

NET ZERO CARBON STATEMENT

Context

In 2019 Norfolk County Council (NCC) redeclared its Environmental Policy and set an ambitious goal of reaching net zero carbon by 2030. This goal set out a target to work collectively, with regional partners, to achieve:

- 'net zero' carbon emissions on NCC's estates by 2030
- within wider areas, work towards 'carbon neutrality' also by 2030 and,
- where possible, absolute zero carbon.

A key part of achieving this target is to remove fossil fuel heating sources (e.g. oil and gas boilers) from NCC buildings, to be replaced by electrical heating sources (e.g. air source heat pumps), to assist on the journey to becoming "net zero" across the NCC estate. The theory is that, as the National Grid decarbonises in future, NCC's estate will be ready to benefit from the decarbonisation of the National Grid and reducing carbon emissions.

Proposal

The installation of the proposed air source heat pump (ASHP) is required to remove the existing gas boiler and replace with an electrical source to provide heat and hot water to the building. This measure has been supported by increasing the loft insulation and switching internal light fittings to lower energy LED types to reduce the heat losses and energy requirements of the building (note these measures do not require planning permission, and are not part of this planning application but are noted here for wider context at the request of the pre-application case officer).