

WINCHESTER CLIMATE EMERGENCY

CARBON NEUTRALITY ACTION PLAN

2020 - 2030



CONTENTS

SECTION 1	Introduction.....	4
SECTION 2	Priorities	11
SECTION 3	Delivery principles.....	13
SECTION 4	Implementation and governance.....	16
ACTION PLAN.....		19

Approved by Winchester City Council
23 December 2019



'The climate crisis is the biggest challenge all of us face in the coming years and decades. Winchester must play its part in tackling the crisis and hand our district to our children and grandchildren in a better state than it is now.'

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2025



FOREWORD

Winchester is a beautiful district. Spanning a 250 square mile area of rolling Hampshire countryside, it is dotted with bustling market towns, rural villages, and vibrant up-and-coming communities - and of course has the draw of a cathedral city that's famous for its heritage landmarks, high quality cultural offering and unspoilt open spaces. We are looking to meet the challenge of ensuring generations to come have a positive future and that means taking positive action now. This means we have declared a Climate Emergency and are working with residents, businesses, stakeholders and specialist agencies to ensure we put all we need into making local life more environmentally sustainable.



We will be closely monitoring our progress towards two ambitious goals; to see the activities of the council carbon neutral by 2024; and the whole district by 2030. Transparency is important to us so we will be measuring our progress and sharing it publicly as we work towards these targets.

Right now, people love to live here – our 2019 district-wide Residents' Survey showed that 95% of those asked said they were happy with the place they lived. But we need to ensure that Winchester retains all that we want to protect for the future, encouraging a very different lifestyle from today's. Read on to find out what we are doing to address this and how you can play your part.

Lucille Thompson

CLlr Lucille Thompson, Leader of Winchester City Council



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

The council has a strong track record of working on carbon reduction and in 2014 approved a comprehensive route map to a low carbon economy in Winchester district. A Low Carbon Board was established with representatives from the council, the University of Winchester, Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC) and Winchester Walking Group.

Over the past ten years the council's own carbon emissions have reduced by 23.6% with a decrease in emissions per employee of 10.7% since the first recording.

However, in October 2018 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, stated that, "global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C (above pre-industrial levels between 2030 and 2052) if it continues at its current rate." It also stated, that warming could be halted should emissions reach and be sustained at "net zero global anthropogenic CO₂ emissions".

The predicted consequence of climate change is that there will be increased extreme weather events, and in many areas this is already being seen:

- Flooding – damage to property, disruption to business, health and wellbeing of displaced residents;
- Heat and cold – health risk for vulnerable people, pressure on emergency and health services;

- Drought – pressure on river system health, depleted aquifer/reservoir volumes, negative impact upon agriculture, fire risk;
- Many terrestrial, freshwater, and marine species will shift their geographic ranges and seasonal activities, migration patterns.

In response to this unprecedented challenge, in June 2019 Winchester City Council declared a 'Climate Emergency'; and to:

- Commit to the aim of making the activities of Winchester City Council carbon neutral by 2024, and the district of Winchester carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
- Publish a report within six months setting out the immediate actions the council will take to address this emergency and a plan to measure annual district progress towards meeting the 2030 target;
- Work with partners across the district to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans and drawing on local and global best practice;
- Support the lobbying of Government in relation to the Climate Emergency and providing the additional powers and resources needed to meet the 2030 target.

PURPOSE OF THE CARBON NEUTRALITY ACTION PLAN

This Action Plan will focus on how the council aims to achieve carbon neutrality and;

- Actions it will take to reduce/eliminate or offset its own carbon emissions.
- Actions it can take to support and help others; individuals, businesses, agencies and organisations, to take action so that the district becomes carbon neutral.
- Actions that promote climate resilience including biodiversity; waste and recycling, planning and development; and commerce and economy.

As such its focus is on carbon emission reduction and elimination, with mitigation /off setting used as a means to balance carbon emissions to achieve net zero gain. The baseline year of 2017 is used as this the most currently available data and gives the council's carbon emissions as 4,187 tonnes CO₂e and the District's as 629,000 tonnes CO₂e, increasing by an additional 205,000 tonnes CO₂e when the motorways are included.

The Plan will be reviewed annually to enable new issues, challenges, opportunities and solutions to be considered, and projects added over the life of the document.

WE ALL HAVE A PART TO PLAY



GOVERNMENT

- Provide the legislative and regulatory framework that supports carbon reduction
- Provide funding and investment in low carbon infrastructure and technology



EACH OF US CAN:

- Insulate our homes
- Replace lights with the most efficient bulbs (e.g. LEDs)
- Replace old boilers with energy efficient alternatives
- Buy green electricity
- Use public transport for more journeys
- Buy local and seasonal



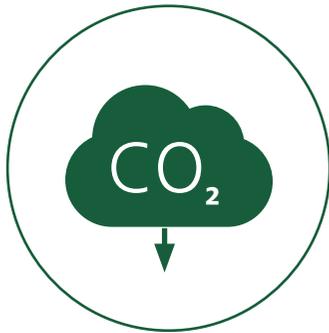
BUSINESSES

- Reduce embedded emissions by, for example, working directly with suppliers
- Provide low emissions products and services
- Educate and providing guidance to consumers
- Invest in energy efficiency measures / facilities management systems
- Adopt work practise and production methods that reduce energy consumption and waste

CARBON NEUTRALITY: DEFINITION

'Carbon neutrality, or having a net zero carbon footprint, refers to achieving net zero carbon emissions by balancing a measured amount of carbon released with an equivalent amount sequestered or offset.'

UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME



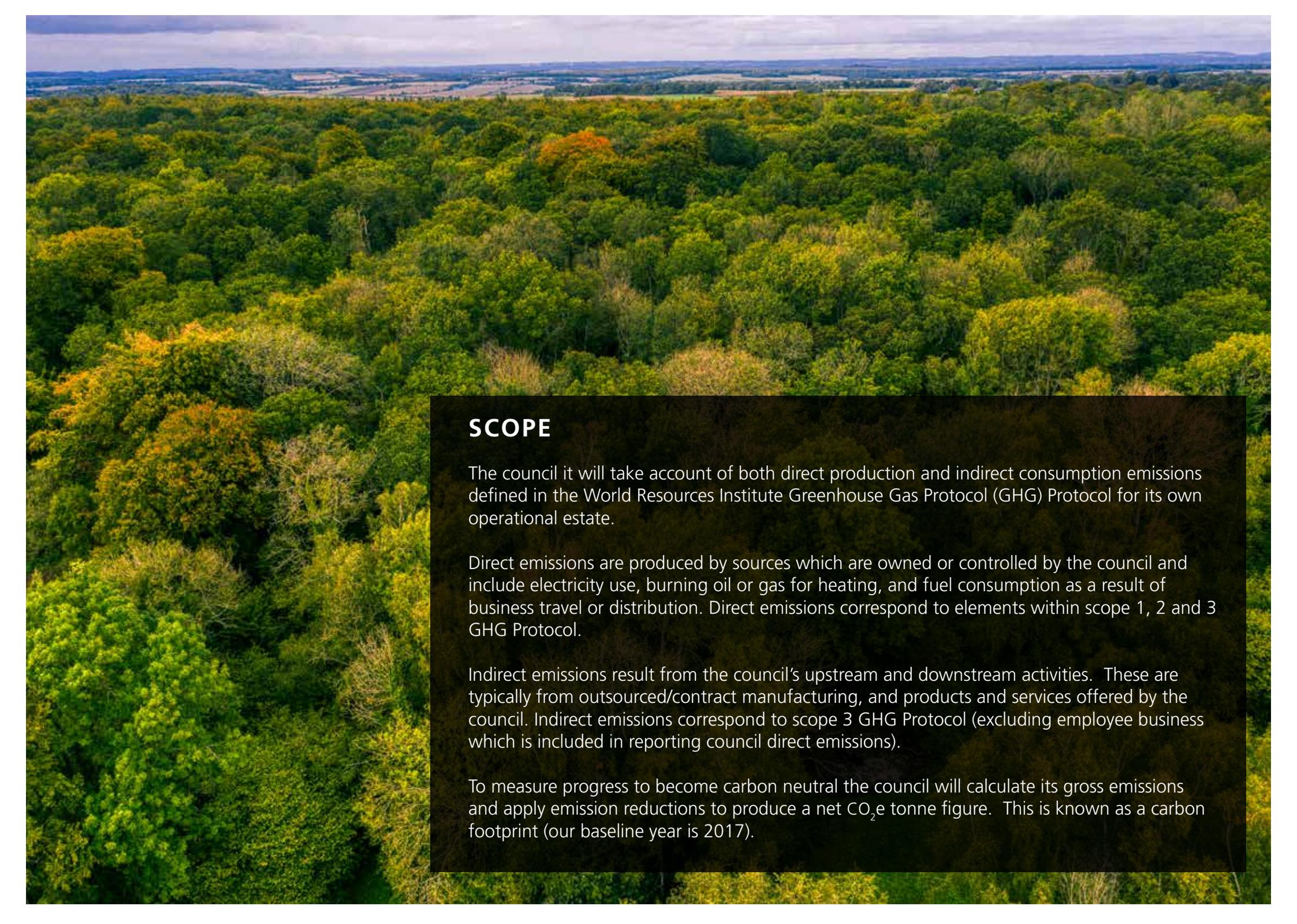
Reducing carbon emissions can include actions such as energy efficiency measures that reduce the demand for heating.



Eliminating carbon emissions can be achieved through the use of renewable energy that does not produce any carbon emissions and making changes to industrial and agricultural processes to eliminate carbon production.



Carbon offsetting is a climate action that enables individuals and organisations to compensate for the emissions they cannot avoid, by supporting projects that reduce emissions somewhere else.



SCOPE

The council it will take account of both direct production and indirect consumption emissions defined in the World Resources Institute Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG) Protocol for its own operational estate.

Direct emissions are produced by sources which are owned or controlled by the council and include electricity use, burning oil or gas for heating, and fuel consumption as a result of business travel or distribution. Direct emissions correspond to elements within scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG Protocol.

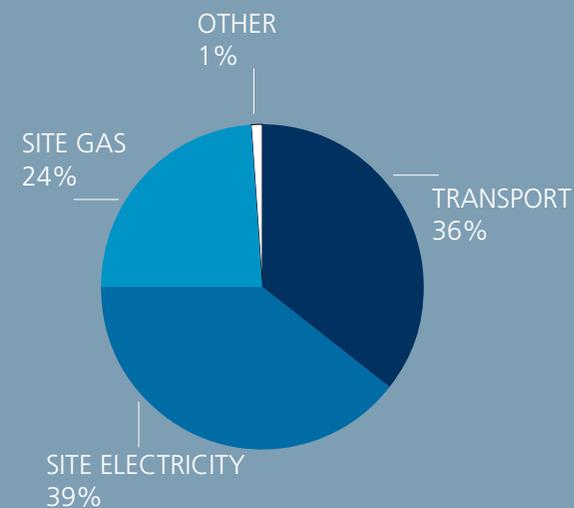
Indirect emissions result from the council's upstream and downstream activities. These are typically from outsourced/contract manufacturing, and products and services offered by the council. Indirect emissions correspond to scope 3 GHG Protocol (excluding employee business which is included in reporting council direct emissions).

To measure progress to become carbon neutral the council will calculate its gross emissions and apply emission reductions to produce a net CO₂e tonne figure. This is known as a carbon footprint (our baseline year is 2017).

FACTS

SOURCE OF COUNCIL CARBON EMISSIONS (SOURCE CARBON FOOTPRINT REPORT)

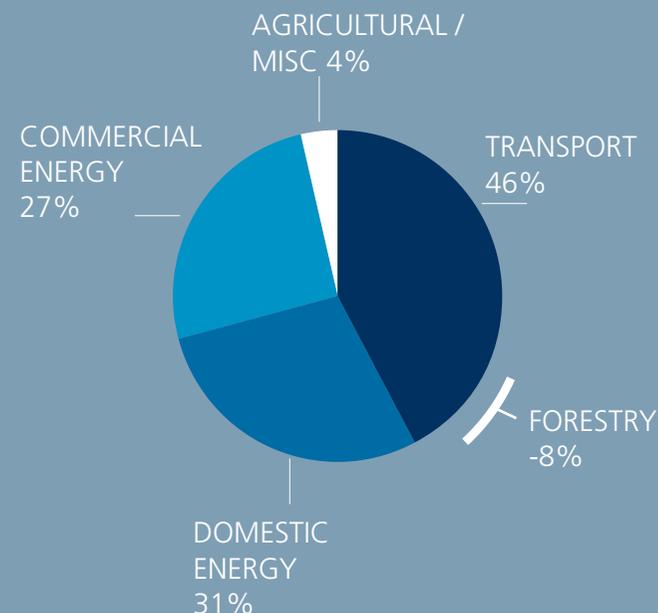
TRANSPORT	1,494 tonnes CO ₂ e	
SITE ELECTRIC	1,652 tonnes CO ₂ e	
SITE GAS	1,004 tonnes CO ₂ e	
OTHER (FUEL & WATER)	37 tonnes CO ₂ e	
TOTAL	4,187 tonnes CO₂e	



COUNCIL CO₂ EMISSIONS 2017

SOURCE OF DISTRICT CARBON EMISSIONS (SOURCE WINACC)

TRANSPORT	287,000 tonnes CO ₂ e (plus Motorway 492,000)	
DOMESTIC ENERGY GAS, ELECTRIC, OTHER OIL	193,000 tonnes CO ₂ e	
COMMERCIAL ENERGY GAS, ELECTRIC, OTHER OIL	172,000 tonnes CO ₂ e	
AGRICULTURAL / MISC GAS, ELECTRIC, OTHER OIL	24,000 tonnes CO ₂ e	
FORESTRY	-47,000 tonnes CO ₂ e	
TOTAL	629,000 tonnes CO₂e	



DISTRICT CO₂ EMISSIONS 2017

The total emissions from Winchester district in 2017 were 834,000 tonnes if the motorway emissions are included. For the purpose of this Action Plan the scope will exclude motorways as these are national infrastructure and will require a national response. The council will focus on measures that reduce the need to travel by car though public transport campaigns and collaborating with the public and private sector to enhance services. In addition it will look to increase the EV charging network and though procurement and contracts require fleet vehicles to be ultra low emission.

TARGET REDUCTIONS

TRANSPORT | 1,500 tonnes CO₂e

Transport accounts for 36% of the council's carbon emission and residents saw this as the top priority for the council to address and as action for individuals.

Transport accounts for nearly half of the district carbon emissions and tackling this is the council's first priority.

GHG EMISSIONS BY TRANSPORT TYPE

Type of travel/transport	Tonnes of CO ₂ e
Council owned vans and cars	66
HGV for environmental services	977
Park & Ride service	386
Staff business travel	64
Total	1,493



HOUSING | 420 tonnes CO₂e

The carbon emissions from sheltered housing and communal areas is the only data captured for council housing – as tenanted properties have their own meters.

As the second largest contributor to carbon emissions in the district reducing domestic energy consumption must be a target and for residents to live in a more energy efficient homes.

TOP 10 EMITTING SITES (HOUSING)

Site	Electricity CO ₂ e	Gas CO ₂ e	Total
Makins Court	15	69	84
Whitewings House	27	50	77
Danemark Court	9	53	61
Normandy Court	7	47	54
Matilda Place	11	31	42
Eastacre	8	24	32
Richard Moss House	24	-	24
Sussex Street	16	-	16
King Harold Court	8	5	13
Godson House	11	3	14
Total	136	282	418



KEY

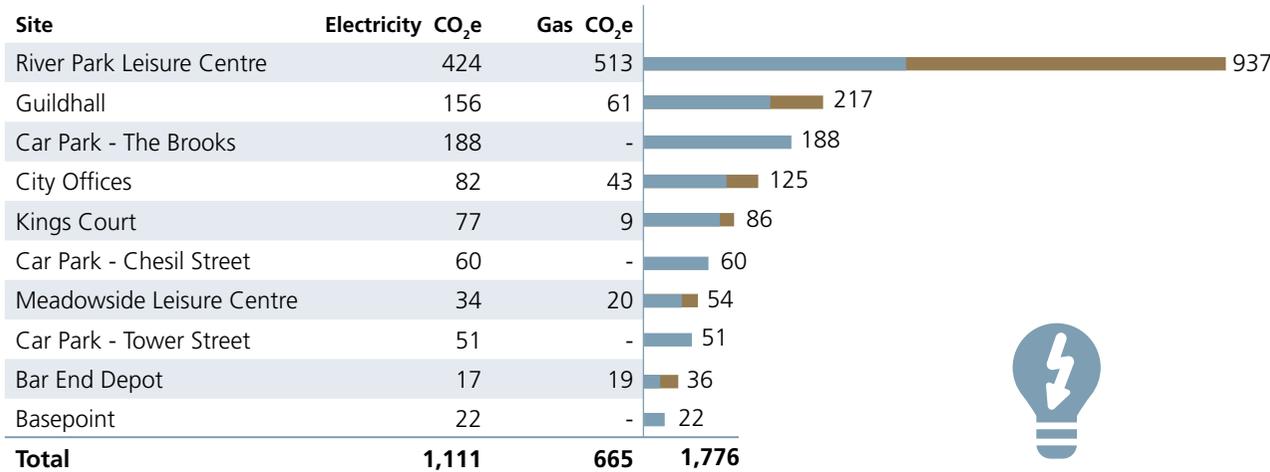
blue = electricity CO₂e
brown = gas CO₂e

TARGET REDUCTIONS (CONTINUED)

ENERGY | 1,780 tonnes CO₂e

The largest part of the council's existing carbon emissions are attributable to electricity (39%) and gas usage (24%). Therefore making the estate more energy efficient has to be a priority, along with purchasing and generating renewable energy.

TOP 10 EMITTING SITES (EXCLUDING HOUSING)



'We are protecting an already high quality environment and rich heritage and nurturing our expanding communities to maintain this place for our children's children.'

CLLR LYNDA MURPHY
 CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT,
 WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL



SECTION 2: PRIORITIES

PROPOSED PRIORITY ACTIONS

By focusing on these three priorities, the proposed ten priority actions below will help address nearly all of the council's carbon emissions by 2024 and contribute to reducing emissions district wide by 2030.

A full set of actions for each priority is given in the action plan at the end of this document.



TRANSPORT

1,500 tonnes CO₂e through council operations and 287,000 tonnes CO₂e district emissions.

- Deliver key studies in 2020 to take forward the City of Winchester Movement Strategy which have a focus on achieving carbon emission reduction:
 - Walking & Cycling Strategy
 - Freight Strategy
 - Parking & Access Strategy
- Develop an expanded network of EV charging points across the district – starting with up to 46 points on the council's own estate by 2024, adding to existing provision and working with partners to identify where more are needed;
- Develop additional Park & Ride facilities to increase capacity starting with the Vaultex site with at least 130 new car park spaces in 2020.



ENERGY

1,780 tonnes CO₂e through council operations and 172,000 tonnes CO₂e district emissions overall.

- Source 100% of all electricity purchased by the council from renewable sources by 2021;
- Build or invest in large scale renewable generation project(s), e.g. solar farms, heat pumps, solar-battery car ports, anaerobic digester, wind farm.



PROPERTY/HOUSING

420 tonnes CO₂e through council operations and 193,000 tonnes CO₂e district emissions overall.

- To develop a council led pilot Passivehaus housing scheme in Micheldever by 2021;
- To invest an additional £1m per annum on energy and water efficiency measures to council housing stock;
- To bring forward the Local Plan update with an emphasis on low carbon housing development by 2021.

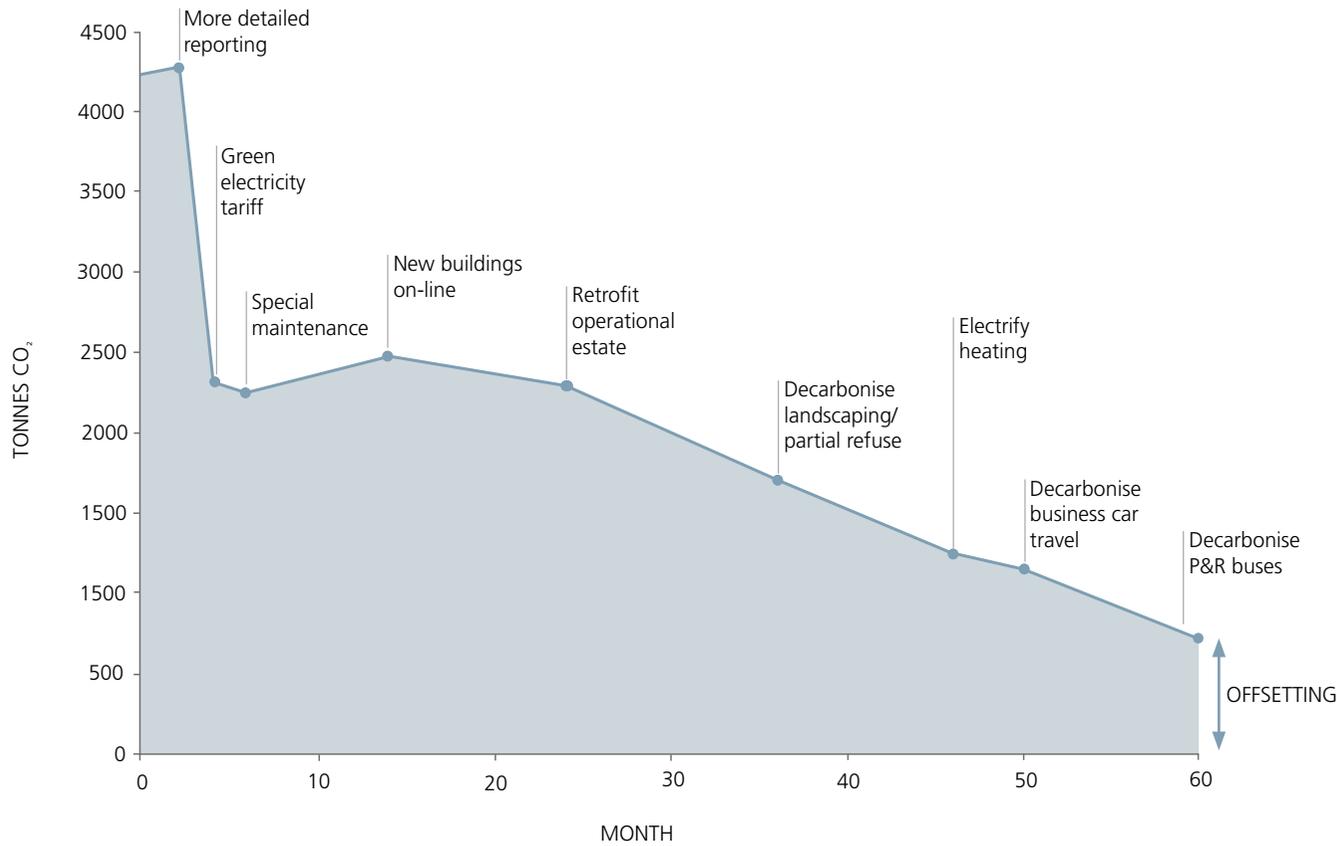


MITIGATION/OFFSETTING

- Develop a programme of rewilding starting with planting at least 100 trees annually on council land;
- In collaboration with partners and landowners, identify up to 100 hectares of land to support additional tree planting and/or creation of grassland / wetland habitat / rewilding.

PROPOSED PRIORITY ACTIONS (CONTINUED)

The indicative impact of the proposed carbon reduction programme for the council's operational estate.



COUNCIL PLAN 2020-2025

The council is developing its plan for the next five years that sets out what it wants to achieve and to address the main challenges facing Winchester District. “Tackling the Climate Emergency and creating a greener district” is a Council Plan priority and will be at the heart of everything the council does.

The following are identified as ways in which this priority will be met:

- Attain reduced levels of waste and increased recycling, exceeding national targets;
- Effect an increase in the proportion of journeys taken by walking, cycling and public transport;
- Have an adopted and up to date Local Plan with positive policies which promote low carbon development and transport while protecting our heritage and natural environment, including policies designed to secure that development and the use of land contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;
- Take a lead with partners and residents to deliver the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan throughout the district;
- Deliver the City of Winchester Movement Strategy and prioritise walking, cycling and public transport throughout the district;
- Safeguard our district’s extensive natural habitats and precious ecosystems by delivering the actions in our Biodiversity Action Plan;
- Ensure all homes are energy efficient and affordable to run and be innovative in moving the energy efficiency of new and existing homes towards zero carbon;
- Support businesses to grasp opportunities for green growth; supporting them in meeting the challenge of carbon neutrality.



Place carbon neutrality
at the  of all the
council does

PLACE CARBON NEUTRALITY AT THE OF ALL THE COUNCIL DOES

BE A LEADER

- All reports and decisions must have a sustainability assessment detailing carbon emissions
- Reward actions and make people feel like they are gaining rather than having things taken away, highlighting the benefits to be gained from taking action

ADAPT OUR WAY OF WORKING

- The Procurement Strategy will include a requirement to consider environmental and social value within contract assessment. It will prioritise e-procurement for all tenders to reduce paper and energy
- Create a culture of sharing information and ideas across the council, using the intranet, City Voice and staff forum, e.g. setting up a Green Group
- Enable staff to act and make changes by providing more information and advice on for example recycling, waste, ways of working
- Introduce a corporate staff training module on sustainability and reducing energy usage

ADOPT A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH, INVOLVE AND ENGAGE

- Incentivise rather than penalise with reference to the introduction, or use, of taxes and charges
- Recognise the role the council plays as influencer working along side other agencies and partners and developing collaborative working as key to delivery of the district carbon neutrality target
- Advise householders on the immediate and short term actions they can take to reduce carbon emissions
- Ensure a district wide approach to engagement

DELIVER PROJECTS AND INVESTMENTS

- Deliver priority projects early to secure the greatest carbon benefit and impact
- All schemes/projects must be graded with sustainability/ carbon emissions as a viability factor
- Create a grant fund on the council's crowd funding platform to support projects that enhance sustainability, environmental quality, green technology development and installation
- Trial and test projects before large scale application and be prepared to experiment and learn for later delivery with an evolving plan
- Understand the carbon emission for various industry sectors, to help target interventions, support and campaigns
- Be innovative in seeking funding to deliver capital investments



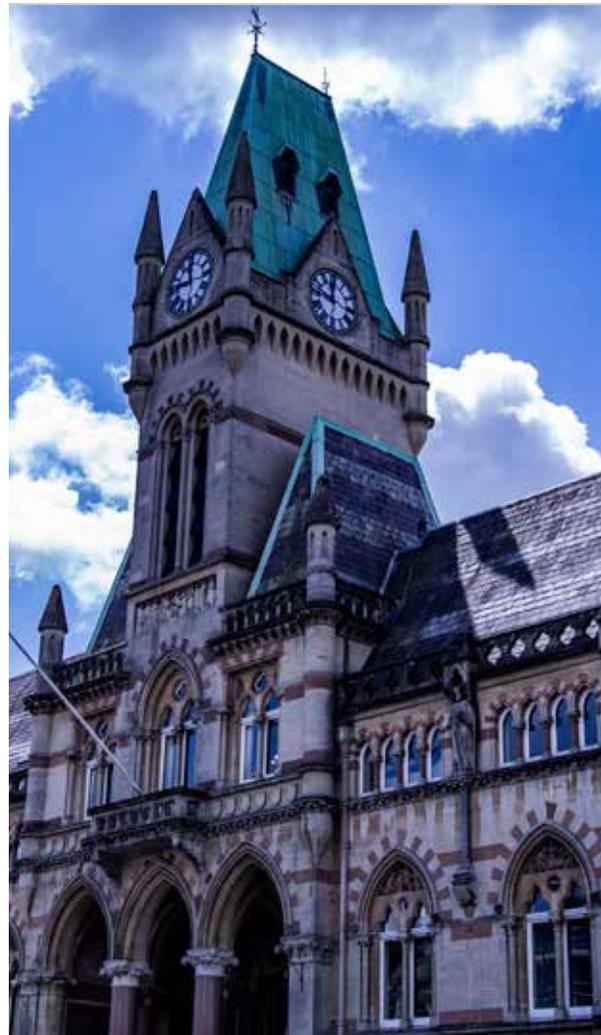
RESOURCES

The council commits to spending £1M to improve housing stock energy efficiency and to allocate budget for carbon saving technologies and staffing.

In addition, £750,000 funded by prudential borrowing has been set aside in the capital programme over three years for projects such as renewable energy and energy efficiency projects to be identified that generate sufficient income to cover the cost of borrowing. Where projects don't make sufficient return other funding sources will be explored (e.g. government grants) and an assessment will need to be of the cost versus the benefit.

In October Cabinet proposed that a "Transitional Reserve" could help with a number of issues that require additional funding, many "one off" in nature, that could be supported from such a reserve.

It is proposed to allocate funding from this reserve for the Re:Fit programme (£80K) to deliver energy efficiency measures in council housing; and project research with University of Southampton (£20K) on decarbonisation of the Winchester district.



CAMPAIGNS AND COLLABORATION

It is acknowledged that the challenge of being a carbon neutral council and district is something that has to be met by all of us working and acting collectively. Many individuals, businesses, groups and networks are already taking positive steps to reduce carbon and improve sustainability. It will be important to recognise their efforts, share what is happening and harness their efforts. Therefore campaigns and collaboration form an integral part of the delivery approach and the council will:

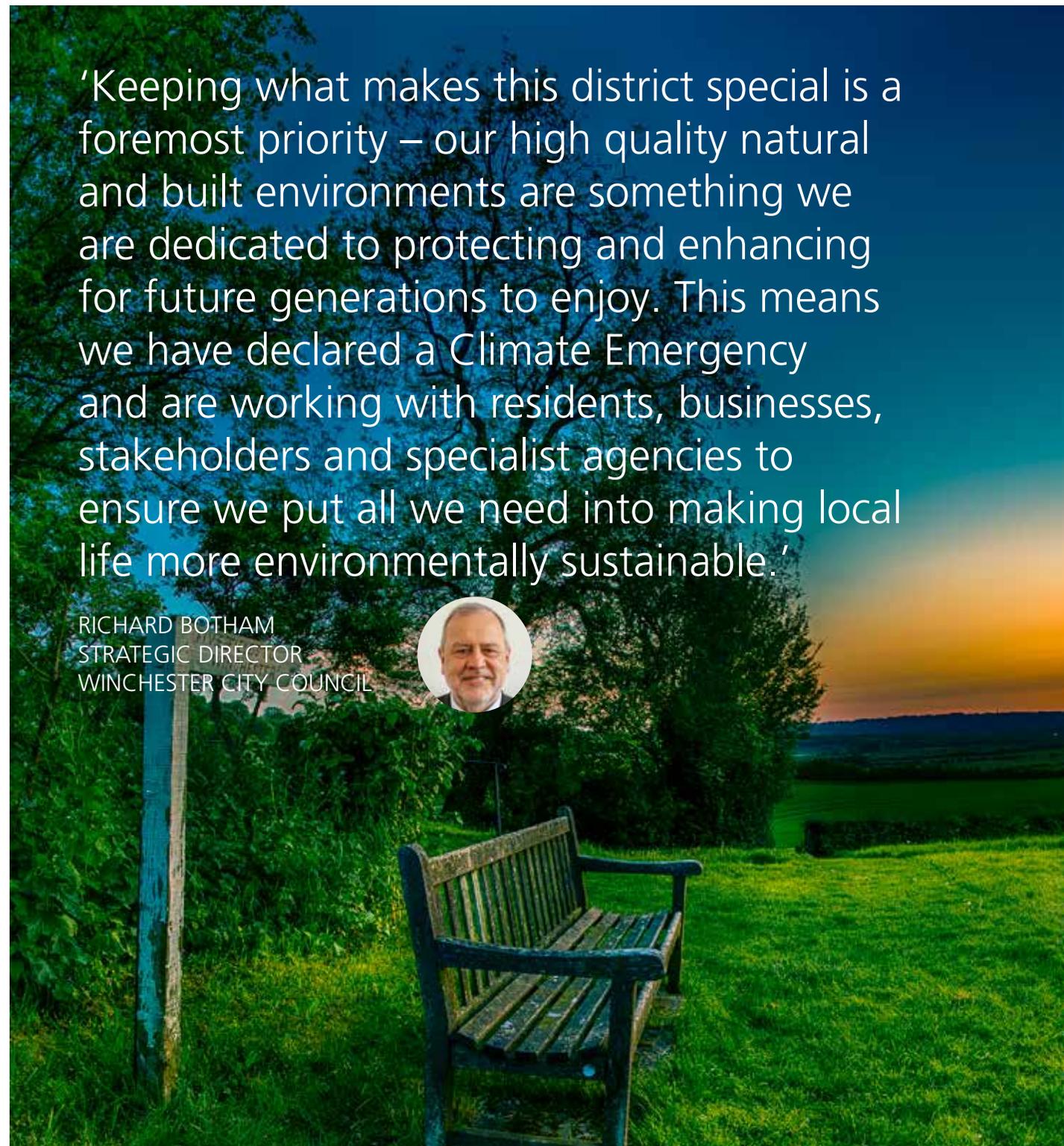
- Organise public Open Forums and an annual Climate Emergency Conference to bring people together to review progress and help shape future activity;
- Support campaigns and initiatives across the district that deliver carbon saving and increase sustainability such as Car Free Day, Winchester Green Week and Sustainable Food City etc;
- Develop and co-design an engagement strategy with partners, to bring together all those working on, and interested in achieving, this ambition to demonstrate and capture the collective impact of work across the district;
- Continue the district-wide approach to engagement and work with local groups to support activities and projects in their communities.

PROJECT APPRAISAL

The Action Plan has identified a number of projects that are in progress or need to be developed and implemented. Inevitably over the life time of the plan new projects will come forward and it will be important to assess these for their contribution to carbon elimination or reduction and enhancing sustainability. Therefore the council will introduce new assessment criteria in order for all projects and activities to be scored against the environmental impact, using climate related metrics to ensure that performance monitoring is achievable. All projects will have to track climate/carbon and environmental performance to enable the impact to be measured and reported.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The council will annually review delivery of the Action Plan and monitor progress towards achieving carbon neutrality. It will hold public forums providing updates including plans for the forthcoming period. An annual Climate Emergency Conference will be arranged to bring together the wide range of stakeholders and interested parties in this agenda to review performance and plan the route forward.



‘Keeping what makes this district special is a foremost priority – our high quality natural and built environments are something we are dedicated to protecting and enhancing for future generations to enjoy. This means we have declared a Climate Emergency and are working with residents, businesses, stakeholders and specialist agencies to ensure we put all we need into making local life more environmentally sustainable.’

RICHARD BOTHAM
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR
WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL





GOVERNANCE | CITY COUNCIL

The council has established a project group to develop this Action Plan and this will evolve into the governance arrangement to ensure its delivery and achievement of the target outcomes, monitoring progress towards carbon neutrality for the council by 2024 and the district by 2030.

Group	Members	Roles/reporting
Climate Emergency Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio Holder – Environment • Strategic Director • Corporate Head of Service – Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall responsibility for Action Plan delivery remaining on target and to budget • Annual report to Cabinet • Quarterly report to Scrutiny Committee
Implementation Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Lead – Community and Wellbeing • Sustainability Officer • Programme Manager • Heads of Programme • Corporate Head of Housing • Service Lead – New Homes Delivery • Service Lead – Housing Operations and Community Safety • Finance Manager – Capital and Treasury • Corporate Head of Regulatory • Service Lead – Environmental Services • Senior Environmental and Planning Lawyer • Natural Environment and Recreation Manager • Service Lead – Built Environment • Strategic Planning Manager • Service Lead - Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for the delivery of projects and reporting progress to monthly Programme Management Group and Executive Leadership Board
Climate Emergency Open Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents • Stakeholders • Community groups etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public engagement, information sharing, reporting

GOVERNANCE | DISTRICT

As stated in the declaration this is an ambitious carbon neutrality target for both the council and the district and it will only be achieved by working together and acting collectively.

Rather than create a dedicated partnership, which has the potential to be resource intensive and become seen as the responsible body for taking action, it will be more effective to link to existing groups and networks to influence and support them to mainstream carbon reduction and sustainability into their work programmes. This will ensure an ownership and recognition that action is need from all. This flexible arrangement will require strong communications support so that information flows between the groups and organisations and the council can play a central role in this. The arrangement also allows for collaborations to develop on projects or in response to funding opportunities, drawing from across a wide range of parties and sectors.

The following table identifies some of these groups, but is not intended to be fixed or list everyone that should be included.

It will be important to have the support of organisations with the experience and capability to provide robust evidence, check facts and analyse data for project development as well as assessing the progress toward carbon neutrality. It is proposed therefore that a technical group is used to include (but not limited to) WinACC, Friends of the Earth, Carbon Footprint and the University of Southampton.

PUBLIC	BUSINESS	ENVIRONMENT	COMMUNITY	EDUCATION	RURAL
Hampshire County Council	Sustainable Business Network	WinACC	Housing Associations	Universities	NFU
Enterprise M3 LEP	Hampshire Chamber of Commerce	Extinction Rebellion	Residents Associations	Colleges	South Downs National Park
Parish/town councils	Winchester Business Strategy Group	Friends of the Earth	Older Persons Partnership	Schools	Action Hampshire
Partner LAs (Eastleigh/East Hampshire)	Business Improvement District (BID)	Hampshire Climate Action	Health & Wellbeing partnerships		Landowners
Hospital		Winchester Green Week			
Utility companies		Sustrans			
		Wildlife Trust			

SUPPORTING INFORMATION & BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

CONTEXT AND POLICY

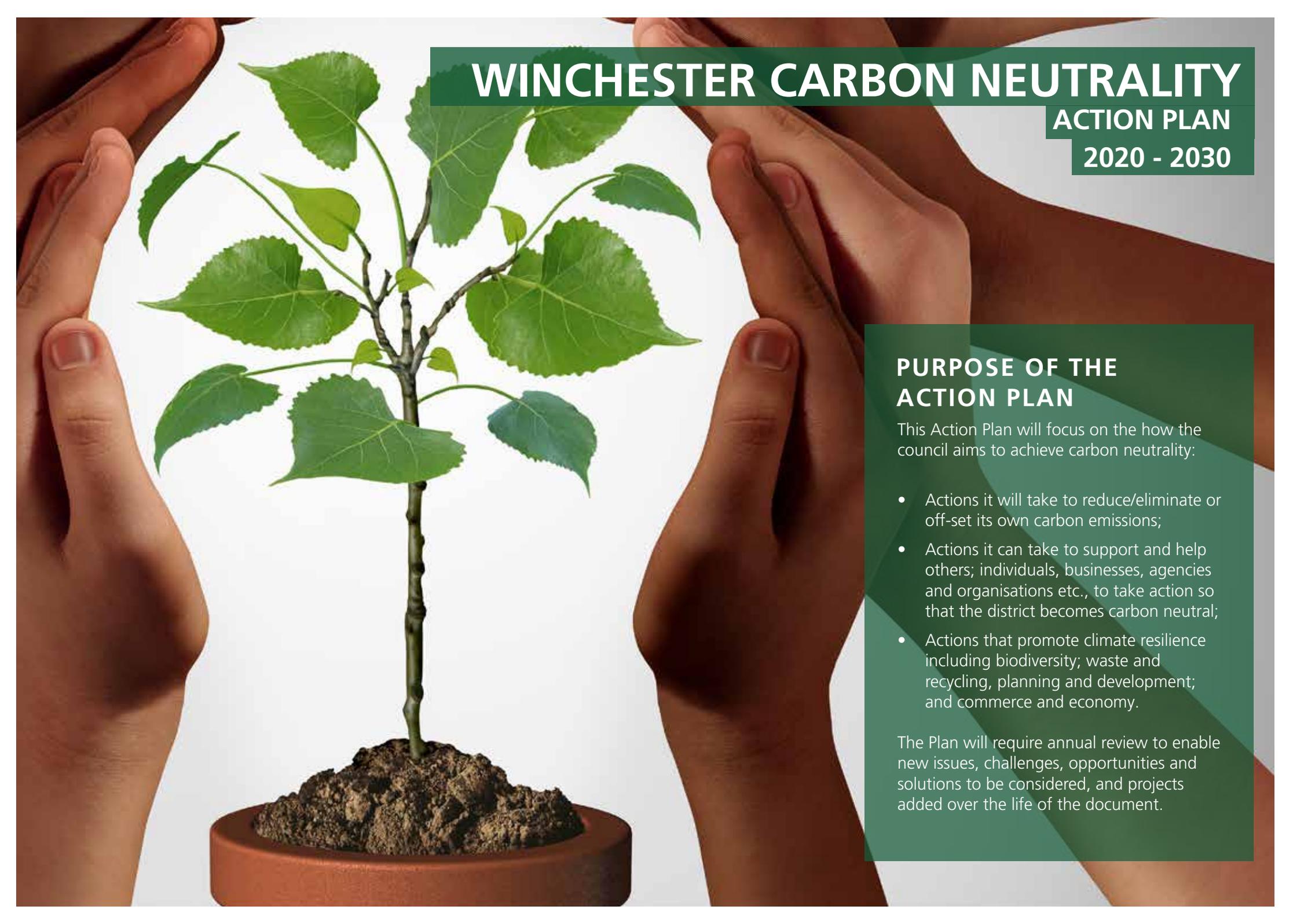
- Global challenge
- International, national and local policy context
- Climate change overview
- Previous carbon reduction work

CARBON NEUTRALITY DEFINITION, SCOPE AND REPORTING

- Carbon neutrality definition
- Climate emergency reporting
- Carbon emissions evidence base

SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT

- Winchester City Council service leads and team managers
- Stakeholders
- Members
- Community



WINCHESTER CARBON NEUTRALITY

ACTION PLAN

2020 - 2030

PURPOSE OF THE ACTION PLAN

This Action Plan will focus on the how the council aims to achieve carbon neutrality:

- Actions it will take to reduce/eliminate or off-set its own carbon emissions;
- Actions it can take to support and help others; individuals, businesses, agencies and organisations etc., to take action so that the district becomes carbon neutral;
- Actions that promote climate resilience including biodiversity; waste and recycling, planning and development; and commerce and economy.

The Plan will require annual review to enable new issues, challenges, opportunities and solutions to be considered, and projects added over the life of the document.

WINCHESTER CARBON NEUTRALITY ACTION PLAN

PRIORITY	COUNCIL 2024	DISTRICT 2030	CARBON EFFECT	LEAD
TRANSPORT COUNCIL 1,500 tonnes CO ₂ e DISTRICT 287,000 tonnes CO ₂ e	All council pool cars, vans and maintenance vehicles to be ultra low emission or electric by 2022.	Develop an expanded network of EV charging points across the district – starting with up to 46 points on the council's own estate by 2024, adding to existing provision and working with partners to identify where more are needed.	Reduction	Environmental Services - Public Protection
	Introduce two electric pool cars in 2020.	Facilitate roll out of private charging facilities, in new commercial and housing developments.	Reduction	Environmental Services - Public Protection
	Pilot the use of electric refuse freighter and/or Park & Ride bus by 2022.	Deliver key studies in 2020 to take forward the Winchester Movement Strategy which have a focus on achieving carbon emission reduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking & Cycling Strategy; • Freight Strategy; • Parking & Access Strategy. 	Reduction	Major Projects
	Only zero-carbon/ultra low emission vehicles to be leased by the council from 2024.	Require buses and taxis to be low emission/alternative fuel vehicles by 2030.	Elimination Reduction	Environmental Services - Public Protection
	All refuse/bus fleet to be minimum Euro 6 standard by 2020 and ultra low emission by 2028.	Develop additional Park & Ride facilities to increase capacity starting with the Vaultex site with 130 initial new car park spaces 2020, increasing to 300 in 2021.	Reduction	Major Projects
	In additional to home working expand remote working in other / partner locations across the district to reduce unnecessary travel and the need for central office accommodation.	Seek investment to deliver smart mobility projects especially at Park & Ride sites and key gateways to the city and district by 2021.	Elimination Reduction	HR Major Projects Sustainability
		Implement differential charging for low emission vehicles in council car parks.		
		Collaborate with Hampshire County Council and private operators to expand and enhance public transport services (bus and rail), including access, frequency and affordability.	Reduction	Major Projects

PRIORITY	COUNCIL 2024	DISTRICT 2030	CARBON EFFECT	LEAD
HOUSING / PROPERTY COUNCIL 420 tonnes CO ₂ e DISTRICT 193,400 tonnes CO ₂ e	Complete a "Re:Fit" review of all corporate property and determine a "retro-fit" programme of energy measures (funded directly through energy savings).	Through the LEAP programme facilitate energy efficiencies in homes in fuel poverty and support vulnerable tenants.	Reduction	Housing
	To install additional energy efficiency measures (digital lighting, solar PV etc.) to communal areas of council sheltered housing schemes by 2021.	Deliver campaigns to inspire people to reduce energy consumption and provide energy advice for the home, helping tenants and homeowners switch energy supplier, for example.	Reduction	Housing Communications Sustainability
	Develop a sustained campaign to provide information, advice, signposting with a platform to share ideas through the council website.	Provide and share information with residents on how to live more sustainably and where local groups are so they can get further support in their communities.	Reduction	Housing Communications Sustainability
		To develop a council led pilot Passivhaus housing scheme in Micheldever by 2021.	Reduction	Housing
		All new council homes will be built to the highest efficiency standards by 2024.	Reduction	Housing
		To bring forward the Local Plan update with an emphasis on low carbon housing development by 2021.	Reduction	Built Environment
		To invest an additional £1m per annum on energy and water efficiency measures to council housing stock with the aim of all properties meeting an EPC standard of C by 2027.	Reduction	Housing

PRIORITY	COUNCIL 2024	DISTRICT 2030	CARBON EFFECT	LEAD
ENERGY COUNCIL 1,780 tonnes CO ₂ e DISTRICT 172,000 tonnes CO ₂ e	Source 100% of all electricity purchased by the council from renewable sources by 2021.	Undertake research into suitable alternatives to natural gas especially in relation to local generation potential.	Elimination	Estates Sustainability
	Install additional solar panels on council owned sites and identify sites for renewable energy generation in the Local Plan.	Build or invest in large scale renewable generation project(s), e.g. solar farms, heat pumps, solar-battery car ports, anaerobic digester, wind farm, hydropower.	Elimination	Estates Sustainability

ENERGY CONTINUED	Through the procurement strategy purchase/lease only highly energy efficient/low carbon technologies/materials.	Explore the feasibility of developing a hydrogen generating plant as a source of renewable fuel and to divert waste from land fill.		Estates Sustainability
	As leases and contracts expire renew with purchase/lease of energy efficient electrical equipment and appliances.	Engage with the district's largest businesses to work jointly on initiatives that reduce energy use or generate renewable energy, e.g. roof-top solar PV on commercial buildings.	Elimination	Procurement Economy Sustainability

PRIORITY	COUNCIL 2024	DISTRICT 2030	CARBON EFFECT	LEAD
MITIGATING / OFFSETTING	Develop a programme of rewilding starting with planting at least 100 trees annually on Council land.	In collaboration with partners to identify at least 100 hectares of land to support additional tree planting and/or creation of grassland/wetland habitat.	Removal	Natural Environment and Recreation
BIODIVERSITY	Through the council's programme of environmental improvements to play areas include provision of green/natural features.	Ensure the design of new housing and regeneration developments include the creation of green open spaces, and the inclusion of green roofs and green corridors.	Removal	
	Continue to deliver a programme of works which protect and support our existing tree stock.	Plant new woodlands to both increase biodiversity habitats, for health and wellbeing and to act as carbon sinks for offsetting in partnership with key stakeholders and landowners.	Removal	Natural Environment and Recreation
	Increase the number of wild flower meadows, grassland and wetland on council owned land.		Removal	
RECYCLING AND WASTE	Continue (and accelerate) the delivery of the digital transformation projects, to enable access to services on line, to reduce printing.	Reduce levels of contamination in the recycling waste streams through clearer information and guidance.	Reduction	
	Manage print runs and stock control to avoid waste.	Add further waste streams to introduce recycling services such as food and additional plastics.	Reduction	Environmental Services
		Install recycling bins in the city centre.	Reduction	

PRIORITY	COUNCIL 2024	DISTRICT 2030	CARBON EFFECT	LEAD
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT	The Local Plan review will set policies for development standards and land use that reduce carbon and increase sustainability including policies designed to secure that development and the use of land contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.	All major projects will incorporate carbon reduction features and new schemes to meet BREEAM excellent development standards.	Reduction Offsetting	Planning Major Projects
	In council development schemes start incorporating environmental measures now and incorporate them into the design of future projects.	Use new schemes as an opportunity to deploy environmental technology and green design as exemplars in the market place and attract investment.	Reduction	
	Through review of the Local Plan introduce the use of S106 obligations to pay for carbon neutral initiatives/offsetting.		Reduction Elimination	

PRIORITY	DISTRICT 2030	CARBON EFFECT	LEAD	
COMMERCE AND ECONOMY	Develop a low carbon economy by exploiting business opportunities to develop, test and deploy technologies and provide support to business to take up these opportunities.		Reduction Elimination	Economy Communities
	Work with major festivals in their event planning to include measures to reduce transport and waste.		Reduction Elimination	
	Work with agencies and partners to provide a local business improvement programme – e.g. green impact scheme, to focus on energy, transport and waste.		Reduction Elimination	
	In local communities develop projects and networks that help facilitate sharing economy initiatives – resource libraries.		Reduction Elimination Offsetting	
	Create a grant fund on the council’s crowd funding platform to launch in 2020 to support projects that enhance sustainability, environmental quality, green technology development and installation.		Reduction Elimination	
	Work with businesses to create circular economy initiatives that use waste as resources.		Reduction Elimination	

AFTERWORD

It's an old adage that the only thing we can rely upon is change.

And in a changing world it's the role of district authorities such as Winchester City Council to ensure that the place we look after remains protected and is also future proofed to allow the next generations to flourish. We have articulated a clear focus for the next ten years - and that's around ensuring that the whole district becomes carbon neutral by 2030. Our organisation will lead the way - we have our own goal of being carbon neutral by 2024 - and we need others to join us so we can deliver what we need to do to create a sustainable future.

As Chief Executive I am concerned with getting things right for the place we govern. This means striking a balance and working towards goals that we are confident benefit the greatest possible number of people now and in decades to come. Winchester is already a great district, and if our generation is to have a legacy, I hope that in decades from now people will look back at the way our communities pulled together to make a low carbon lifestyle the norm – and are proud to be a part of this wonderful place.

Laura Taylor

Laura Taylor
Chief Executive
Winchester City Council



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