

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE  
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number **62/2025**

Title **Salix Decarbonisation Grant - Project Change Request**

**Executive Summary:**

Humberside Police is in receipt of a grant from Salix to support the decarbonisation of the Clough Road and Priory Road sites.

A Project Change request is required to update the proposed solution for the heating system at Priory Road, from a currently planned Air Source Heat Pump system to a Biomass heating system.

The rationale behind the change is that the Biomass solution can be done in a shorter time frame, is less complex, and will cost less, both in terms of initial capital outlay and also ongoing revenue costs.

The proposed Biomass solution will also bring great carbon savings for the site.

**Decision of the PCC**

Approved.

**Background Report: Open**

**Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside**

I confirm I have considered whether I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

**Signature**



**Date 03/12/2025**

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

**SUBMISSION FOR: DECISION**

**OPEN**

**Title: Salix Decarbonisation Grant – Project Change Request**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

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**1. Executive Summary**

The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) Phase 3c programme forms a key part of Humberside Police's (HP) Decarbonisation Strategy, aiming to reduce fossil fuel use and deliver long-term carbon savings across the force's estate. The project at Priory Headquarters is one of the flagship schemes supporting this objective.

Following an instruction from HP, BACB Renewables Ltd have conducted a value engineering assessment and propose transitioning the projects heating strategy from an ASHP system to a biomass boiler installation. The Biomass solution allows the decarbonisation of the heating system at Priory Road for a lower capital cost than the ASHP option, and will ensure lower running costs in future years.

This change would need to be sanctioned by Salix in the form of an approved Project Change Request. We do not anticipate any issues in the approval of this request as the proposed solution continues to meet all of the grant requirements and will deliver additional carbon savings.

**2. Recommendation**

It is recommended that the OPCC approve the submission of the proposed Project Change Request to Salix, to allow the heating solution to Priory Road to be Biomass, as opposed to the currently planned Air Source Heat Pumps.

**3. Background**

The original heating system proposal for Priory Headquarters was based on the installation of fourteen (14) Mitsubishi Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) units. BACB was instructed to solely specific Mitsubishi, however this presents some limitations. Whilst it is a technically viable to deliver, the main challenge is balancing the flow rates of 14 separate units. This arrangement would be significantly inefficient and would require frequent optimisation (balancing) by a qualified engineer, leading to increased labour and energy

costs. The project is currently affected by funding constraints following a loss of grant value in the previous financial year.

As designs have progressed, and most importantly the ground penetrating radar, it has become clear that the ancillary works required to install the ASHP are more complex and expensive than originally anticipated. The radar survey highlighted a complex network of services under the site, and the main electrical supply not running in the straight line anticipated, but a somewhat convoluted route through the overflow car park.

BACB have conducted a value engineering assessment and propose transitioning the projects heating strategy from an ASHP system to a biomass boiler installation. The response is expected to deliver the following outputs:

- Accelerated Delivery Programme: Shortened construction and commissioning timelines compared with an ASHP solution.
- Simplification of Distribution Network Operator (DNO) Grid Risks: Removal of dependence on major grid upgrades, available potential delays and cost uncertainty. Minimized intrusive works and reduced likelihood of damaging buried utilities.
- Lower Capital and Operating Costs: Reduced initial investment and improved long-term cost certainty. Reduces electrical demand from heating, allowing onsite solar generation to be used to offset higher-value loads such as data centre and office consumption
- Enhanced Carbon Performance: Further carbon reductions achievable through sustainable biomass fuel sourcing.
- Protection from Energy Price Volatility: More stable fuel pricing compared with fluctuating electricity markets.
- Retention of Existing Standby Generation Strategy: No change required to emergency power provision

#### **4. Options**

- 1) Accept this DR and approve the submission of a change request to Salix.
- 2) Do nothing and continue with the existing plans to install Air Source Heat Pumps at the Priory Road site. This is not recommended as it carries a high risk of overspending due to the DNO works and the associated site works. It also carries the risk of not being completed by 31/3/26, which could result in non-compliance with the grant conditions, thus putting the funding itself at risk.

**5. Financial Implications**

The Salix grant allows work to be done to decarbonise Clough Road and Priory Road sites at minimal cost to the force. Ensuring we have the optimal solution for Priory, in terms of initial installation and ongoing running costs is key. The Biomass solution allows us to decarbonise the heating system at Priory for a lower capital cost than the ASHP option, and will ensure lower running costs in future years. As such, I would recommend the approval of the change request to allow the work to proceed on the biomass solution. As the grant is specifically for this work, there is no option to use the funding for any alternative purpose.

**6. Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications involved in this matter. This would be a change to the scope of an existing Grant Agreement.

**7. Driver for Change/Contribution to Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan**

The Proposed Project Change Request will contribute further towards the following outcomes and objectives of the Police and Crime Plan, through the additional reductions in carbon emissions:

5. Contribute to achieving Net Zero carbon emissions for our area

5.1 Support Improvements to environmental sustainability within policing and community safety

The Decarbonisation of the Police estate is aligned to the Sustainability Strategy, and also reduces running costs, thus aligning with the savings plans for the organisation and wider Humber area.

**6. Equalities Implications**

None noted

**7. Consultation**

Consultation has taken place with the Salix Programme Board including the following members:

- HP Head of Joint Estates Services
- HP Chief Finance Officer
- HP Assistant Chief Officer – Corporate Services & Operations
- OPCC Funding Manager

**8. Media information**

There will be opportunities to promote the Salix project as a whole and to publicise its impact. This will be achieved by working in conjunction with the OPCC's Communications team, Joint Estates and Humberside Police Communications team as appropriate.

**9. Background documents**

None

**10. Publication**

Open

**11. DPIA considered**

Yes – a DPIA has been carried out for the project by Humberside Police. The phasing and delivery of capital works takes into account the need to ensure that there is the least disruption caused and that any areas that are being accessed by third parties are clear of any sensitive data. All contractors are also required to go through vetting prior to being able to work on any sites.