

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**28 November 2024**

**COUNCILLOR MICHAEL de WHALLEY - CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY**

For the period 17 October 2024 to 26 November 2024

### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

#### **Vehicle Fleet Review**

The project seeks to decarbonise the Council's vehicle fleet. To inform this, a report, including an options appraisal, is required. A preferred bidder has been selected and contracts are being finalised, following a thorough tendering process which received thirteen responses. The final report is expected early 2025.

#### **Schools Climate Competition Project**

Following a tender exercise, Groundwork East have been selected as the provider. A presentation to the borough's headteachers network is planned for the 28<sup>th</sup> November and will seek to engage schools ahead of activity in early 2025.

#### **Solar Together**

The group buying scheme is being promoted this year and, following a targeted mailshot, 609 households in King's Lynn and West Norfolk have registered their interest in the scheme of which 574 are solar, 43 battery and 208 Electric Vehicle chargers (N.B. some applications are for multiple options).

#### **Carbon Audit**

Final datasets are being collated with an aim of having a first draft of the annual carbon audit available late December 2024.

#### **Carbon Literacy Training**

We are in discussions with our e-learning provider to create the training material for use in the council's e-learning platform.

#### **Ferry**

The recently received Richard Jackson Engineering Consultants report has identified 'High Priority' repairs to the ferry landing infrastructure. Drake Towage (a marine contractor) are due to visit site on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November at low tide to assess the works and prepare a quotation to address the same. The intention is to use the joint NCC and BCKLWN funds that remain from the feasibility study budget, circa £15k, for which there is an informal agreement.

These funds were used to fund the report and effect minor repairs to replace three steps on the King's Lynn landing in September.

BCKLWN representatives met with NCC representatives on Tuesday 26th November to continue discussions on the ferry and maintain the partnership approach.

### **Norfolk Climate Change Partnership (NCCP)**

BCKLWN and North Norfolk District Council will be piloting a thermal imaging camera project. Six cameras have been purchased by the partnership that will be shared across the districts. The initiative is based upon a Suffolk Climate Change Partnership project where parish councils or community groups can use the cameras for two-week intervals. Initially the project will be focused on the Norfolk Net Zero Communities areas with an aim to extend coverage to further parish councils or community groups. Training is being undertaken on 14 November 2024 with information packs in development.

The last Partnership meeting focused on the governance of the Greater South East Net Zero Hub, thermal imaging cameras and Norfolk Net Zero Communities project.

### **Norfolk Net Zero Communities**

The project is still in a listening phase with all the participating communities across the county. Hubbub's research is being collated and potential solutions identified for the barriers to decarbonisation reported in due course.

### **Streetlighting: LED Replacement Phase II**

The tendering process has been initiated for the approx. 490 streetlights known to need to be converted to LED. The procurement process can take between 3-4 months, and it is likely that, subject to costs, this project will commence in 2025/2026. It is estimated that the upgrades would result in savings of around 147,456kWh/annum. At current prices this equates to a cost saving of around £40,000/annum.

### **Re:Fit**

Further opportunities for LED lighting have been identified at Enterprise Works, Regis Place, Lynnsport (internal and external sports pitch lighting), Oasis, BCKLWN Depot (Oldmedow Road) and Alive St James (pool lighting). The works at Alive St James have gone out to tender and are due to be completed using a £27,000 award from the swimming pool support fund. Site surveys have been completed at the remaining sites and we are reviewing proposals/costings from contractors.

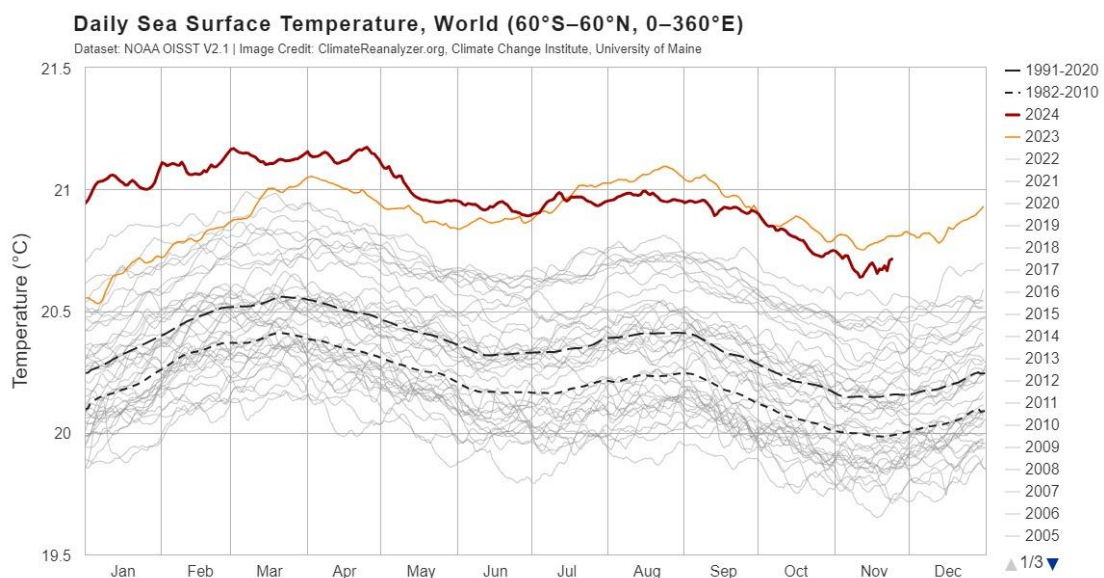
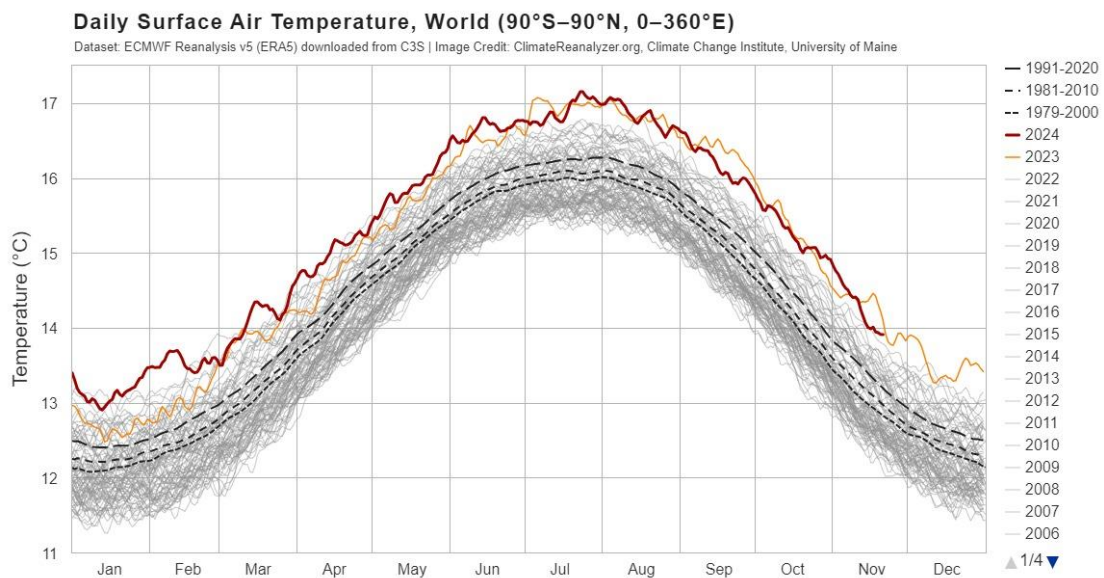
### **Climate**

October 2024 was the second-warmest October on record globally, with an average surface air temperature of 15.25°C, only 0.05°C lower than the record set in October 2023. October was about 1.65°C warmer than an estimate of the October average for 1850-1900, the designated pre-industrial reference period and was the 15<sup>th</sup> month in a 16-month period for which the global-average surface air temperature exceeded 1.5°C above pre-industrial

levels. The average temperature anomaly for the remaining two months of this year would need to drop by an unprecedented amount to almost zero for 2024 not to be warmer than 2023, making it virtually certain that 2024 is going to be the warmest year on record.

The average global sea surface temperature (SST) for October 2024 over 60°S to 60°N was 20.68°C, the second-highest for the month in the dataset, only 0.10°C below the record set in October 2023. Sea surface temperature is defined over the global extrapolar ocean, from 60°S to 60°N. This is used as a standard diagnostic for climate monitoring.

*Data source: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts - ERA5.*



### **Mayors Awards**

The Environmental Champion category will feature within the Mayors' Business Awards 2025 with the winner announced on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Nominations closed on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024.

### **Beat Your Bills Roadshow**

**King's Lynn** (Windsor Park) – 02/12/2024 10:00-12:00

**Snettisham** (The Paddock) – 09/12/2024 10:00-12:00

**Methwold** (St Georges Hall Complex) – 10/12/2024 10:00-12:00

**Outwell** (Beaupre Hall) – 11/12/2024 10:00-12:00

**Dersingham** (Orchard Close) – 17/12/2024 10:00-12:00

**Dersingham** (Village Centre) - 07/01/2025 11:30-13:30

### **3 Meetings Attended and Meetings Scheduled**

Cabinet Briefings

Cabinet Sifting

Cabinet

Corporate Performance Panel

King's Lynn Conservancy Board

Norfolk Air Quality Summit

Mayor's Reception for Emergency Wardens

Norfolk Records Committee

Norfolk Museums Committee

Droves Solar Farm Proposal

Sibelco Community Liaison Committee

College of West Anglia Sustainability Event

Transport Informal Working Group

Biodiversity Net Gain Competition Proposals

BT Digital Telephone Switchover

RSPB Titchwell

South Lynn Community Orchard/Beuys' Acorns Project

West Norfolk - Prosperity Funding

#### **Portfolio Holder Briefings and updates:**

C EX Portfolio Update

Climate Change Weekly Updates

#### **Meetings Scheduled:**

Parkway Members Tour