the Council's approved Constitution.

If Members have any queries as to whether a Declaration of Interest should be made please contact the Monitoring Officer at – monitoringofficer@northnorthants.gov.uk

Press & Media Enquiries

Any press or media enquiries should be directed through the Council's Communications Team to NNU-Comms-Team@northnorthants.gov.uk

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If you make a representation to the meeting, unless you have specifically asked not to appear on the webcast, you are taking positive action to confirm that you consent to being

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If you have any queries regarding webcasting or the recording of meetings by the public, please contact democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk

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North Northamptonshire Council

Minutes of a meeting of the EAP Sustainable Communities
Held at 9.30 am on Wednesday 7th February, 2024 as a Remote Meeting, via Zoom

Present:-

Members

Councillor Harriet Pentland (Chair)
Councillor Tim Allebone
Councillor Dez Dell
Councillor Jan O'Hara
Councillor Mark Pengelly

Officers

Ian Achurch	Head of Economic Growth and Sustainability
Nick Bolton	Co-Founder – Electric Corby
George Candler	Executive Director – Place and Economy
Nicole Geary	Project Manager - Transformation
Rob Harbour	Assistant Director – Growth and Regeneration
Greg Haynes	Climate Change Officer
Raj Sohal	Democratic Services Officer

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jennie Bone.

2 Members' Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

3 Minutes from Meeting held on 29th November 2023

RESOLVED that: The minutes of the meeting held on the 29th November 2023 be approved as an accurate record.

4 DECODE Corby

The Panel considered a presentation by Nick Bolton (Co-Founder of Electric Corby CIC), which outlined Electric Places' project, in collaboration with partners such as Tata Steel and North Northamptonshire Council, to develop a decarbonisation plan for Corby's industry to transition and establish a body to drive transition to a low carbon economy.

RESOLVED that: The report be noted.

5 Progress Report on the E-Scooter Trial in North Northamptonshire

The Panel considered a report by The Head of Economic Growth and Sustainability, which provided an update regarding the current e-scooter trial, and its impact, in North Northamptonshire.

RESOLVED that: The report be noted.

6 Climate Change Impact Assessment

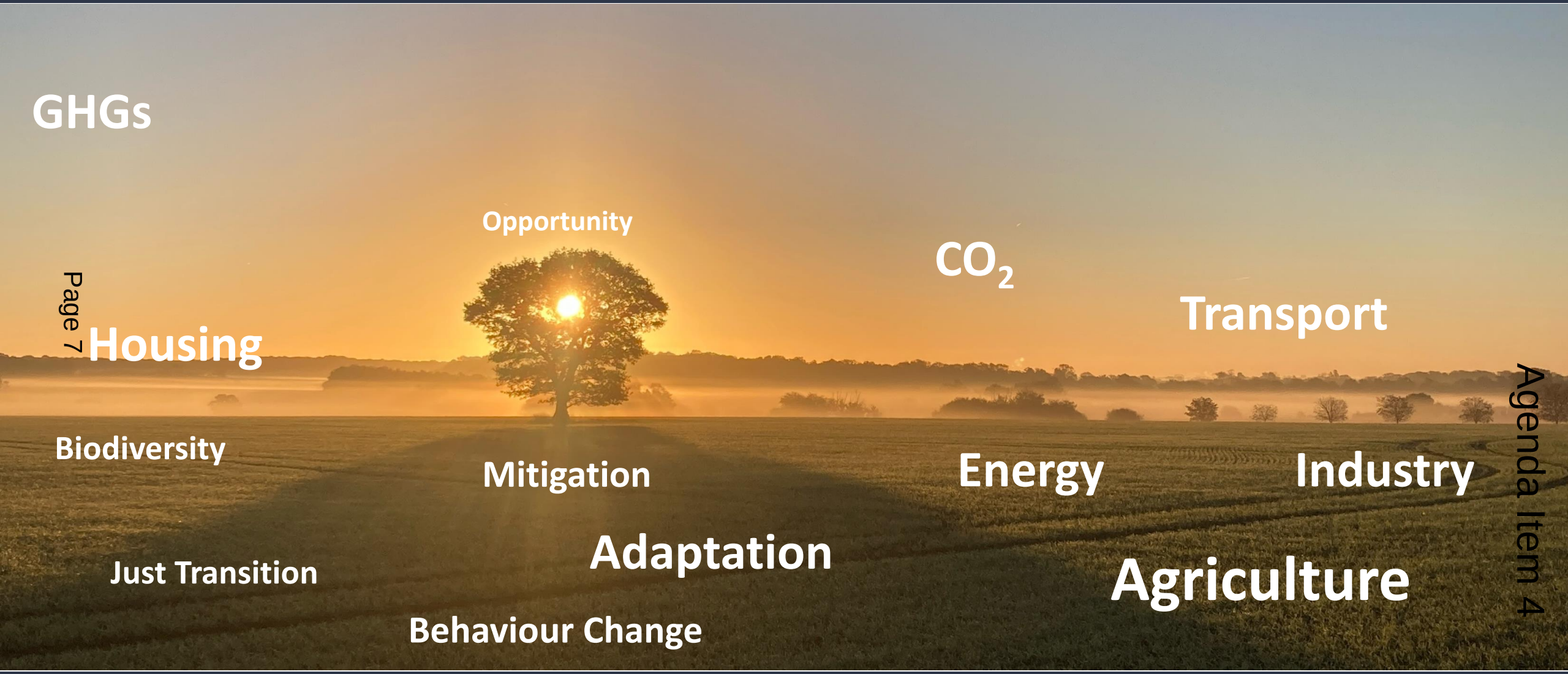
The Panel considered a presentation by The Project Manager for Transformation (Place and Economy), which outlined the implementation and operation of the Climate Change Impact Assessment tool since October 2023, reasons for its requirement and demonstrated how it worked.

RESOLVED that: The report be noted.

7 Close of Meeting

The next meeting of the EAP Sustainable Communities would be held at 9:30am on Wednesday 12th June 2024.

North Northamptonshire Climate Change Strategy



Electric Places
ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION

Electric Places

Supporting NNC with programmes and projects to propel clean and green economic growth

Electric Places (Electric Corby CIC)

- Not for profit social enterprise - a mission to guide organisations, places, and people to net zero
- Over a decade delivering expert advice, support, and grant access programs for businesses in NN

NN2NZ

- Low-carbon strategic options analysis for the North Northamptonshire
- The Business Decarbonisation Programme aligns with NN2NZ recommendations – targeting key NN emissions (fleets, energy use, heating)
- Builds on existing business engagement

DECODE-Corby - a decarbonisation plan and delivery body for the industrial and manufacturing cluster around Corby

NN2N Boost for Business (B4B) - aimed at SMEs in North Northamptonshire, to help businesses develop tailored carbon reduction strategies and foster a green, thriving local economy

Journey to NZ – a local business decarbonisation network with an inward investment prospectus and website to support North Northamptonshire's transition to a net zero economy

North Northamptonshire Climate Change Strategy

2023 - 2027

At its formation in 2021, the **Council declared a Climate Emergency** and commissioned work on the **North Northants to Net Zero** (NN2NZ) project

In 2022, it set a target to be **Carbon Neutral by 2030** and agreed its first **Carbon Management Plan**

The Council has now commissioned **a re-imagined Climate Change Strategy** in response to

- the evolving landscape of climate action
- recommendations from NN2NZ and other net-zero policy advancements

To position North Northamptonshire as a leading example of **sustainable, thriving, and forward-thinking communities** and an attractive place to live, work, and visit

Programme Overview and Objectives

Strategy Development Process

To address climate change impacts comprehensively across North Northamptonshire, support the journey to Carbon Neutrality by 2030 and promote a sustainable, thriving community

1. Data and Policy Review

Objective: Establish a foundational understanding of our current climate action position.

- Gather and digest past policies and evidence bases
- Local strategies
- Seek out guidance and support for best practice (e.g. Oxfordshire)

2. Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement

Objective: Develop the Strategy with broad input reflecting the diversity of needs in NN

- Comprehensive set of stakeholders identified and provided
- We are systematically approaching and engage all identified

3. Draft Strategy Development

Objective: Create a draft Strategy with actionable recommendations for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Activities: Integrate insights from reviews and engagements, emphasising tangible changes across key sectors.

Programme Overview and Objectives

Strategy Development Process

3. Draft Strategy Development

Objective: Create a draft Strategy with actionable recommendations for climate change mitigation and adaptation

- **Re-imagine** the current Climate Change Strategy adding action-oriented recommendations
- **Mitigation** – strategy to change individual and organisational behaviour to reduce GHG emissions
- **Adaptation** – risk management approach on how best to address new and emerging risks

Risk Management Approach

- Structured approach for ongoing management
- Assess risks based on latest data
- Structured action plans based on best practice
- Real life case studies for Operational Resilience

	Storm/Wind	Cold	Heat	Pest, Fest & Outbreaks	Drought	Flood	Wild Fire
Power							
Water							
Food & agriculture							
Shelter							
Transport & logistics							
ICT							

Programme Overview and Objectives

Strategy Development Process

4. Public Consultation

Objective: Align the draft Strategy with community aspirations and concerns.

- Leverage existing panel of 700 residents and known stakeholders
- Investigating 'Citizens Assembly' based on successful Oxford model – but for a fraction of the cost
- Demographically inclusive input and direction on scope and pace

5. Strategy Refinement

Objective: Finalise the Climate Change Strategy by incorporating public and stakeholder feedback

- Take feedback and guidance from consultation to build a defensible strategy
- Report with teeth – backed by broad consensus – not just from the engaged

6. Launch Completed Strategy

Objective: Formally release the final Climate Change Strategy and begin implementation

- Present the Strategy to the Council
- Organise a public launch event (possibly NNClimate24)
- Ensure digital accessibility for community involvement

Engage the **un-engaged**

Drive the **positive opportunities**

Secure **a just transition** to Net Zero and beyond

Ensure coordinated **adaptation and mitigation is actioned** across North Northamptonshire

Project Timeline and Milestones

North Northants Climate Change Strategy Project Plan										
As at:	04/04/2024	2024								
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Stages										
	Stage 1: Project Set-Up									
	Stage 2: Evidence Base Data & Policy Review									
	Stage 3: Stakeholder Input									
	Stage 4: Draft Strategy									
	Stage 5: Public Consultation									
	Stage 6: Refine Strategy									
	Stage 7: Public Launch & Handover									

Measure and link back to CO_2 tonnes saved to NN2NZ "Close the Gap" Trajectory to Net Zero

Electric Places
ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION

NN2NZ Boost for Business

Business Decarbonisation Support Programme

Helping NN businesses recognise CO_2 reduction benefits, create plans and access grants for implementation

We have designed a programme that aligns with NNC priorities

- Maximises engagement of varied businesses and types across sectors
- Targets high emissions sites and activities
- Will lead to impactful decarbonisation actions and outcomes

Engagement Strategy (use of cost effective, digital, scalable assets)

- CRM (Hubspot)
- Workshops, webinars, emails, social media campaign
- EPC analyses for NN – identify particularly energy inefficient sites
- AIDA (Awareness, Interest, Desire, and Action) approach to maximise engagement
- Funnel Process to systematically guide businesses through the support programme
- Toolkit to focus action on high carbon emitting and economically impactful activities (building heating, energy use, and vehicles)

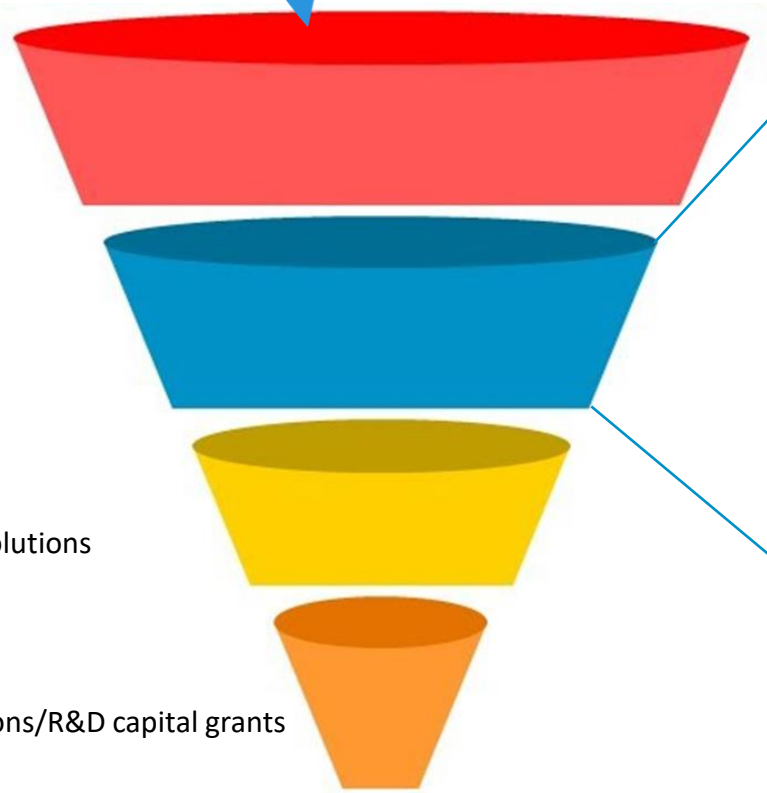
Programme delivery

Strategic engagement that will drive low carbon business actions

Funnel process

Monitored and managed using a CRM

Leads and Referrals
e.g. Electric Places' business network, NNC, SEMLEP, NNBN etc



1. Information and Advice
1-to-many comms, workshops/webinars

2. Data Gathering Toolkit
Businesses access focused toolkits

3. Expert Guidance
Analyse and interpret toolkit data.
Tailored advice for suitable low carbon solutions

4. Business Case Development
Identify and assist with funding applications/R&D capital grants

Data gathering toolkits

Building Fabric Efficiency
Thermal Imaging Cameras

Business Energy Monitoring
Easy-fit current clamps

EV Transition
Fleet EV simulator

Workshops

A series of workshops with provision to re-run to maximise participation

Minimum of 6 workshops with average participation rate of at least 50 businesses per workshop

- **Workshop 1. decarbonisation Benefits:**
  - Communicate tangible benefits, including cost savings, environmental sustainability, and potential access to funding opportunities.
  - This workshop will provide a baseline introduction - Net zero 101 - for SME's to gain an understanding of available technologies, solutions, local grid challenges and planning context for decarbonisation

- **Workshop 2. R&D and Capital Grants:**
  - Provide clear guidance on accessing capital grants for decarbonisation initiatives, outlining the application process, eligibility criteria, and potential funding amounts.

- **Workshop 3. Carbon Audit Opportunities:**
  - Introduce businesses to the opportunity for a complimentary, high-level carbon audit funded through the program, emphasising its value in identifying decarbonisation opportunities.

- **Workshop 4. Skills Development:**
  - Offer expert guidance for skills enhancement, covering topics such as top-level carbon audits and ROI analyses.

- **Workshop 5. Local Skills, Supply, and Installation:**
  - Highlight the advantages of using local trades for low-carbon interventions and provide information on additional local services, such as legal support for contracts and ESG benefits.

- **Workshop 6. Promotional Campaign Strategies: triple bottom line benefits**
  - Provide insights into effective promotional campaign strategies, helping businesses raise awareness of their decarbonisation and ESG efforts, fostering positive engagement from stakeholders and customers.

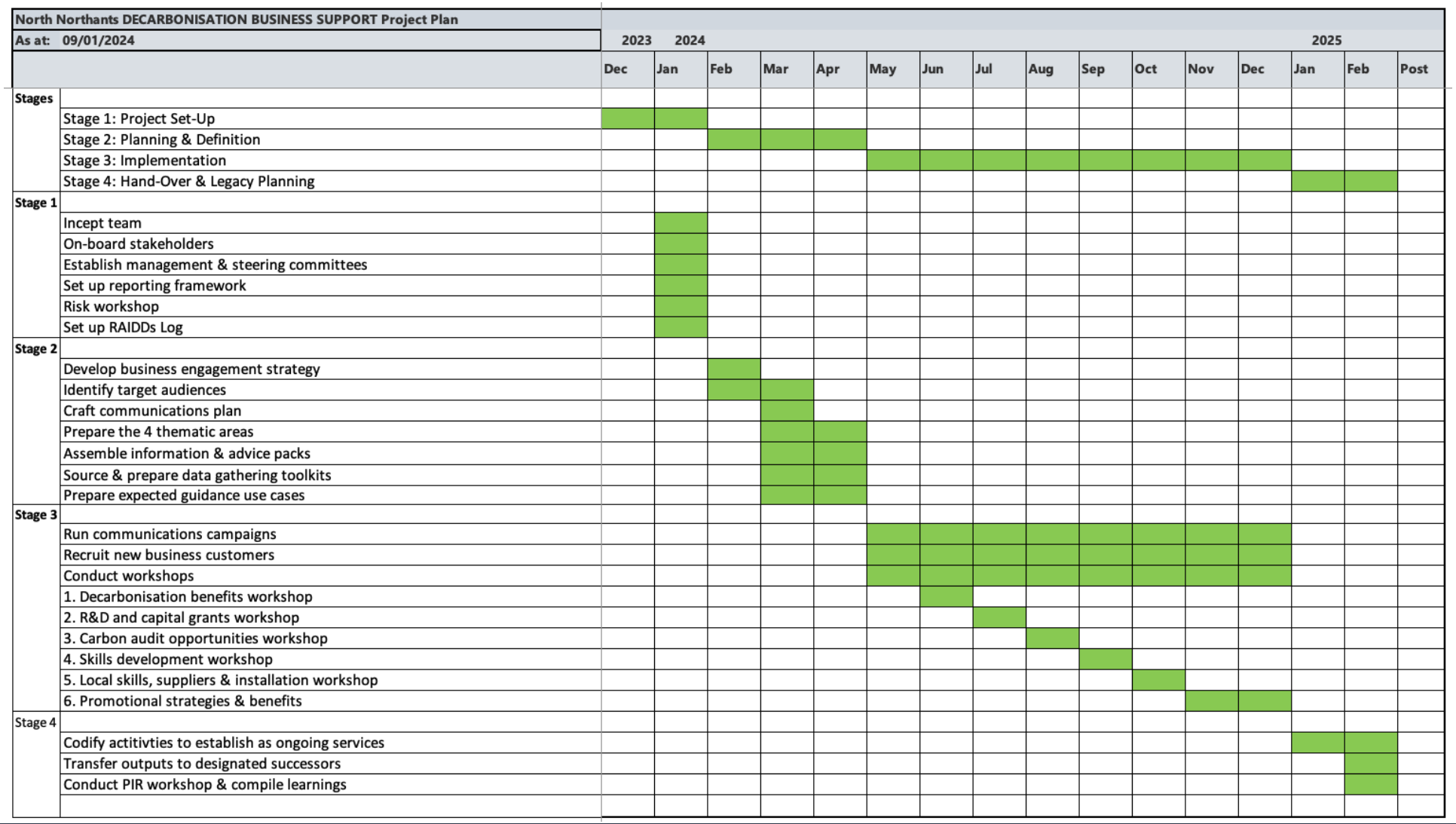
Outcomes and outputs

1. **Information and Advice** – TARGET 300 businesses engaged
2. **Data Gathering Toolkit** – TARGET 30 business using toolkits
3. **Expert Guidance** – TARGET 25 businesses receiving tailored advice/guidance, develop carbon reduction plans
4. **Business Case Development** – TARGET 20 business accessing grants

- Business Engagement Strategy & funnel progression process – replicable and scalable
  - **Communications Plan** (AIDA marketing approach)
  - **Campaign of weekly marketing activities** (e.g. social posts, emails, phone calls etc)
  - **CRM** – platform set up to facilitate effective segmented communications, GDPR compliance, and tracking of businesses through the project funnel and tracking of KPIs.

Measure and link back to CO_2 tonnes saved to NN2NZ "Close the Gap" Trajectory to Net Zero

Timelines



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Growing Corby – 1:1 and 1:MANY advice and grants for growth to over 200 SMEs in NN
Workshops – Energy and carbon saving advice to over 60 businesses (energy management, EV transition)
Horizon 2020 projects – Analysis, surveys and carbon saving technology installation across >80 buildings in NN
Carbon and energy audits – strategic carbon reduction plan, low-carbon technology modelling and ROI for businesses

DECODE-Corby collaboration will ensure place-based strategic decarbonisation plan alignment.

- Knowledge sharing from DECODE will extend the benefits for businesses across NN

Business Decarbonisation Support Programme

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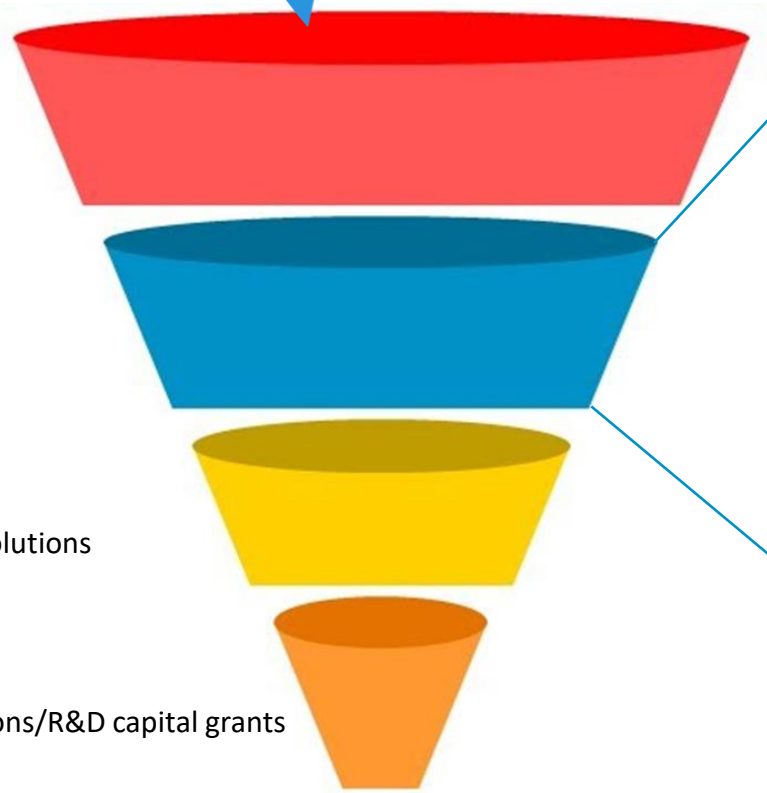

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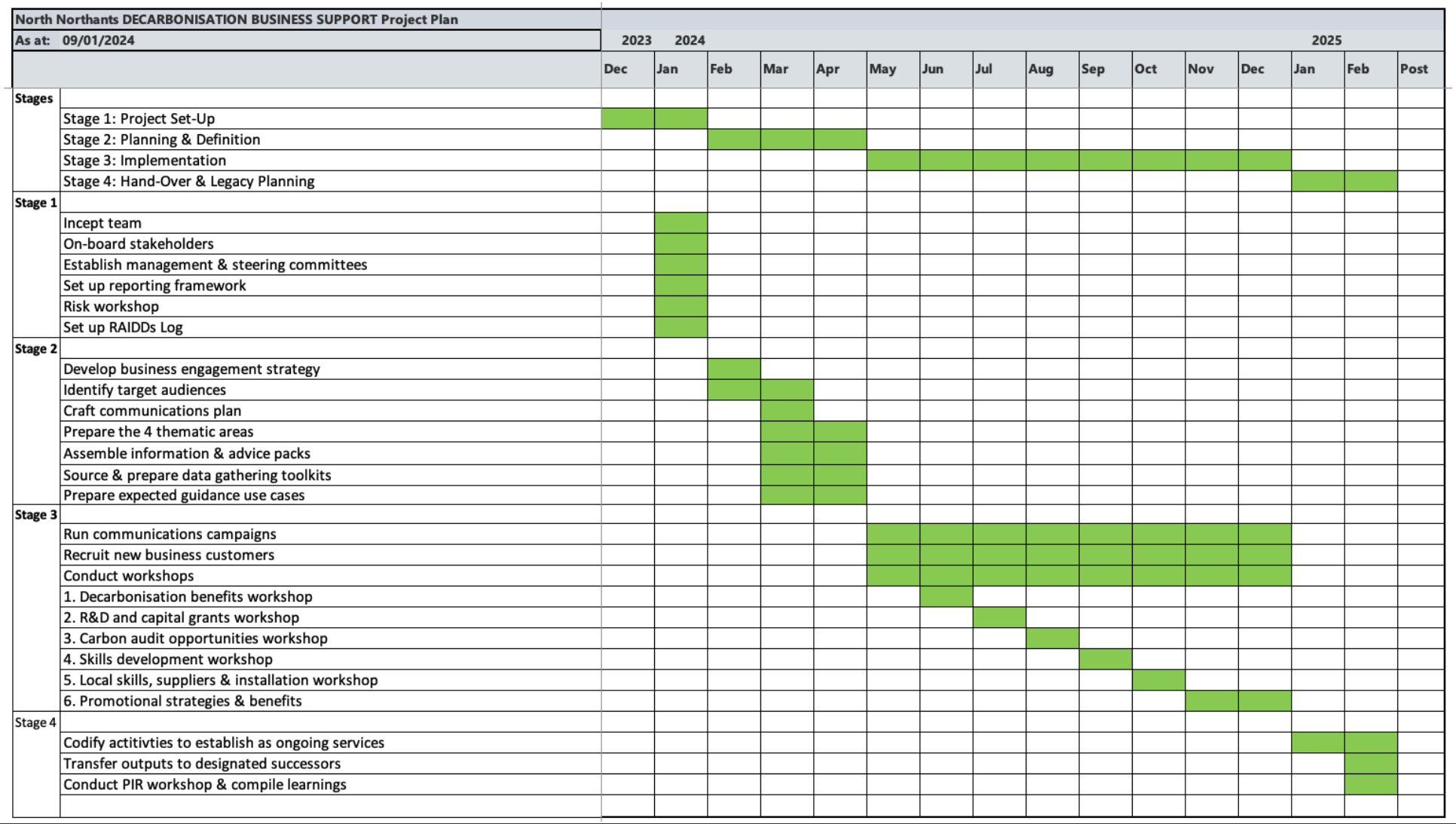

Electric Places
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