

**Growth Board Draft response to recommendations of the Growth Board Scrutiny Panel
Recommendations made on 12 July 2021**

The Growth Board is requested to provide a response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel for decision at its meeting on 19 July 2021.

Recommendation	Agree?	Comment
<p>Recommendation 1: That the Growth Board request that each partner council considers the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire Report at a meeting of their full council, to give it visibility and prompt debate and action against the recommendations within the report.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 2: That the Growth Board requests that partner councils, in their consideration of the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire Report, consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. prioritisation of projects given the limited resources available based on value for money and the marginal cost of abatement of carbon dioxide emissions. b. Take account of the differences of approach required between local authorities regulating activity in their communities to encourage carbon reduction and the development of zero carbon projects initiated by local authorities using their own financial resources. 		

<p>Recommendation 3: That the Growth Board requests that each partner council gives consideration in future iterations of their Local Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. to the banning of natural gas central heating boilers, in order to mitigate emissions from new developments.b. to the ambition of promoting land use for solar electricity generation.		
<p>Recommendation 4: That the Growth Board write to HM Government advocating for the discontinuation of gas boilers in new residential and commercial developments as soon as possible, in favour of more sustainable alternative heating methods.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 5: That the Growth Board explore opportunities in the future to assess whether some communities can pilot a shared access approach to ground source heating, possibly managed through parish or town councils.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 6: That the Growth Board requests that each partner council give consideration as to how they will manage the transition to a carbon society so as not to disproportionately impact disadvantage communities. It is suggested that this should be tackled through specific, tangible support and incentives.</p>		

Recommendation 7: That the Growth Board ensures that the Oxfordshire Plan builds in zero building standards to lock in long term progress towards net zero.

Recommendation 8: That the Growth Board asks officers to liaise with Parish and Town Councils, Neighbourhood Forums and elected members to identify suitable community buildings in their localities where copies of the Plan can be made available and visible to the community, especially in locations without an obvious location such as a library, and in areas where digital access might not be universal.