

### Carbon Neutral Strategy for the Building

**Author of the Report / Paper:** David Michael

**Owner of the Report / Paper (if different):**

**Purpose of the Report / Paper:**

To introduce the attached report by ESD assessing options for decarbonisation.

**Report / Paper previously presented to (if relevant):**

**Audit and Risk Committee**

**Financial Planning Committee**

**Governance and Performance Committee**

**Summary of the Report / Paper:**

#### **1. Background**

1.1 The process by which the Library building can be decarbonised has been the subject of detailed discussion within the Library. ESD were commissioned as experts in the field to produce a report giving

their assessment of the options. Their report gives a strategic overview and confirms the way ahead for the Library.

1.2 The current heating and cooling infrastructure, although entirely capable of servicing the building, was not designed with carbon neutrality in mind. The main source of carbon emissions are the heating boilers which use gas and these will need to be phased out. The chiller plant uses electricity, and provided the supply of electricity can be zero carbon (this is something for the UK Government) then the Library needs to consider how it can use the heat that is currently wasted to warm the building. The report also highlights the importance of solar PV installations: the Library currently has an 80KW array on the Third Library Building, and a smaller system is about to be installed on the Outstore.

1.3 The report confirms the Library's approach to decarbonisation, and the first steps will be taken in 2021/22 as part of the capital programme. There will be a number of challenges, as the implementation of the mechanical and electrical systems will be complex. It will also be complicated by the listed status of the building, and other factors such as the poor thermal efficiency of the original building.

**Financial Obligations (if relevant):** Yes  No

**Contributes to Strategic Targets (where relevant):**

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that:

1. the approach to decarboniation is approved
2. progress is monitored by the Buildings Panel

**Status of the Paper / Report:**

Requires approval  For information only