



# Agenda

Meeting: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
Date: **27 June 2023**  
Time: **6.00 pm**  
Place: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: **All members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The committee will consider the matters, listed below, at the date, time and place shown above. The meeting will be open to the press and public.

Members of the committee, who wish to have information on any matter arising on the agenda, which is not fully covered in these papers, are requested to give notice, prior to the meeting, to the Chairman or appropriate officer.

This meeting will be webcast live to the council's website at <https://folkestone-hythe.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. Although unlikely, no guarantee can be made that Members of the public in attendance will not appear in the webcast footage. It is therefore recommended that anyone with an objection to being filmed does not enter the council chamber.

Please note there are 37 seats available for members of the public, which will be reserved for those speaking or participating at the meeting. The remaining available seats will be given on a first come, first served basis.

1. **Appointment of Chair**
2. **Appointment of Vice-Chair**
3. **Apologies for Absence**
4. **Declarations of Interest (Pages 5 - 6)**

Members of the committee should declare any interests which fall under

## **Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?**

Contact Jake Hamilton – Tel: 01303 853419  
Email: [committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk) or download from our  
website  
[www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](http://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

the following categories:

- a) disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI);
- b) other significant interests (OSI);
- c) voluntary announcements of other interests.

5. **Appointment of members and election of Chairman to the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Sub Committee**

The Sub-Committee is required to be politically balanced. The balance figures are shown below.

	Total	Cons	Green	Labour
Finance and performance sub-cttee	5	1	2	2

The following nominations have been received:

Conservative	Councillor David Godfrey
Green	Councillor James Butcher
Green	Councillor John Wing
Labour	Councillor Connor McConville
Labour	Councillor Laura Davison

The Committee are asked to elect a Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

6. **Minutes (Pages 7 - 34)**

To consider and approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2023.

7. **Minutes of the Finance and Performance Sub-Committee (Pages 35 - 36)**

To consider and approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 07 March 2023.

8. **Cabinet Member updates**

**In accordance with the Constitution Councillor Stephen Scoffham, the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity will be attending the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide a general update on decisions made within his portfolio.**

9. **Levelling Up fund delivery**

FHDC were successful in late January 2023 in their bid to secure a £20m levelling up bid to regenerate Folkstone Town centre called 'Folkestone - a Brighter Future'.

The presentation will give an overview of the Folkestone a Brighter future project and will include:

- Background to how the £22m projects evolved.
- A run through the overall project area and the 3 distinct project zones, Station Arrival and town centre connections, Improved Town centre gateway and Folca, Sandgate Rd and town centre public realm <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/folkestone-place-plan/levelling-up-project>
- Progress to date on the project.
- Engagement Plans
- Programme schedule.

10. **Folca 2 proposed Works and Civic Centre Relocation**

The council purchased the old Debenhams (now called Folca) in Folkestone town centre in 2020, the aim was to secure control on a key anchor site within the town centre to ensure the future use had a positive outcome for the town centre. The building was also used as a key outlet for the vaccination delivery during the pandemic.

The presentation will give an overview of the background and progress to date which will include:

- Overview of the Folca building
- Background on the feasibility work carried out to date
- Funding that is in place
- Phase one works progress to date and next steps
- Phase two works progress to date and next steps

11. **Draft District-Wide Carbon Plan (Pages 37 - 102)**

The council has been preparing a draft District-wide Carbon Plan for the council “to play a leadership role in promoting partnerships for a carbon neutral 2030 commitment throughout the district”.

This report presents the draft District-wide Carbon Plan to Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Following the comments of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is intended to take the draft plan to Cabinet in July to seek approval to hold a public consultation on the plan.

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## **Declarations of Interest**

### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)**

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

### **Other Significant Interest (OSI)**

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

### **Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)**

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone s/he should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

#### **Note to the Code:**

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.

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# Minutes

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Held at:	Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Folkestone
Date	Tuesday, 25 April 2023
Present	Councillors Miss Susan Carey, Michelle Keutenius (Chairman), Connor McConville, Rebecca Shoob (Vice-Chair) and John Wing
Apologies for Absence	Councillor Terence Mullard and Councillor Patricia Rolfe
Officers Present:	Olu Fatokun (Low Carbon Senior Specialist), Ewan Green (Director of Place), Amandeep Khroud (Assistant Director), Lydia Morrison (Interim S151 Officer), Adrian Tofts (Strategy, Policy & Performance Lead Specialist) and Jemma West (Democratic Services Senior Specialist)
Others Present:	

### 1. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

### 2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting dated 14 February 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

### 3. **Minutes of the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Sub Committee**

The minutes of the meeting dated 7 March 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

### 4. **Southern Water Presentation - Storm Water Overflows**

Southern Water representatives John Mealey, Stakeholder Engagement Manager and Jon Yates, Delivery Lead for Clean Rivers and Sea Task Force, gave a presentation which provided the committee with an update on the practical solutions being implemented to reduce the frequency of storm overflows.

Councillor Whybrow, Cabinet Member for the Environment outlined her motion to Council of 28 September 2022 which asked for this matter to be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. She then asked for clarity on the following:

- When would network reinforcement be delivered.
- What measures are being put in place to create capacity for the Folkestone seafront development?

Committee Members commented on various aspects of the presentation and made points including the following:

- The presentation covered measures undertaken in Whitstable and Deal. The Committee were keen to know what was happening in the Folkestone and Hythe District.
- In terms of misconnections, where rainwater and foul water are mixing, were Southern Water investigating this issue for new builds?
- Car parking and driveways must be an issue in terms of drainage.
- The smart water butts would be a tremendous save. Measures such as this could be added to the planning framework in future.
- Do Southern Water have any idea as to how long the interventions referred to will take to make an impact in the FHDC district area?
- In terms of communication, what data was used to decide whether data fell within the genuine releases or non-impacting category?
- In respect of the 20% reduction target, was that a stepping stone, or was this target enough to eliminate the problem for the time being?
- In terms of the greywater re-use in future developments, would water re-use make a significant impact?

John Mealey and Jon Yates from Southern Water responded to the issues raised, and made points including the following:

- In terms of network reinforcement, the information would be sought and provided to the Committee at a later date.
- The Task force role was to forge links with developers and planning authorities to create closer working relationships and a working group.
- Not just with new builds, but on a local and independent level, work was taking place with new plumbers, this included engaging with colleges. Many misconnection issues tended to be local, specific to a home and it was important to get this right from beginning. The aim of the Task Force was to sustain change.
- Property misconnection was often a result of white goods being incorrectly plugged into surface water drainage in a home.
- There was also a St Mary's Bay investigation group meeting which took place on a monthly basis, with the Environment Agency and FHDC. They discussed measures that can be taken to improving bay water quality. There had been some good results in the Enbrook Valley, Dymchurch and St Marys Bay area, where misconnections had been identified in

homes and the Task Force had worked with the home owners to resolve these issues. .

- Car parking/driveways needed to be permeable or other, rather than just hardstanding and this matter should be communicated more.
- Water butts were great and the team were working with the housing development industry to see how they could be utilised in a more pro-active way.
- Southern Water were looking at plans for the FHDC area now. There is significant work going on within the FHDC area, planned for the new investment period. Unfortunately, this information could not be discussed as yet, but the Committee would be updated on the timelines.
- The communication tool, Beach buoy sat within the task force team. This took information from the monitoring systems and when an event happened, it was checked and verified, before the information was disseminated. Improvements were being sought on the way this information was communicated to make it more speedy.
- When looking at a catchment, there was not one solution to fit every situation. Part of the conversation to be had was grey water use. Implementation and practicalities were the next step.
- The 20% reduction target was a challenging target to show intent. It could be argued by water users and local economy that there were some areas where there shouldn't be any. As an example, Brook Road in Whitstable was sensitive in ecological impact, and therefore the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) was closed. This could not be done in every area. CSO's prevented flooding and operated as a release point. It was important to use CSO's appropriately and EDM monitors and sewer monitors were being used in order to work more intelligently, looking at catchment based input and usage.

The Chairman thanked the representatives from Southern Water for their attendance at the meeting.

#### **5. Update on the Council's Climate Change and Ecological Emergency Work**

The Cabinet Member for the Environment introduced the report which summarised the council's work on climate change for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It followed the main points set out in the climate emergency declaration that was unanimously agreed by full Council on 24 July 2019. She also drew attention to the Sustainable Future forums event which was taking place in Folkestone on Saturday 29 April.

Members commented on various aspects of the report and made points including the following:

- How was progress being measured? There was no figure for 21/22 as yet. A consistent measurement was important to ensure accuracy.

- If there was a commitment to net zero on 2030, was there an indication of how this would be achieved, such as an action plan on carbon emissions?
- It was hoped to achieve Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Band C for the council housing stock. There were lots of noticeable improvements already.
- In terms of Biodiversity, how would the green and blue infrastructure strategy feed into the local nature recovery strategy?
- In respect of the Otterpool Park development, it was important to consider active travel infrastructure in order to connect the development to other villages.
- Did the Council take part in 'No mow in May', and could social media be used to encourage residents to take part?
- The next four years would be key in determining whether these targets would be met. More detail in terms of longer goals would be useful in informing the plan. Additional resource may be needed in order to deliver.
- The report mentioned reducing use of Peat, but surely the council should be eliminating this altogether?
- In respect of new national development management policies, referred to in paragraph 3.10, it was a concern that it was not clear whether local authorities will have scope to push for environmental policies that exceed national standards under the new system.

The Strategy, Policy & Performance Lead Specialist responded to some of the matters raised, and made points including the following:

- In respect of monitoring, this was quite a process, which involved collating a lot of invoices and receipts from across the council and converting them into carbon emissions. It was hoped to get these results in the next few weeks, but there was a need to improve this process for future years.
- Carbon Descent had been commissioned to create a Carbon Reduction Plan. Part one of the work they had been commissioned for was complete, and it appeared the council could achieve almost net zero with existing actions from the 2021 Carbon Action Plan. They were moving on to part two of the work, which would have much more detailed actions along with costings.
- There had been a good response to consultation on the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and a colleague was analysing the comments. The results would be considered by Cabinet in June.
- There was also a new requirement coming from the Environment Act to produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Although this was a responsibility for KCC, FHDC would work closely with them on this issue. The guidance and detail were still being finalised.
- The Grounds maintenance team had worked with KCC to manage open spaces in a better way to benefit wildlife and pollinators. The

Communications Team would be approached to see if the message around 'no mow May' could be further promoted.

In terms of planning standards, the government would be introducing new national policies which would take precedence over local policies. All local authorities would be consulted on this, but no drafts had been sighted as yet. The council would have an opportunity to comment on the policies and could call for tougher policies if minded to.

The Cabinet Member for the Environment also added that information on which areas grounds maintenance were managing was already available on the council's website.

The Chairman thanked officers for their work.

## 6. **Overview and Scrutiny work programme 23-24**

The Democratic Services Senior Specialist introduced the report which set out a proposed work programme for Overview and Scrutiny work for the municipal year 23/24.

A Member commented that it did not seem fair to be agreeing a work programme for the new Committee, and the programme needed to be flexible in order to allow new Committee Members some input.

The Democratic Services Senior Specialist confirmed that the programme was designed to allow some flexibility, and would not be rigid, so other members would be able to put other suggestions forward.

### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive and note report OS/22/11.**
- 2. To recommend to Full Council that the proposed Scrutiny work programme set out in paragraph 1.3 of the report, for the municipal year 23/24, be adopted.**

(The recommendations were agreed by affirmation of the meeting).

## 7. **Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2022-23**

The Chairman introduced the report which set out the work that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Finance and Performance Sub-Committee have completed during 2022/2023.

The Chairman thanked all Committee Members for their input over the last year, and thanked all officers for their work. She stated that the Committee had gone through many positive changes in the last four years, and she hoped the further improvements would continue.

A Committee Member thanked the Chair and the Vice-Chair for their work over the last four years.

The Director of Place thanked members on behalf of the Corporate Leadership Team and officers for their contributions to the Committee over the four year term.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. That report OS/22/10 be received and noted.**

(The recommendations were agreed by affirmation of the meeting).



# Folkestone & Hythe District Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee

25 April 2023

Jon Yates, Programme Delivery Lead, Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force

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from  
**Southern  
Water** 

Minute Item 4

# Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force

- We agree the use of overflows is no longer acceptable.
- The task force is responsible for delivering at least six pathfinder projects over the next two years. The task force will seek to establish strong partnerships to ensure their success.
- In parallel, we will build and deliver a regional plan to reduce storm releases between now and 2030.
- Weblink - [Storm Overflows \(southernwater.co.uk\)](https://southernwater.co.uk)

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# There are broadly 3 main types of intervention to reduce flooding and storm overflow use:

## 1. **Source control** (removing and slowing the flow of rain water)

Rainwater harvesting, Permeable paving, Green roofs, Soakaways (includes tree pits), Rain garden (swales), Planters

## 2. **Optimisation of existing infrastructure**

Optimisation, tweaking of connected systems and interface, Different mechanical and electrical equipment (e.g. pumps), Improvements in pumping station and storm tank use and control, Smart network control with increased digitalisation

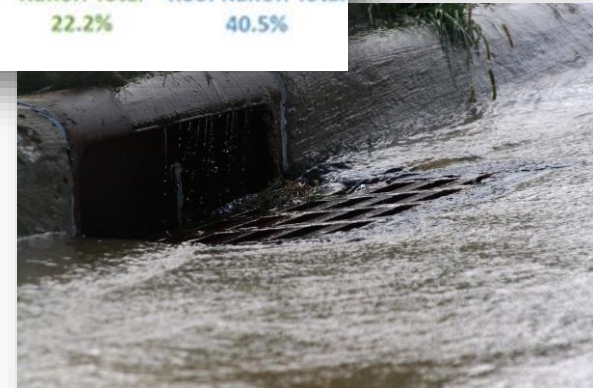
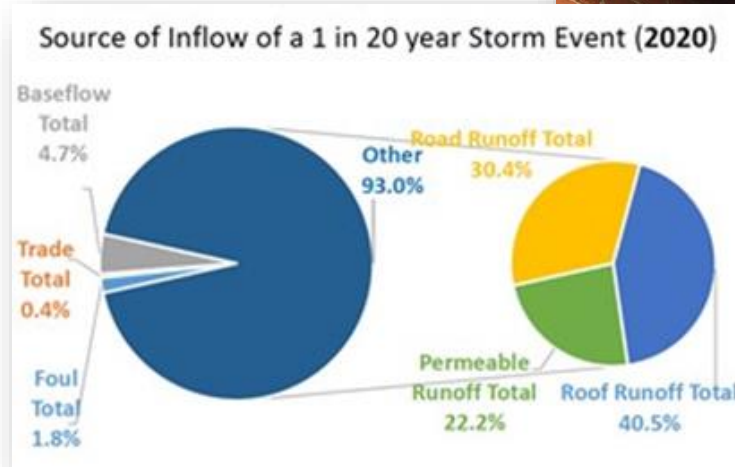
## 3. **Build bigger infrastructure** (building larger pipes, pumping stations, etc.)

Wetlands treatment (Groundwater), Sewer lining/sealing (Groundwater), Larger sewers, Large storm tanks, Large treatment works

Exhausting the first two options through pathfinder approach

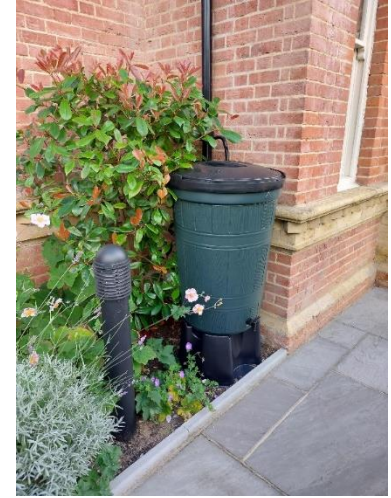
# Manage and slow the flow of water

- A storm release can be up to 95% rain water. The main sources are roof and road run off. We need to remove and/or attenuate this water.
- We must look to slow the flow of excess rain water into the system.





# What might the solutions look like?



## Working in partnership

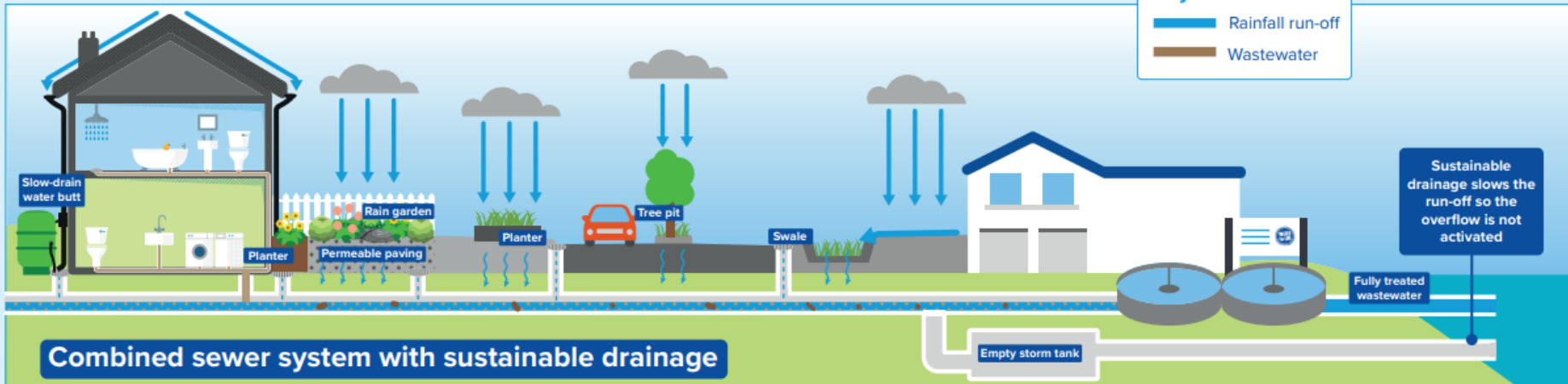
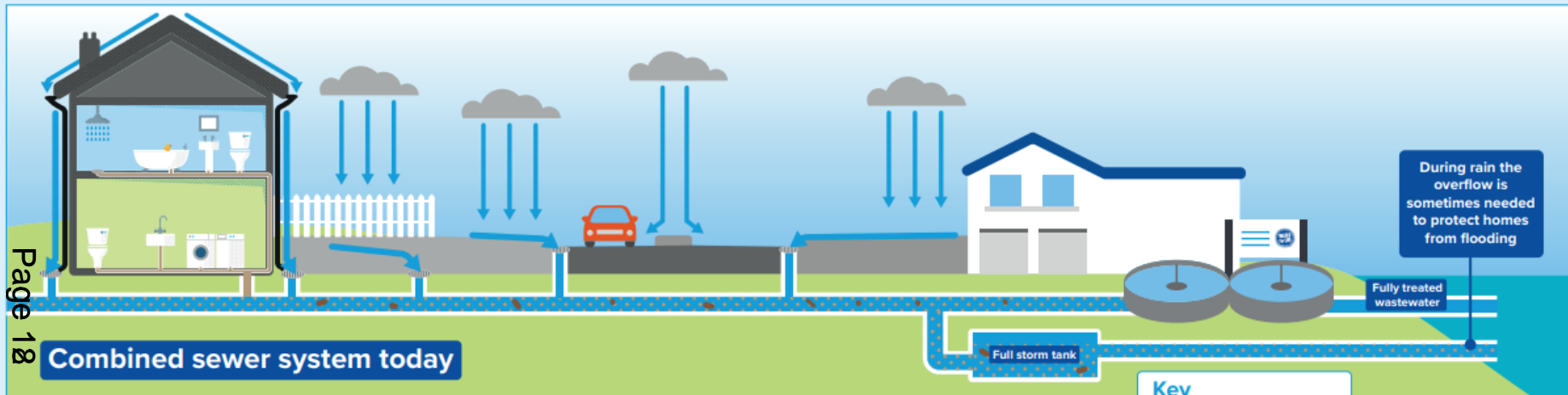
- We want to work in **collaboration** with a range of partners at all levels and across industries to achieve this.
- We also want to promote the simple actions that everyone can do to help such as installing water butts to recycle rain water or reducing the amount of pavement in gardens.



Identifying opportunities



# Reducing the use of storm overflows



# Pathfinder programme

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# Accelerating our Pathfinder projects

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April 2023

## Pathfinder update

Further investment to accelerate the reduction in the use of storm overflows across the South East



**WATER for LIFE** from Southern Water.

- To date, working on 6 Pathfinder projects (Deal, Margate and Whitstable in Kent, Sandown on the Isle of Wight, Pan Parishes near Andover Hampshire and Fairlight in East Sussex)
- Due to early success with trials and partnerships, we are stepping up our Pathfinder work
- Up to £50m funding to reduce storm overflows before 2025





# How we're tackling storm overflows

## The Harbours and the South Downs

We plan to target four areas where we know that groundwater is getting into our network. Exact locations will be chosen after we've completed local surveys.

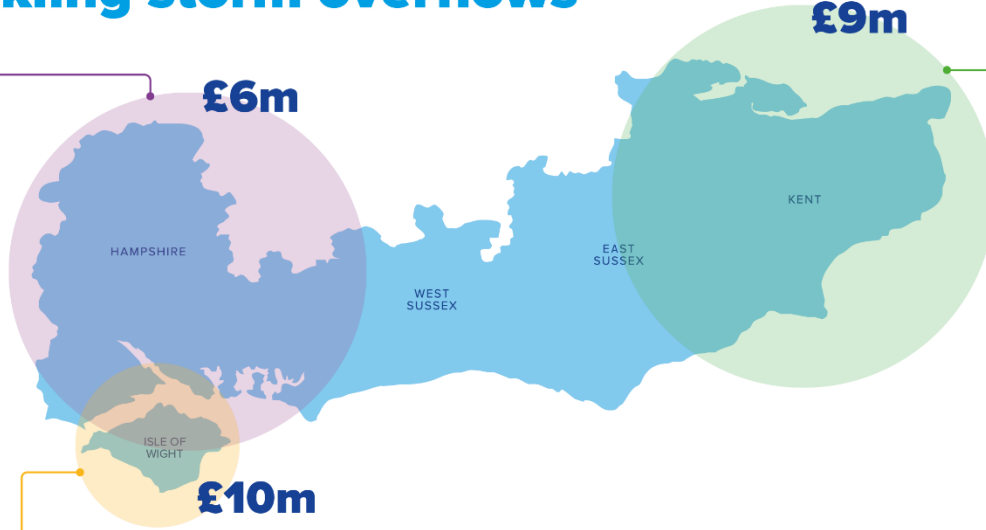
We'll be sealing around five kilometres of private and public sewers and constructing up to four wetlands.

This work will reduce releases entering Winchester Harbour and other water sites and is part of our wider WINEP Environmental programme for the next investment period 2025–30.

**Main driver:** High number of storm releases into the Harbours, enhanced knowledge of wetlands.

**Root cause:** groundwater getting into the network.

£6m



## The Solent, the Isle of Wight

This includes large parts of the Sandown area, which includes around 90% of the wastewater treatment for the island. We'll be specifically targeting 22 storm overflows with projects in Gurnard, Cowes, Fishbourne, Wotton, Yarmouth and Freshwater.

**Main driver:** Impact to shellfish waters, frequent spills, customer interest.

**Root cause:** large volumes of rainwater (surface water).

- 15 pumping station improvements
- 10 surface water misconnections redirected
- 6,000 household downpipes fitted with slow the flow measures
- 600 non-household downpipes fitted with slow the flow measures or redirected
- 30 roadside sustainable drainage schemes installed
- 1 wetland constructed

These measures will reduce rainwater run-off over a non-permeable area of around 35 hectares. In turn, this will reduce the amount of water that enters the combined sewer system, leading to a minimum 20% reduction in storm releases by April 2025 (based on 2020 baseline).

£9m

## North Kent and the East

We'll expand our projects in Kent: Deal, Margate and Whitstable and introduce a new project at Fairlight East Sussex.

**Main driver:** Impact to shellfish waters, frequent spills, customer interest.

**Root cause:** large volumes of rainwater (surface water).

The team will target five overflows with the following:

- 1 Treatment works optimised
- 2 pumping station optimised
- 8 surface water misconnections redirected
- 2,000 household downpipes fitted with slow the flow measures
- 200 non-household downpipes fitted with slow the flow measures or redirected
- 10 roadside sustainable drainage schemes installed

These measures will help to reduce rainwater run-off from a non-permeable area of 15 hectares. In turn, this will reduce the volume of water entering the sewer system, leading to a minimum 20% reduction in spills by April 2025 (based on 2020 baseline).

# Optimisation

## Deal highways gullies



## What approach was taken

1. Southern Water complete technical report
2. KCC surveyed assets in Albert Road and surrounding area
3. Deal-Water Action Taskforce discuss interventions required in the area
4. KCC carried out works to increase the number of road drains and upsize pipes  
— into the surface water pipe in Albert Road

## Swalecliffe - Amend permit use control



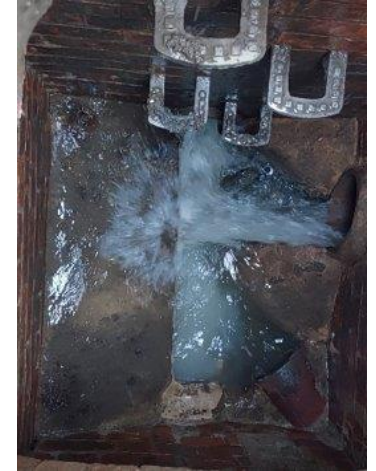
# Misconnections – surface water going into the foul

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## Aim:

To investigate locations where surface water pipes connect into the combined system to identify opportunities for re-connection.



## Next Steps:

- Confirm impermeable area contribution
- Arrange for further surveys where required
- Further investigation into possible re-connection points (e.g. rivers, surface water pipes, water butts)
- Refine prioritised list of opportunities based on outputs from analysis above



# Keeping groundwater and rainwater out

## Pan Parishes

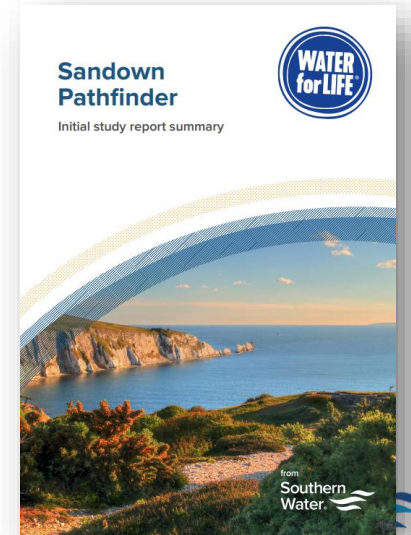
Groundwater infiltration and Tubogel  
– sealing private laterals

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## Havenstreet (Isle of Wight)

Surface water management –  
installing slow-drain water butts



# Slow-drain water butts

1

Rain flows from the roof,  
down the drain pipe

It's redirected into the water butt

Traditional water butts fill to  
capacity, leaving no space  
for the next time it rains

In a slow-drain water butt a  
drain is installed half-way up  
which allows the top half to  
slowly drain into the network  
over five hours, leaving  
100 litres empty for the  
next time it rains

3

4

5

The bottom half can be  
used for watering plants



70 'Slow the Flow' products installed  
51 properties installing device(s) –  
43% property install rate

Devices installed across the 4 pilot streets:

- 15 SuDS Planters (at 15 properties)
- 8 Passive Water Butts (at 7 properties)
- 47 Smart Water Butts (at 34 properties)



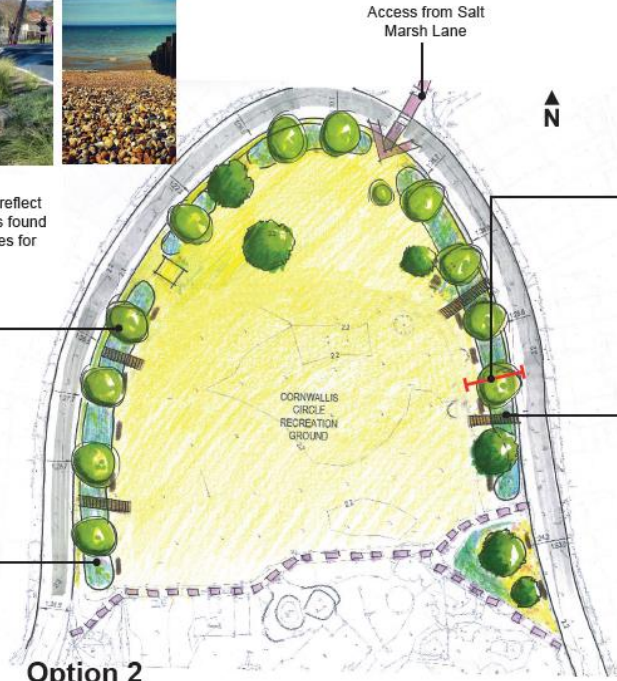
# Whitstable community scheme

## Cornwallis Circle Recreation Ground



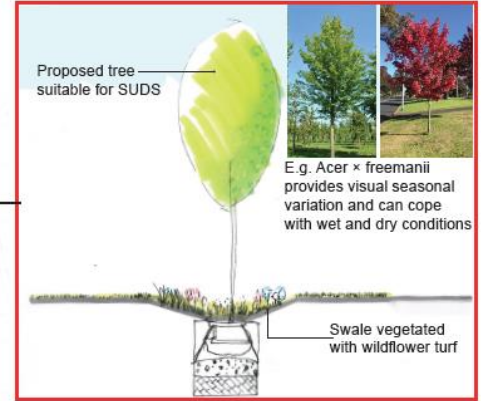
**Ornamental planting with gravel / boulder base:**  
Boulders and gravel to line the base of the swale, to reflect the coastal location and mirror materials and textures found on the nearby beach. Planted with ornamental grasses for year-round structure and visual interest

**Design for ecology**  
Use of flowering perennials within swales will attract pollinating insects with further opportunity to provide 'bug hotel' shelters areas using logs and other organic materials.



### Option 2

- Perimeter swales with tree planting
- Rain garden / wild wet meadow
- Open space retained with connecting board walks / bridges



### Amenity use

Timber board bridges span the swales linking to the central open space to improve permeability and access to the park from the east and west. These would create new permanent connections and would affect existing balustrade fencing

# Key updates/progress

- [Pathfinder update](#)
- [Task Force 6 monthly update](#) and Pathfinder progress
- [Bathing water season report](#)
- [Secretary of State letter](#)
- [Infiltration Reduction Plan](#)
- Deal, Margate, Swalecliffe, Sandown and Fairlight Technical and Summary reports [published](#)
- Early interventions in delivery
- [SuDS in schools](#) partnership with the Department for Education; £1.6m project
- Insight programme underway to ensure we're listening to our customers
- Further partnerships being explored
- [Jargon busting](#) to make educational materials accessible to all, such as our [FAQ document](#) and [animation](#).

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# Additional slides

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## 1 Improving our sites and networks

- ✓ **Making improvements** to pumping stations and equipment controls and storage.
- ✓ **Asking for permission** to change regulatory permits, where these limit capacity. By doing this, we are going beyond compliance – what we 'have to do'.
- ✓ **Using existing infrastructure** to speed up the process and limit the need for new construction.
- ✓ **Working with partners** to improve their infrastructure, such as highway gullies.

### Swalecliffe, Kent

#### The problem

Swalecliffe's storm tanks were not being used to full capacity because of the permits in place. As a result, the site is using its long sea outfall around 100 times a year.

#### Action

We worked with the Environment Agency to change the way the site works to use around 1,800m<sup>3</sup> of storage.

New chambers and pipework are being installed at a cost of £750,000 which enable us to redirect 450 litres of storm water per second during heavy rainfall.

#### The benefit

We estimate the work will reduce the spills by over 30% (12% of spills avoided altogether and 20% will be reduced in duration). This work will be finished by May 2023.



CASE STUDY

### Appley and Fairlee, Isle of Wight

#### The problem

During a heavy storm, more than 650 litres per second can enter Appley pumping station on the Isle of Wight. The pumping station is permitted to pump 122 litres per second. The site released 136 times in 2020 and 108 times in 2021.

Fairlee released 89 times in 2020 and 73 times in 2021. The site spills into the River Medina which is a SSSI and a popular water sports venue.

#### Action

Working with the Environment Agency we think the Appley pumping station could deal with 300 litres per second. More than 2.5 times the current flow.

By building a small pumping station at Fairlee, we can pump into existing storage areas on site (currently not in use) in excess of 14,000m<sup>3</sup>.

#### The benefit

We expect to reduce releases at Appley to around 30. By using existing storage at Fairlee, we expect to see a 95% reduction in annual releases.

CASE STUDY



## 2 Misconnections

- ✓ We are finding misconnections in local communities. This is typically where clean, already separated surface water, has been connected back into the combined sewer.
- ✓ Where we find them, we can divert this rainwater back into the environment.



### Lower Church Road, Isle of Wight

CASE STUDY

#### The problem

A development of about 50 properties covering 3.1 hectares connected stormwater from roads and roofs into the combined sewer.

As a result, the pumping station at Woodvale released 79 times in 2020 and 91 times in 2021 into a bathing water.

#### Action

We have submitted a flood risk assessment to the Environment Agency to redirect the flow and install a flow restriction device to reduce the likelihood of flooding in the area.

#### The benefit

We estimate the work will reduce the spills by over 30% (12% of spills avoided altogether and 20% will be reduced in duration). This work will be finished by late summer 2023 assuming all goes well.



“We are finding misconnections in local communities... Where we find them, we can divert this rainwater back into the environment.”



### 3 Businesses and community buildings

- ✓ **'Slow the flow'** sustainable drainage measures to manage rainwater run-off from large roof areas (above 200m<sup>2</sup>) and other hardstanding areas on non-household or commercial properties.

"A unique educational opportunity for pupils to engage in the importance of saving and protecting water, and the impact of doing so, as we all work to do more for the environment."

A Department for Education spokesperson

### Schools

#### The problem

Rainwater running off school roofs, playgrounds and hard surfaces can overwhelm the combined sewer system, causing localised flooding and storm overflows.

#### Action

We partnered with the Department of Education to work with 47 schools to install raingarden planters, free of charge, on school roof downpipes to remove or slow the flow of rainwater.

With four schools in south, we've also designed large sustainable drainage solutions to completely separate surface water from their site.

This £1.7 million project includes working with schools that experience flooding, as well as areas where the network experiences pressure from excess water.

We have agreed to work with another 50 schools between April 2023 and March 2024 (an additional £1.2m project).

#### The benefit

We are currently monitoring the exact levels of water the project has removed and we'll be producing a report in 2023 to outline our findings and lessons learnt from the first year.

CASE STUDY



## 4 Homes

- ✓ **Slow the flow'** sustainable drainage measures to manage rainwater run-off from household or domestic roof areas. Typically, we use slow drain water butts and encourage customers not to pave over gardens.

"This work is bringing fresh thinking and investment to our area that makes us a national leader in the issue of tackling storm overflows and sewage discharge prevention."  
**Natalie Elphicke MP**

### Deal, Kent

#### The problem

In Deal, Kent, residents have suffered from internal flooding for many years. This is in part due to the way water flows in the town and we're exploring solutions to slow the flow of water in the area.

#### Action

Working closely with Deal Water Action Taskforce, we offered smart water butts, planters and slow-drain water butts to residents of Claremont Road, Grange Road, Cowper Road, and The Grove. We've already installed 50 smart water butts.

We also completed an upgrade to a surface water pipe which will redirect flows away from Albert Road to Matthews Close Dyke during heavy rain.

#### The benefit

Reduced flooding for residents in Deal.



CASE STUDY

### Havenstreet, Isle of Wight

#### The problem

Havenstreet pumping station released 17 times in 2020 and 28 times in 2021. It discharges into a SSSI and a brook that is failing according to the Water Framework Directive.

#### Action

We offered every property in Havenstreet a free, slow-drain water butt. A total 142 properties accepted (72%). We also managed the stormwater of large roofs such as the community centre and care home with planters.

#### The benefit

70% reduction in spills from the nearby storm overflow site, by controlling the amount of surface water reaching the ground at any one time.



CASE STUDY

## 5 Roads

- ✓ **Sustainable drainage** features like rain gardens, swales (channels) and tree pits to redirect and slow the flow of rainwater run-off from roads entering the sewer.

"Additional funding will allow more island residents and visitors to experience necessary improvements in reducing storm overflows."

James Brewer,  
Planning Team Leader,  
Isle of Wight Council

### Cornwallis Circle, Kent

CASE STUDY

#### The problem

Whitstable contains 74 hectares of non-permeable area.

#### Action

Working with Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council we're developing a scheme that could manage over 1 hectare of non-permeable area. Designs are being prepared for public consultation and we hope to implement the scheme later in 2023. This will be one of many across the town.

#### The benefit

One hectare of non-permeable area is 10,000m<sup>2</sup> or a 100m x 100m square. A 10mm rainfall event will produce 100 tonnes of water or 100,000 litres.

### Newport and Ryde, Isle of Wight

CASE STUDY

#### The problem

The town centres are problematic drainage areas with large impermeable areas such as car parks, roads and buildings.

#### Action

We're working in partnership on two Local Authority projects to improve the town centres and install green designs. We will co-design, co-fund and co-deliver tree pits, rain gardens, permeable paving and other sustainable drainage features.

#### The benefit

Not only will the town centres look more green, and attractive, they will also reduce storm overflows by holding back and slowly releasing stormwater.



Designs to be finalised



# Our task force is exploring ways to reduce storm overflows via our pathfinder projects

The Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force is a dedicated team that is working to significantly reduce the use of storm overflows by 2030. **It is delivering six pathfinder projects over the next two years.**

## Pan Parishes

- Sealing private pipework with an innovative chemical called Tubogel, as well as sealing the public sewer network to reduce groundwater infiltration.

Exploring the creation of a local wetland.



## Swalecliffe

- Working to reduce Swalecliffe's 74 hectares of hard surfaces.
- Separating the surface water and sewer network.
- Hotspot mapping shows us where to target solutions.



## Margate

- Finding opportunities to increase surface water drainage with local councils. For example, reducing the amount of hard surfaces across Margate.
- Looking at opportunities to separate the surface water and sewer network and improve drainage.



## Deal

- Installing smart or passive water butts or rain planters.
- Working with the local councils and highways to introduce roadside verges, parks and gardens and more green spaces.
- Engaging with schools.
- Surveying surface water connections.
- Introducing rainfall monitors and tracking the flow of surface water.
- Improving our Golf Road pumping station.
- Increasing our storm tank capacity.



## Sandown

- Enhancing wastewater pumping station control, surface water removal and storage solutions.
- Trialling slow-drain water butts in Havenstreet.



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# Minutes

## Finance and Performance Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Held at:	Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Folkestone.
Date	Tuesday, 7 March 2023.
Present	Councillors Peter Gane, Connor McConville (Chairman), Patricia Rolfe and Rebecca Shoob.
Apologies for Absence	None.
Officers Present:	James Clapson (Case Officer (Committee)), Gavin Edwards (Performance and Improvement Specialist), Jonathan Hicks (Performance Specialist (Business Insight Manager)), Lydia Morrison (Interim S151 Officer) and Charlotte Spendley (Director of Corporate Services).
Others Present:	Councillor David Monk.

### 1. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 2. **2022-23 Quarter 3 Performance Report**

Mr Edwards introduced the report that provided an update on the Council's performance for the third quarter of the year covering 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022. The report enabled the Council to assess progress against the approved key performance indicators arising from the Council's new Corporate Action Plan. Mr Edwards and Mr Hicks then responded to questions from the Sub-Committee.

During consideration of the item the following points were noted:

- Members were concerned that there were still delays in reporting data breaches to the Information Commissioner's Officer.
- For the week commencing 27 February 2023 there were five homeless individuals.
- The potential for falling leaves to impact on the Council's ability to keep the streets free of litter could have been foreseen.
- The Economic Development team should engage with more businesses to get a wider range of input into the policy framework.

- It was good that the program to install electric charging points in car parks was almost complete.
- The clearance of fly tipping within a day of reporting was very good.
- The low-cost home ownership target was expected to be met by the end of the year.
- It would be good if the Council aimed to determine all planning applications within the statutory period; however, a KPI must be attainable, and the time taken to determine an application was not always within the Council's control.
- Currently recycling rates included garden waste when they were reported. It would be more meaningful to report the rates without garden waste, as this figure would not be influenced by changes in seasonal garden waste collections.
- The Council used bed and breakfast accommodation to help house rough sleepers temporarily. Currently there were five households in B&B accommodation.
- Members offered thanks for the report, the inclusion of background information provided context and answered many of the questions that would have been raised at the Sub-Committee meeting.

Proposed by Councillor McConville  
Seconded by Councillor Gane; and

**RESOLVED:**

That the Sub-Committee note report C/22/96 and the performance information for 2022-23 quarter three in appendix 1.

That the Sub-Committee recommend Cabinet requests a briefing note to give assurance that improvements are taking place regarding the reporting of data breaches. The briefing note should detail the type of training offered, which departments would receive the training, and whether the training would be given by an internal or external provider.

(Voting figures: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).



This Report will be made public on 19/06/2023



Report Number **OS/23/01**

**To:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 27 June 2023  
**Status:** Non-key decision  
**Responsible Officer:** Olu Fatokun, Low Carbon & Sustainability Senior Specialist  
Adrian Tofts, Strategy, Policy & Performance Lead Specialist  
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Stephen Scoffham, Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Bio-diversity

**SUBJECT:** DRAFT DISTRICT-WIDE CARBON PLAN

**SUMMARY:** A draft District-wide Carbon Plan is being prepared for the council to play a leadership role in promoting partnerships for a carbon neutral district. This report presents the draft District-wide Carbon Plan to Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Following the comments of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is intended to take the draft plan to Cabinet on 12 July 2023 to seek approval to consult on the plan.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. To receive and note report OS/23/01
2. To note the work on the Carbon Innovation Lab and Sustainable Futures Forum already underway (Sections 2 and 3)
3. To comment on the draft District-wide Carbon Plan and proposed approach to public engagement (Section 4)

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The council declared a climate change and ecological emergency on 24 July 2019. The text of the declaration can be viewed here: [\(Public Pack\)Minutes Document for Council, 24/07/2019 19:00 \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](#) The declaration covered a wide range of activity, from the council's own estate and operations, to wider district emissions and work with partners.
- 1.2. The declaration called for the council *“To develop a strategy for Folkestone and Hythe District Council to play a leadership role in promoting community, public and business partnerships for this Carbon Neutral 2030 Commitment throughout the District”* and *“To achieve this, create a Carbon Action Plan based on practical frameworks and advice ...”*
- 1.3. Analysis of the council's estate and operations concluded that the council's own emissions amounted to 1,536 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent) at a base year of 2018/19. Data published by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)<sup>1</sup> for 2019 (the most recent published data) show that emissions arising from buildings, transport and activities across the Folkestone & Hythe district amounted to 385,100 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. Emissions from the council's estate and operations therefore only amount to around 0.4 per cent of the district total, and so collaborative working across the district will be essential to meet the net zero target.

## 2. CARBON INNOVATION LAB

- 2.1. A proposal was put to Cabinet on 23 March 2022 (C/21/94) for the council to establish a 'Carbon Innovation Lab' (CI-Lab) to address the district-wide commitment, building on a similar group that has successfully operated for around two years at the London Borough of Hounslow.
- 2.2. The CI-Lab is an informal and inclusive group of representatives from the community, business, special interest groups and academics. The objectives of the CI-Lab are to:
  - Develop and deliver actions to reduce carbon emissions and the impact of climate change through collaboration across our communities and businesses in the district.
  - Understand the opportunities and address local hurdles to achieving net zero, including signposting to resources, and support applications for funding opportunities to enable the transition.
  - Develop a District-wide Carbon Plan with administrative support from the district council and deliver quick results where possible.
- 2.3. The CI-Lab has held five meetings to date. Four potential projects have emerged from the discussion, as well as the need to promote active community engagement to drive interest in the District-wide Carbon Plan. The members of the CI-Lab, who attend on a voluntary basis, have shared

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<sup>1</sup> Now the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ)

experience of their own projects and a support network is beginning to develop.

2.4. Table 1 below details the four emerging projects.

	<b>Project 1</b>	<b>Project 2</b>	<b>Project 3</b>	<b>Project 4</b>
<b>Focus</b>	Eco-schools Pilot	Local businesses becoming greener	Energy Efficiency to reduce the cost of living in Privately Occupied homes	Cycle and footpath improvements

*Table 1- Emerging Projects from the CI-Lab*

2.5. Updates on the work of the CI-Lab have been given to the Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group and a summary was also provided to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 April 2023 (OS/22/12) as part of a general update on the council's climate change work.

### **3. FOLKESTONE & HYTHE SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FORUM**

3.1. Project 2 above is being taken forward by officers with the support of Liu Batchelor of LVB Creative, a member of the CI-Lab and a coach, TEDx Folkestone Curator and media producer. This has led to the creation of the Folkestone & Hythe Sustainable Futures Forum (SFF). The role of the SFF is to be the 'umbrella' brand for the delivery of initiatives emerging from the CI-Lab or taking place across the district with the support of the CI-Lab.

3.2. The project aimed to engage and empower local businesses, community groups and people by giving them a platform to showcase their ideas and projects for a more sustainable future for our district, by providing coaching support to develop their projects into actions that will inspire others.

3.3. The scope of the project was to deliver a series of talk videos featuring local businesses, community groups, special interest groups and the people of Folkestone & Hythe District. This was supported by a series of community engagement events including question and answer sessions, development workshops for speakers and engagement campaigns on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn as well as the council's website (Carbon Innovation webpage). The project culminated in an event that took place at the Burlington Hotel, Folkestone on the 29 April 2023.

3.4. Officers have received a number of positive comments from participants following the April event, which include the following:

- *The event was very well organised, the speakers were inspirational and provided a lot of useful information. It was nice to engage with the community.*
- *Greater awareness of the live projects will allow me to potentially recommend these when working with local businesses to improve collaboration.*

- *We are keen to expand your approach to Thanet and have resolved to be a change agent and to make this happen.*
  - *The gathering was with a lot of positive vibes, it needs more regulatory involvement, to scale up the meeting from the community, Council to county, and to open a channel to integrate the possibilities with the Government a CSR [Corporate Social Responsibility] or sustainable channel of appreciation.*
  - *Great selection of speakers and breakout sessions.*
  - *I met two attendees who are keen to train staff in the principles of sustainability, the aim is to get buy-in for change.*
  - *An amazing model on how communities can come together, sharing ideas and plans for a better more sustainable future.*
- 3.5. LVB Creative produced an Impact Report following the April event and this is included as **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 3.6. Given the success of the April event, it is intended to continue with an annual Sustainable Futures Forum event, with smaller meetings in between, perhaps on a quarterly basis, to be met from the council's existing climate change budget.

#### **4. DISTRICT-WIDE CARBON PLAN**

- 4.1. Officers have prepared a draft District-wide Carbon Plan, with the ideas and input of the CI-Lab, and the draft is included as **Appendix 2** to this report.
- 4.2. As the scope of the district-wide plan is so far-reaching, and beyond the ability of the council to fund or implement itself, it is intended to use the public consultation to identify additional partner groups and projects that are currently underway or planned; this information will be brought together to produce a final version of the plan later in the year, making it a collective plan for the whole district.
- 4.3. The draft plan is currently divided into five chapters:
- A forward and introduction will be drafted with the Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Biodiversity for the public consultation for Chapter 1.
  - Chapter 2 sets out the legislative and policy background at international, regional and local level.
  - Chapter 3 sets out the scale of carbon emissions at district level and the main sources of the emissions, using the BEIS dataset (see paragraph 1.3 above). This chapter outlines the different spheres of influence that the district council has, ranging from areas where it has direct control through to areas where it only has limited influence.
  - Chapter 4 sets out examples of actions that can be taken within these different scopes of influence, and opportunities that carbon reduction can create.

- Chapter 5 provides examples of activities that are already underway across the range of transport, residential, commercial, other activities and land use absorption and biodiversity enhancement, as a prompt to further discussion.
  - The public consultation is intended to identify new partners and projects that organisations are currently delivering, are planning to deliver or can contribute to in partnership with others, and these will populate an Action Plan that will form the basis of Chapter 6. Public consultation will hopefully identify inspiring projects across the district and help bring together groups to share resources.
  - A monitoring plan will follow in Chapter 7 after the public consultation that will identify key indicators that will be monitored to assess progress to a carbon neutral future and critical points that may trigger a review of the plan.
  - A conclusion and summary will follow in Chapters 8 and 9 after the public consultation.
- 4.4. If this approach is approved by Cabinet on 12 July 2023, following any amendments suggested by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 27 June, officers will then prepare public consultation materials and begin the consultation. Proposed consultation questions are included as **Appendix 3** to this report.
- 4.5. It is planned that the consultation will include:
- Consultation materials on the council’s website, including a professionally produced version of the draft plan set out in Appendix 2, with illustrations and graphics, designed with the council’s Communications Team. This will be accompanied by questions that can be answered through the council’s consultation portal.
  - Social media activity to publicise the consultation, working with the Communications Team.
  - Officer attendance at selected venues in locations in the Romney Marsh, North Downs and Folkestone and Hythe areas of the district, with display materials, leaflets and questionnaires. These in-person events could be held as specially arranged sessions or as stalls or ‘pop-ups’ at existing events, such as summer fairs.
  - A targeted questionnaire to households in Folkestone & Hythe district. While the above activity is likely to attract comments from people already interested in climate change issues, it is important that we understand the general knowledge of and concern about climate change and commitment to action among the district’s residents. It is therefore proposed to use specialists in Canterbury City Council to undertake a targeted survey of representative Folkestone & Hythe residents, the costs to be met from the council’s existing climate change budget. (This approach was used in November 2020, alongside an open consultation exercise, to inform the council’s Corporate Plan ‘Creating Tomorrow Together’.)

- 4.6. Given the success of using a specialist media producer for the Sustainable Futures Forum (Section 3), there is potential to use a similar approach in consultation on the District-wide Carbon Plan; costs can be met from the existing climate change budget.

## 5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1. Following public consultation, officers will review the consultation comments and the results of the targeted questionnaire. The CI-Lab (Section 2) could be used to provide another perspective on the emerging issues and recommend ways in which they could be addressed.
- 5.2. A report can be taken to Overview and Scrutiny Committee later in the year, summarising the results of the consultation and questionnaire, with any proposed amendments to the District-wide Carbon Plan. The amended plan would then be taken to Cabinet for adoption.

## 6. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 6.1 A summary of the perceived risks follows:

Perceived risk	Seriousness	Likelihood	Preventative action
That the District-wide Carbon Plan fails to bring together groups and individuals to deliver joint action.	High	Medium	Undertake wide public consultation through different channels, using professional expertise where necessary. Create an implementation group to ensure that actions in the plan are delivered to schedule.
That the District-wide Carbon Plan fails to deliver significant reductions in carbon emissions.	High	Medium	Undertake regular monitoring and review of the plan to identify additional or amended actions.

## 7. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

### 7.1. Legal Officer's Comments (NM)

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### 7.2. Finance Officer's Comments (LK)

Any consultation or consultancy costs would be met from the existing climate change budget.

**7.3. Diversities and Equalities Implications (AT)**

No direct implications.

**7.4. Climate Change Implications (AT)**

There are no direct climate change implications arising from this report. If approved by Cabinet, the draft plan would be subject to public consultation with individuals, community groups and others across the district. When the final plan is produced following the consultation there are could be significant positive carbon reduction and biodiversity impacts, depending on the range of actions identified.

**8. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting:

Olu Fatokun, Low Carbon Senior Specialist  
Telephone: 07950 880 543  
Email: [olu.fatokun@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:olu.fatokun@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

Adrian Tofts, Strategy, Policy & Performance Lead Specialist  
Telephone: 01303 853438  
Email: [adrian.tofts@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:adrian.tofts@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1: Sustainable Futures Forum – Impact Report

Appendix 2: District-wide Carbon Plan – Draft Plan for Public Consultation

Appendix 3: District-wide Carbon Plan – Draft Public Consultation Questions

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Folkestone & Hythe

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**SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURES FORUM**

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Impact Report





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## CAMPAIGN VISION

To engage and empower local people by giving them a platform to showcase their sustainable ideas and projects for a more sustainable future for our community

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## PROGRESS TO DATE

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### **PHASE 1: DEC - FEB**

Extensive outreach and public engagement campaign including video, social media, events, press, and email; raising awareness of the campaign and inviting local people to submit their sustainable ideas and projects.

### **PHASE 2: MAR - APR**

Delivery of a coaching programme to support selected speakers in the development of TEDx style talks about their projects - delivered at a community event comprising of talks, and workshop advice, discussions, facilitated networking/partnership development. The event was also live streamed.







Sat 29th April

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# FINALE EVENT

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The Finale event  
in numbers



## EVENT OVERVIEW

Hosted at The Burlington Hotel

**Sell out event**

**150**

Ticket sold

**10**

Talks

**9**

Workshops

**18**

Volunteers

Attendees from business, community, and general public

Talks: 8x TEDx style speakers, and 2 talks from council members

Facilitated workshops, lead by key local organisation inc Low Carbon Kent/KCC, Social Enterprise Kent, Growing Kent & Medway, ESG at Saga, South Kent Mind.

Volunteers from local community; sustainability experts, Carbon Innovation Lab members, and Napier Barracks





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# BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

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## **18** *Workshop & Discussion sessions*

Specific sessions designed for:

- 1) Individuals,
- 2) community groups, and
- 3) businesses.

Topics Including; Circular economy, climate anxiety, behaviour change, advice for VCSE & businesses, and partnership 'match-making' between volunteers, community groups, local business, and sustainable suppliers.





## PROFESSIONAL LIVE STREAM BROADCAST

**117** *Online Views*

”Well done on a fab event, I’ve been watching it back today and listening to the speakers...some brilliant ideas.

So sorry I couldn’t attend but the option to re-watch has worked really well.”

Helen - Head of CSR, Saga



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## PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

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Speaker photos, videos of their talks, and radio interview opportunities - all provided to help them promote their projects



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## ATTENDEE FEEDBACK

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# 100%

Respondents who rated  
the event 7 and above  
out of 10

# 83%

Respondents who said  
they were highly likely to  
make new or additional  
behaviour changes





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”Speakers were very professional, fascinating to hear what is being done locally, breakout sessions were interesting and practical. A very positive vibe.”

## **ATTENDEE FEEDBACK**

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”The event was very well organised, the speakers were inspirational and provided a lot of useful information, it was nice to engage with the local community”

## **ATTENDEE FEEDBACK**

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”I am now inspired to take more action myself, and plan to buy more locally grown produce rather than using the supermarket.”

## **ATTENDEE FEEDBACK**

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Dec 22 - May 23

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## **FULL CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW**

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The full campaign  
programme in numbers

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# FULL CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

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**10**

PR/Press  
opportunities

**10**

Public  
events

**180**

Page 58  
event  
attendees

**14**

Coaching  
sessions

**8**

TEDx style  
talks

**33**

Projects  
submitted

**45**

Videos/local  
people & projects





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## LOCAL PROJECTS PROMOTED

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**8** Projects developed &  
delivered as TEDx style talk

Projects promoted as  
video showcase **13**

**33** Project applications, and  
signposting provided

Local project adverts  
promoted on live stream **8**





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## COACHING PROGRAMME

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**6** Week intensive speaker  
coaching programme

**30** Hours of 1-2-1 &  
group coaching

**11** People/projects  
taking part

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## PUBLIC PROGRAMME

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**3** Open community  
workshops, supporting

**16** projects over  
**6** hours of coaching





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## SOCIAL MEDIA

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**34,146**

Instagram Impressions

**32,110**

Facebook content reach

**39,261**

Linkedin Impressions

**3,622**

Website views



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## PRESS/PR

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**3** BBC Radio Kent  
Interviews

AcademyFM Radio  
Interviews **4**

**2** Folkestone Foghorn  
features

Kent Live/  
Herald Article **1**

**3** Speaking  
opportunities

Public Engagement  
events **5**



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## NEXT STEPS

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## PHASE 3: MAY

Currently in progress

Publication of speakers TEDx style talks and post event public engagement campaign - engaging and inspiring the public with local initiatives in their area.

For the speakers, there is an opportunity to apply for funding to further development of their projects, and supported by further business/project coaching to help implement their ideas.



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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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Any further questions, input or support please contact:  
[Liu@LVBcreative.com](mailto:Liu@LVBcreative.com) or [Olu.fatokun@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:Olu.fatokun@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)





FOLKESTONE & HYTHE  
Sustainable Futures Forum

[WWW.SUSTAINABLEFUTURESFORUM.COM](http://WWW.SUSTAINABLEFUTURESFORUM.COM)

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## **Draft – District-Wide Carbon Plan Part 1**

### 1.0 Executive Summary

#### 1.1 Forward

#### 1.2 Summary

#### 1.3 Introduction

## **2.0 Policy Drivers**

### **2.1 Global, National, Regional and Local Context**

Several policies at the global, national, regional and local levels of institutions and government set out guidance and targets to tackle climate change.

#### **2.1.1 Global**

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) established a global environmental accord to combat "dangerous human interference with the climate system" overseeing the implementation of The Paris Agreement set a legally binding international accord on temperature change adopted in 2015, which places a world commitment to limit warming to 1.5 – 2° Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

In addition, the United Nations (UN) adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015. This initiated a global urgent call for action to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030. Climate change is embedded throughout the goals and specifically addressed in Goal 13 - *to take imperative action to combat temperature change and its impacts*.

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference at COP26 that took place in Glasgow was intended to further accelerate actions towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. In addition, COP 27 took place in the Egyptian coastal city of Sharm el-Sheikh and concluded with a historic decision to establish and operationalise a loss and damage fund for vulnerable countries hit by climate-induced disasters.

#### **2.1.2 National**

The Climate Change Act, as amended in 2019, sets a binding target to reduce the United Kingdom's (UK's) greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 compared to 1990 levels, placing a duty on public sector organisations to reduce emissions while adapting to climate change. In addition, the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019 later passed increases the UK's commitment to a 100% reduction in emissions by 2050.

Furthermore, the Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener published in 2021 sets out how the UK will manage its carbon budgets and its vision for a decarbonised economy by 2050. Legislation to protect and enhance the environment is also set out in the Environment Act 2021. The Government's policy for new development is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (2021) and more detail is provided in Planning Practice Guidance which is updated periodically. Planning Practice Guidance sets out guidance on a range of topics including how planning can address climate change challenges, where evidence can be found and how

local planning authorities can identify mitigation measures. National planning policies and guidance are then used by local authorities to draft their local plans which set out where development should take place and what standards it should meet.

### **2.1.3 Regional**

In Kent, local government responsibilities are divided between Kent County Council and the lower-tier borough and district councils. At the county level, following the declaration of a climate and ecological emergency in 2019, Kent County Council (KCC) developed the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy (ELES) to facilitate the agreement to achieve net zero emissions in Kent and Medway by 2050. Folkestone & Hythe District Council (the council) is working with Kent County Council (KCC) to support the implementation of the ELES across the district.

KCC is the determining authority for minerals and waste development and sets out policies for these types of development in its Minerals and Waste Local Plan. KCC is also the local transport authority and is currently developing the Local Transport Plan 5 (LTP5). This will set out the transport plan for 2037 considering integrated strategies such as the ELES and other sub-national strategies within the southeast. LTP5 will have a strong focus on reducing carbon emissions from transport by promoting public transport and active travel for shorter journeys, for example by encouraging cycling and walking. KCC is also the lead local flood authority and has developed policies for the provision of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as part of new developments.

### **2.1.4 Local**

In parallel with KCC, Folkestone & Hythe District Council also declared a climate and ecological emergency in 2019 committing to reducing emissions from its operations and estate to net zero by 2030 as demonstrated in 33 actions undertaken in the Folkestone & District Carbon Action Plan. The council is reviewing the plan to measure progress so far and identify if additional projects will be required to deliver our net zero goal.

This declaration also committed the council to “Develop a strategy for Folkestone and Hythe District Council to play a leadership role in promoting community, public and business partnerships for this Carbon Neutral 2030 Commitment throughout the District.” This district-wide plan is intended to help deliver this commitment.

## **2.2 Corporate Plan: Creating Tomorrow Together**

Our Corporate Plan - Creating Tomorrow Together: 2021-30 was developed with climate change embedded into the council’s vision for the district. For example,

- Service ambition 1: Positive community leadership by working to support and empower our communities e.g., the formation of the Carbon Innovation Lab (CI-Lab) to develop this District Wide Carbon Plan.
- Service ambition 2: A thriving environment – Ensure a clean, attractive, and safe environment for residents, visitors and businesses.

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)



The corporate plan is also governed by the Greener Folkestone & Hythe guiding principle. This says that we will “encourage and create a more sustainable district by consuming fewer natural resources.”

### **2.2.1 Local Plan and Core Strategy Review**

It is recognised that climate change is a major issue that will impact planning, development and land use alongside the opportunities to address the green skills gap and foster growth in a green economy. As a result, it was considered in the Places & Policies Local Plan (2020) which sets out a vision for future development across the district incorporating climate change and the natural environment. Climate change is also a key consideration in the Core Strategy Review (2022) in long-term planning for development to 2037.

We are required to take into account national planning policy (see section 2.1.2) in drawing up our local plan and taking decisions on planning applications. Local plans must be reviewed at least every five years, or sooner if circumstances change. We are currently reviewing our local plan. The review will reflect national climate change policy and best sustainable development practices elsewhere. In addition, it will reflect Government reforms to the planning system introduced through new legislation and guidance.

### **2.3 Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment**

It is imperative to assess and understand the risks posed by climate change to Folkestone & Hythe District (the district) to enable us to build long-term resilience while adapting to climate change. The district is already experiencing the potential impacts of warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers. These will have long-term impacts on our community’s quality of life, health, well-being, and economy.

Most of the population of the district live in coastal towns where areas may be prone to flooding from the sea, rivers and other sources. The north of the district consists of a large area of land that is nationally protected by the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB) designation, with attractive villages and wooded landscape, forming part of an area that extends from the white cliffs of Dover to the Surrey and London border. The Romney Marsh area, to the south of the district, is a unique environment reclaimed from the sea over many centuries. It has seaside towns and remote villages and hamlets. The wide expanses of rich agricultural land are crossed by a network of drainage channels and the area is generally protected by sea defences.

The extent of flood risk in the district has been mapped in our Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) which was published in 2015. This assessment incorporates the impacts of climate change and the protection of existing flood defences. This study is currently being updated to take account of recent projections of changing weather patterns and sea level rises.

Kent and Medway produced the Climate Change Risk and Impact Assessment (CCRIA) in 2019 detailing an assessment of the current and future risks, opportunities and impacts of climate change as well as setting out how Kent and

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Medway will respond to climate change by building long-term resilience while benefiting from the opportunities it presents in its Climate Adaptation Programme. The council is working with KCC on the implementation of the Climate Adaptation Programme.

### 3. Purpose and Scope

#### 3.1 Role and Remit of Folkestone & Hythe District Council

The scope of this district-wide carbon plan covers the broader need to encourage and influence the reduction of carbon emissions across the district. This plan is not intended to cover the emissions of the council's operations and estate as these are reported separately.

It is imperative to state that decarbonisation of the district will rely on the entire district, including communities, residents and businesses being concerned and taking positive actions to vary behaviours if we are to achieve net zero.

The council understands the various levels of control and influence it has in meeting the challenges of climate change across the district and will seek to explore the opportunities that adapting to our changing climate may present. We will be guided by:

1. The Committee on Climate Change (CCC) report on Local Authorities and the Sixth Carbon Budget which sets out a model of influence highlighting the vital role of the council in influencing local emissions.
2. The people of Folkestone & Hythe District expressed through the voices of the Carbon Innovation Lab (CI-Lab) as well as the views of parish councils, local businesses, community groups, interest groups etc which will be gathered through consultation on this draft plan.

**Figure 1: Levers of Influence**



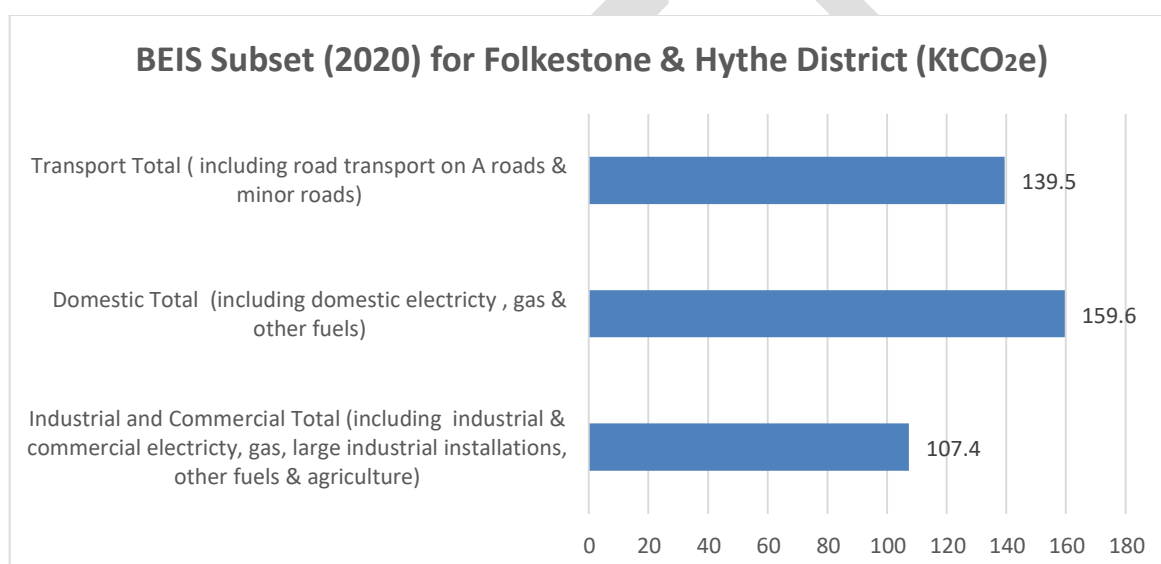
Source: 'Onion diagram' based on internal Centre for Sustainability model and amended for this report.

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

### 3.2 District-wide Emissions Profile & Baseline (BEIS data)

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)[1], now the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ) publishes a set of emissions data which is within the scope of local authorities to influence. For Folkestone & Hythe District, the BEIS data suggests that in 2018, 406.5 ktCO<sub>2</sub> (thousand tonnes of carbon dioxide) were within the scope of the council to influence. The council's emissions (from estate and operations) for 2018/19 were 1,536 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. This shows that the council has direct control only over a small portion of the district emissions (which is less than 0.38% of the total district emissions) and demonstrates that collaborative working across the district is essential if we are to meet our net zero targets.

**Figure 2: Folkestone & Hythe District-Wide Emissions Profile**



There is no universally accepted definition of 'net zero'. However, the Carbon Trust suggests definitions of what net zero means for countries, cities, regions and companies.[1]

For regions, the Carbon Trust says that to achieve net zero an area will need to:

- Set and pursue an ambitious target for all relevant greenhouse gas emissions to pursue a pathway that limits global warming to 1.5°C. Any remaining hard-to-decarbonise emissions can be compensated for with certified greenhouse gas removal (GGR) methods.

In determining what greenhouse gas emissions are relevant, we have used the district-wide profile provided by BEIS (see section 3.2 above).

Regarding greenhouse gas removal, there are several potential methods. The Carbon Trust references the Royal Society's report 'Greenhouse Gas Removal' [1. Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](#)

(2018)[2] which discusses afforestation, coastal habitat restoration and other methods. Any solution must remove emissions permanently. In addition, a solution must not rely on unproven technology or have negative impacts on other areas, for example, damaging valuable habitats by planting trees that are not suited to an area. In most cases a local scheme is likely to be the most effective solution, as it can be more easily managed and monitored, giving confidence to local people that action is happening. Planting woodlands or recreating coastal habitats can be effective solutions that can directly benefit residents.

### 3.4 The Five Pillars of Focus

Table 1 below shows the main emissions sources attributable to the district, identified through the BEIS data subset along with other considerations, these are being regarded as the five pillars of focus through which the district can start to reduce emissions.

**Table 1: District-Wide Emission Sources**

Pillars	Emissions Source	Emissions (KtCO <sub>2</sub> )	Percentage Contribution (%)
1.	Road Transport	139.5	34.3
2.	Residential	159.6	39.3
3.	Commercial & Industrial	107.4	26.4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>406.5</b>	<b>100</b>
4.	Other activities (e.g., water conservation and waste management)	Not specifically included in the BEIS subset of data, but the treatment of waste, water and food production are important district-wide considerations.	
5.	Land use Absorption e.g., land use, land-use change and forestry	Not specifically included in the BEIS subset of data, but a small proportion of total emissions are reabsorbed through land use, such as woodland and habitat creation and boosting these activities will have carbon and ecological benefits.	

## 4. Defining the level of influence

4.1 The council understands that it can be an influencer of change within the district. It is actively working to support local businesses, community groups and the people of Folkestone & Hythe District and implementing measures to reduce carbon emissions across the district. However, it has only direct control over its operations and estate, which only account for 0.38% of district emissions.

### 4.1.1 Direct Control

The council has direct control over how it will reduce emissions from its operations and estate including communal areas of the sheltered housing stock. However, it

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

only has an indirect influence on reducing emissions from the general council housing stock as the tenant will determine the energy supplier and how the energy is used. Direct control relates mostly to scope 1 (direct greenhouse gas emissions) including council-owned or controlled mobile combustion sources such as petrol and diesel fuel consumed in vans and cars, combustion of fuels in stationary sources (e.g., natural gas, burning oil, gas oil and LPG consumed within council buildings) and scope 2 emissions (electricity indirect greenhouse gas emissions) including emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, heat or steam that is consumed in the council's own or controlled equipment or operations (e.g., buildings and street lighting). For example, the council is making progress across the 33 actions set out in the Carbon Action Plan 2021 and is currently reviewing the Carbon Action Plan to update and improve its effectiveness.

The council has already:

- Reviewed the energy efficiency performance and condition of all its social homes and has a programme in place to upgrade their energy efficiency and improve the health and well-being of our tenants. This requires substantial resources and investment to achieve net zero in operation. The council is actively seeking and has recently been successful in bidding for financial support from the Government, for example, through bids to the Government's Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund.
- Reviewed the carbon emissions and comfort levels in the sheltered housing portfolio. The council has an improvement plan that includes improving the energy efficiency and introducing low-carbon heating and electricity generation of these buildings to help contribute to the overall aim of reaching net zero for its operations and estate by 2030.
- Commenced a trial to create a 'decarbonisation plan' for a complex commercial building. A decarbonisation plan for a specific commercial building aims to work towards reducing emissions through multiple measures in the fabric, controls, low-carbon electricity and space heating.
- The council has to make sure that social houses in the district meet the required energy efficiency standards; this will increase in a phased approach over the next few years. The council also can seek to influence (where applicable) property developers, homeowners and landlords to do the same in residential and commercial properties.

#### **4.1.2 Indirect Control**

The council has less control over wider emissions that arise within the district, such as emissions from private homes and businesses, transport and other activities, however, it is aware that it has an influential role. It will leverage this role of influence to encourage local businesses, communities, and people to invest in a net zero future. Other actions include scope 3 emissions (other indirect greenhouse gas emissions including emissions generated by business travel and water) that will contribute to wider district emissions. For example, the council is currently undertaking a trial where all procurement contracts include carbon reduction requirements.

Furthermore, the council has committed to leading by example as follows:

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)



1. Collaborating with developers and individual homeowners to encourage the introduction of net zero measures in the design of our buildings. This is done through the development of a net zero toolkit to provide simple guidance on the most effective sustainability measures.
2. Setting out environmental plans and policies for the district that recognise the importance of our green and blue infrastructure to remove carbon from the atmosphere. This will promote biodiversity and be an asset to all our residents. Delivery of individual projects will need the collaboration of a wide range of partners, including landowners, volunteers and local interest groups. These partners include town and parish councils, developers and others.
3. Adopting an open, collaborative approach and actively supporting our residents, businesses and communities to deliver their low-carbon projects and initiatives. This includes grants, such as the Green Business Grant, and joint initiatives, such as Solar Together Kent. The collaboration includes communicating the tangible and intangible benefits of the council's investment in low-carbon projects.
4. Collaborating with KCC and electricity grid distribution operator to develop a strategic local area energy plan. Over time this will deliver the infrastructure to support decarbonisation across the district.
5. Collaborating with a network of local authorities through UK100 to achieve its climate change objectives.

#### **4.1.3 Place shaping**

The council sets out policies to shape the development and conservation of the district's towns, villages, open spaces and countryside through the development plan. This comprises the Places & Policies Local Plan (2020) and Core Strategy Review (2022).

The Places and Policies Local Plan (PPLP) sets out the energy hierarchy as a sequence for reducing carbon emissions, starting with reducing the need for energy by making changes to the design and fabric of a building ('fabric first'), then using energy more efficiently within the building, before using energy from renewable or low carbon technologies and finally ensuring that any fossil fuels that are required are used as efficiently as possible.

This is supported by the Core Strategy Review (CSR) which aims to minimise carbon emissions by reducing emissions from new buildings. Policy SS3: Place-Shaping and Sustainable Settlements Strategy states that proposals should be designed to contribute to local place-shaping and sustainable development *"through appropriate sustainable construction measures, including water efficiency and a proportion of energy from renewable/low carbon sources on new-build development"*.

Other policies from these plans seek to: enhance the district's biodiversity and its green infrastructure (PPLP policy NE2, CSR policy CSD4); protect and enhance its water and coastal environment (PPLP policies NE8 and NE9, CSR policy CSD5); promote sustainable development (PPLP policy CC2); improve health and wellbeing (PPLP policy HW2); support active lifestyles as part of new developments

(PPLP policy HW3); and promote active travel such as walking and cycling (PPLP policy HW4, CSR policy SS3).

Other organisations also produce plans and strategies that influence the council’s planning decisions and landowners’ and estate managers’ decisions. These include the Management Plan for the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (2021-2026) and other guidance produced by the AONB partnership for the Kent Downs area.

Various plans and strategies will also be developed as the District-wide Carbon Plan is completed and implemented, such as Local Nature Recovery Strategies mandated by the 2021 Environment Act. KCC and partners will develop the Local Nature Recovery Strategy when more detailed guidance is published by the Government.

#### **4.1.4 Partnership and Engagement**

The council recognises that in some ways it can enable actions through partnership working, initiating and promoting best practices to influence carbon emissions reductions, such as leading the way on electric vehicle charging points, with the installation of 132 charging points in 26 car parks across the district.

In other ways, we can engage through communication, awareness raising, and consulting with local businesses, community groups and the people. This will lead to a variety of behaviours that promote our move towards a low-carbon future. For example, the Carbon Innovation Lab (CI-Lab) is an informal voluntary forum to drive forward local action to reduce carbon emissions in the district that the council helps to facilitate. The CI-Lab has already had an impact with the development of the Folkestone & Hythe Sustainable Futures Forum TEDx-style event and talk videos which provided a platform for our residents to share and develop their sustainable ideas into deliverable actions – from small projects to larger programmes.

## **4.2 Challenges, Risks and Opportunities**

Climate change will present challenges, risks and opportunities. How we address these will be crucial to the future of the district. This is because climate change will have a long-lasting impact on the people, place and economy of the district. Therefore, it poses several challenges to the district, as outlined below.

### **4.2.1 Challenges**

Several barriers need to be addressed before net-zero targets can be achieved such as:

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Description</b>
Support & Guidance	Lack of consistent long-term national government support and guidance or changing national guidance with the reform of the planning system and the creation of new government departments.
Finance	High and uncertain costs to transition to a low carbon economy. Lack of capacity to bid for available

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

	government funding and apply for private and community finance to invest in the low-carbon infrastructure.
Lack of Control	Little or no control over some of the higher sources of emissions such as road transport and existing residential properties. These sources may be influenced more by other organisations, such as National Highways or the National Grid and rising energy costs.
Costs	High capital costs to switch to low-carbon energy technologies for the average individual and organisation even though these are offset over time by the reduced cost of energy.
Planning	Restrictions under current planning rules and the robustness of planning policies in implementing mitigation and adaptation measures. Proposals to reform the planning system are currently being considered by Parliament through the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill.
Resources	Increasing government cuts result in significant staffing issues to deliver the scale of carbon activities needed. Lack of knowledge and a detailed understanding of the most significant issues surrounding climate change and where gains can be made. Competing requirements for limited funds, time and commitment from all stakeholders
Local electrical grid capacity	Lack of adequate grid electricity capacity to support wide-scale electrification in transportation and buildings. Extended lead times and high connection costs to the existing grid infrastructure, even for small-scale initiatives.
Regional and national policies	Targets set by the national or regional policy are often outside of the council's direct control such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o transport</li> <li>o health services and buildings</li> <li>o education services and buildings</li> </ul>

#### 4.2.2 Risks

Measures need to be put in place to manage and adapt to climate risks such as:

Risks	Description
Weather	UK Climate Projections predicts hotter, drier summers and warmer wetter winters for the Kent and Medway region, including potential impacts on farming and food production, water treatment, rivers and coasts, and localised flash flooding.
Buildings & Infrastructure	Potential damage to buildings & infrastructure from increasing floods, storms, winds and rain. Increase in costs of maintenance and repair and remediation of affected areas.
Roads & Transport	Increase in the likelihood of weather damage and potholes to the road and rail infrastructure.

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

	Increase the risk of disruption to travel and potential impact on air quality.
Health and Well-being	Potential risks to health and well-being because of heat waves, cold snaps, flooding and storms include the impact on water quality and sewerage disposal, grid blackouts alongside risks to people's homes and health. Potential reduction in air quality during warm, still and dry spells where emissions may be retained in the local atmosphere and rise to more dangerous levels.
Natural environment	Potential risks to loss of natural capital, green infrastructure, increasing urban heat effect, and the spread of pests and diseases affecting native species and rare habitats. Potential risks of unsustainable use of agricultural fertilisers and runoff into rivers affecting oxygen levels and the local habitats.
Managing conflicting priorities	Implementing low-carbon solutions in isolation may have detrimental impacts on other areas of the economy or environment. The need is a consistent and integrated approach developed over time and in a collaborative manner with all stakeholders to reduce risks.

### 4.2.3 Opportunities

The council recognises that we cannot achieve net zero alone. However, we can act as an influencer of change and support the inspiring work local people and organisations already undertake throughout the district. Focusing on our five priority pillars, we will seek to tackle climate change challenges as set out below.

- **Transportation**

With road transport being a significant source of carbon emissions in the district (around 34 per cent of the district's emissions), the council continues to work closely with KCC to reduce emissions from our roads, for example by influencing the development of the Local Transport Strategy 5. (Motorways and trunk roads are operated and maintained by National Highways.) We are also taking the opportunity to reduce emissions from transportation by rolling out electric vehicle charging points in car parks across the district and encouraging taxi drivers to switch to electric or hybrid modes of transportation. We continue to support active travel initiatives and develop cycle routes throughout the district. Ambitious regeneration plans for the Folkestone town centre, for example, assisted by an award from the Government's Levelling Up Fund will provide improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure, an improved public realm, remodelled road junctions and enhanced links to Folkestone Central railway station.

However, not all journeys can be made by walking or cycling, so improved public transport will also be vital to reducing carbon emissions from transport. We will continue to influence Kent County Council, the local transport authority, as well as the rail and bus companies that provide the services.

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Further opportunities will be created following the announcement that the sale of new petrol and diesel cars sales will stop from 2030. We hope that the increase in charging points will encourage people to use electric vehicles for commuting, business and leisure use.

- **Residential**

We are always exploring ways to influence this emission source, which accounts for around 39 per cent of the district's emissions. For example, the council is taking part in the county-wide Solar Together Kent project; a solar panel and battery storage group-purchase scheme which has been extended for another year to 2023/24. The scheme allows residents and small businesses to install solar panels on their homes and businesses at an affordable price. It also provides battery storage to make maximum use of renewable energy. With a typical home solar panel installation providing savings of around 0.74 to 0.94 tonnes of carbon emissions a year, the current phase of Solar Together Kent could yield carbon savings of around 100 to 125 tonnes a year for the district, or around 1,000 to 1,250 tonnes a year in total across the Kent and Medway area.

As part of the decarbonisation plans for its sheltered housing schemes and other buildings, the council is actively seeking to incorporate renewable generation technologies such as solar PV panels and heat pumps as well as reduce their energy consumption by improving insulation.

The council actively signposts to support (financial and other) for our residents and homeowners to benefit from the move towards a net zero future, most recently financial support to install measures that reduce energy consumption in our homes and businesses, such as the Government's Green Homes Grant.

Opportunities will also exist to encourage energy efficiency and the uptake of low carbon technologies by homeowners and landlords with the view to the government enforcing landlords to meet the minimum energy efficiency performance standards EPC B and C by 2025 for all new tenancies and from 2028 for existing tenancies. For example, the council, as a major landlord, has decided to reduce emissions from our council housing stock. This will reduce energy bills and improve tenants' health and well-being. This includes current work to upgrade 109 homes of our housing stock to EPC C rating through the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund wave 1 award. The successful award of £2.6m through wave 2 of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund will help the council to improve a further 300 social homes over two years.

- **Commercial and Industrial**

The commercial and industrial sector accounts for around 26 per cent of the district's emissions. The way we are influencing this emission source is by evaluating social and environmental considerations in procurement and contracting. Sustainability is becoming an increasingly important factor in businesses' long-term viability and we anticipate that this will create an opportunity for the council to promote the benefits of greening our businesses. This may help local firms win contracts. Grants and funding for district businesses and support for funding applications are promoted on the council's website.

1. [Climate change – Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

- **Other activities (e.g., water conservation and waste management)**

Reducing, reusing and recycling waste is central to our waste management and we are influencing this emission source by promoting this throughout the council's practices and the wider district. Recently, we recorded a 5% drop in carbon emissions in 2022 by the district's waste operator. We recognise the potential of a local circular economy to create and support local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). We also recognise the potential to reduce carbon emissions associated with raw materials extraction and landfill.

- **Land use Absorption (e.g., land use, land-use change and forestry)**

As set out in section 3.2, tree planting and the creation of new habitats has the potential to absorb carbon emissions that cannot be removed earlier in the process. The council will look to influence this emission source through the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. This will promote tree planting and habitat creation as part of the proposed developments. We will also work with KCC on a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Kent, which is a requirement arising from the Environment Act. Climate change also presents an opportunity for the district to protect its natural capital, reduce the use of pesticides, improve biodiversity, improve air quality and deliver other benefits. For example, as part of its own grounds' maintenance work, the council plants native and semi-native trees, maintain wildflower areas around the district to benefit bees and other pollinators, and supplies summer and winter bedding plants 100 % peat free.

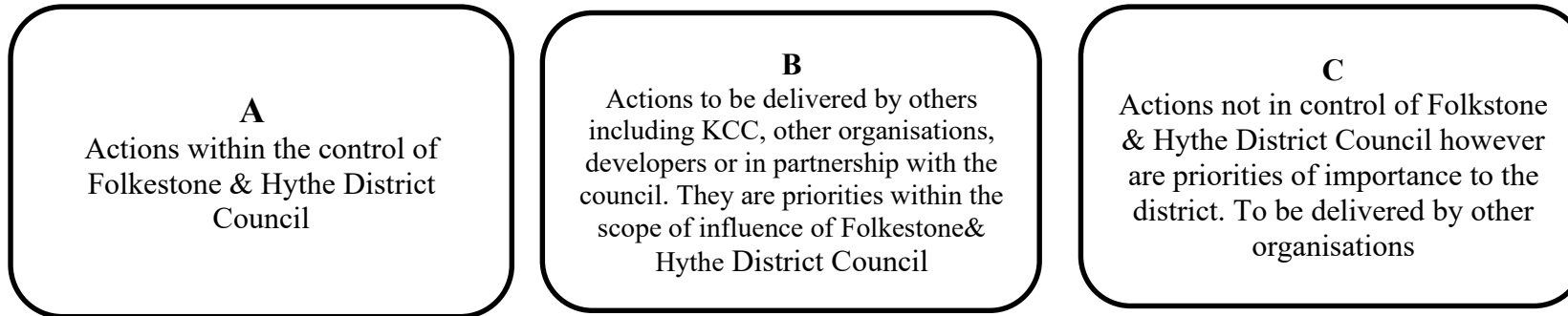
## **5. Our Approach**

### **5.1 Where we are now.**

These are examples of actions that are currently being undertaken by the council, other organisations, businesses and local groups across the five pillars of focus.

The five priority pillars of focus are as follows:

Keys



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Pillars	Actions	Delivery
Transport	Promoting active travel by promoting walking and cycling, launching campaigns, improving walking, and cycling infrastructure and use of public transport to encourage people to use alternative modes of transportation.	A & B
	Working with local transport providers and KCC to improve public transportation services, including better connectivity and increased frequency of bus services to make public transport a more attractive and viable option for residents.	B & C
	Encouraging the use of electric vehicles by installing electric vehicle charging points in car parks across the district and providing a salary sacrifice scheme for the purchase of electric vehicles for staff.	A, B & C
	Through the Climate Change Network, taxi drivers are being encouraged to switch to electric vehicles and working with partners to secure funding to further support the transition to an electric vehicle future.	A, B & C
	Encourage and support businesses to promote a switch to sustainable modes of transportation as the choice of travel.	C

Pillars	Actions	Delivery
Residential	Residents are encouraged to make their homes more energy efficient through various schemes such as the Green Homes Grant and the Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA).	A
	A Kent-wide scheme "Solar Together Kent" to purchase solar panels and battery storage is being promoted to residents and businesses.	A, B & C
	Residents were encouraged to make low-cost or no-cost energy-efficient tips through the Share the Warmth Campaign.	A
	Launching educational campaigns to raise awareness about climate change and encourage residents to act.	A
	Incorporating climate change into Local Plans to ensure sustainable new developments with minimal environmental impact.	A
	Providing practical, easy-to-follow advice using the Net Zero Toolkit. The toolkit provides a pathway for this transition by giving step-by-step guidance on embedding 'green by design' into projects.	A & B
	District warm spaces to provide warm spaces in the district's community hubs in New Romney, Hythe and Folkestone and the Nepalese Community Centre to help residents struggling with increased heating costs.	A & C
	Signposting to available low-carbon funding options and advice.	A & B

Pillars	Actions	Delivery
Commercial & Industrial	Working with businesses, charities and other organisations to reduce energy consumption, promote low-carbon technologies and sustainable transportation.	A, B & C
	Energy efficiency grants such as the green business grant encourage businesses to become more energy efficient.	A & B
	Planning policies that encourage new developments to be designed and built energy-efficiently and in an environmentally sustainable way.	A & B
	Upgrading 321 adoptable streetlights to LED in phase 1 of the programme.	A & B



Pillars	Actions	Delivery
Other activities (water conservation and waste management)	Promoting waste efficient practices and water conservation by working with the water resource management plans.	B & C
	Working with KCC to promote sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to manage surface water runoff and reduce flooding risk while preserving natural water resources.	A & B
	Recycling by implementing a comprehensive recycling scheme to reduce waste in the district which allows residents to recycle a wide range of materials such as paper, cardboard, glass, metal, and plastic as well as encouraging waste reduction through various initiatives such as promoting reusable bags, cups, and water bottles.	B
	Explore opportunities to promote a circular economy where applicable.	A & B
	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)	A & B

Pillars	Actions	Delivery
Land use Absorption including Local Nature Recovery Strategy, improving biodiversity	Working with key stakeholders to manage and maintain the district's coastal environment, which includes areas of special scientific interest and significant habitats for wildlife.	A & B
	Improving biodiversity by protecting and enhancing local green and natural spaces. This includes initiatives such as creating wildlife corridors and promoting native plant species.	A & B
	Implementation of the Green Infrastructure Strategy to ensure that networks are strategically planned and that spaces and places are well connected. This will deliver wider benefits, including recreation, biodiversity, health etc.	A & B
	Working with KCC on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.	A & B

Several other projects and initiatives that are positively impacting our environment are being delivered by local groups, businesses and partners within the CI-Lab with help from the council where applicable including:

**Folkestone & Hythe Sustainable Futures Forum (SFF)** was created to foster community engagement with the main aim to deliver various projects arising from the CI-Lab and across the district which the council will facilitate. The first SFF project is a TEDx-style talk video and event. This included a series of community engagement events to bring together businesses, community groups and individuals

to deliver inspiring talks showcasing inspiring projects or initiatives or ideas ongoing in the district culminating in a main event that took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.

**Incredible Edible Cheriton & Broadmead** was founded in 2019 to create edible spaces in Cheriton and Broadmead. They have installed planters along Cheriton High Street with edible food for humans and plants for pollinators. They grow fruits, vegetables and flowers, set up a community fridge, and explore community composting. They operate a “help yourself” policy and practice a “no-dig” policy on all plots to encourage carbon capture.

**Elham Environment Group** aims to reduce carbon emissions within the local community and was awarded money in a KCC competition. With the money, they designed 'Operation Energy Saver'. In this operation, the Energy Saving Trust conducted a carbon audit of a sample of properties in the village and distributed free energy-saving light bulbs supplied by Electricity Supply Utilities to participants in the audit. They arranged with a local solar photovoltaic (PV) supplier a bulk discount scheme for residents. They have held three eco-fairs to showcase energy-saving technologies and are focusing on improving biodiversity in their public spaces.

**Hythe Environment Community Group** founded in 2011 and changed to its current name in 2017 provides a community-led approach to making the Hythe area a more fulfilling, sustainable and environmentally aware place to live in. They aim to help the local community to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, reduce excess waste, improve recycling etc. It consists of sub-groups delivering various pieces of work such as free home visits with a thermal camera to review energy use, growing hops in gardens and community spaces, organising apple pressing days, seed, plant and produce swaps, gleaning, fruit tree grafting and pruning courses, advice and guidance to schools on pollinator-friendly projects, the drop-off point for recycling small electrical waste among others.

**Kent Community Energy** is a community energy society working across Kent, developing and owning renewable energy projects and advancing energy efficiency and retrofit. They are a sister society to Orchard Community Energy, which operates across Swale and Medway, a member of Community Energy South and Community Energy England and have delivered projects including grants for Folkestone Youth Project's Urban Wilderness space at The Shed and for the Hythe Community Orchard. They are developing fuel poverty, energy efficiency and retrofit projects and seeking to install community-owned solar on commercial rooftops including in the Folkestone and Hythe district.

**Sandgate Community Gardens** founded in 2019 set up their first garden in Enbrook Park growing organic fruit, herbs, and flowers for pollinators and vegetables using 'no dig' methods. They have also planted fruit and nut orchards in Sandgate Park and Golden Valley Park (or Fremantle Park) growing include herbs, flowers and perennial fruit and vegetables which people can help themselves to along

with five small vegetable plots for local families with hop plants being cultivated there as part of the Hythe Hops Scheme. Specialising in advising on organic, 'no dig' growing methods and composting to households and organisations.

**The Touchbase Community Garden** affectionately referred to by Touchbase members as 'the farm' is a sustainable growing project run by Touchbase Care. Touchbase is a community group for adults with disabilities and neuro-diverse conditions. They grow vegetables which when harvested are used in their community kitchen, providing healthy daily meals for members in their care centre as well as catering services for local businesses and events in the local area. The produce from the garden allows them to reduce the carbon impact of their catering as well providing meaningful well-being activities for their members. Their focus in 2023 is to increase biodiversity in the space by planting fruit trees and a sensory garden, which is focused on supporting biodiversity in the space.

**Environmental work in schools** – Schools across the district have been undertaking inspiring work to connect their pupils to the environment around them. The council is facilitating Hawkinge Primary School, Seabrook Primary School and the Turner Schools to encourage participation in the Eco-Schools Programme to be recognised as empowering young people to make a difference in their school, local community and the environment around them. Eco-Schools is an international programme that provides a structured approach to environmental education in schools.

**The District Food Network** - The Folkestone and Hythe District Food Network (DFN) was set up in 2021 to gain a better understanding of needs across the Folkestone & Hythe District Council area and to enable everyone to know who is delivering what food services to which groups of service users. It is open to all organisations that provide food services and provides a forum in which they can communicate, share information and coordinate their activities. Members of the network can lend their different areas of expertise to identify barriers that prevent access to good food and to work together to address gaps in service provision.

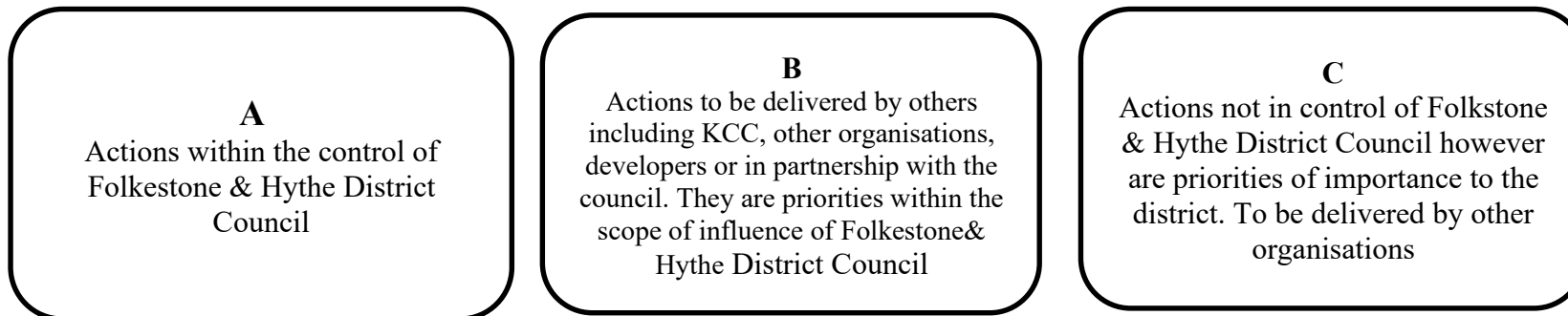
## 5.2 Setting the Vision - What a Sustainable Folkestone & Hythe District should look like

Folkestone & Hythe District Council will continue to support the UK's response to climate change by making sustainable progress to deliver the net zero vision. We will commit to doing everything within our power and influence to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while working with local businesses, groups and residents. By prioritising the health and resilience of our residents, and listening to and supporting our communities, we build consensus for long-term, sustainable solutions and actions that deliver multiple benefits as we transition to a low-carbon district.

## 5.3 Where We Want to Be.

Everyone living and working in the district will have to work together and share knowledge if we are to navigate our way from where we are now to where we want to be. In achieving a thriving local low-carbon economy, active mobility would be the option of choice to travel around the district, and homes incorporating low-carbon technologies as a standard, increase recycling and expand recycling into re-purposing of our domestic consumables. Working with communities to create biodiversity-friendly green spaces with planting and management, promoting high recycling rates and maintaining investment in low-carbon technologies.

### Keys





## Pillar 1: Road Transport

Theme	Areas of Action	Key Partners	Delivery
Physical Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitate the improvement of cycle networks and footpaths.</li> <li>2. Facilitate the improvement of digital connectivity to reduce travel needs.</li> <li>3. Continue to explore the rollout of electric vehicle charging points across the district.</li> <li>4. Explore the provision of car clubs within the district.</li> <li>5. Explore the provision of e-bikes and bike storage facilities.</li> <li>6. Encourage inward investment in the right low-carbon infrastructure for the district, which could include the Council investing in low-carbon heating schemes which include private sector residents and businesses.</li> <li>7. Lobbying the government for a more joined-up and affordable public transport system.</li> </ol>	Department for Transport KCC Transport Cycle Clubs Schools and Colleges Town and Parish Councils Residents	A, B & C
Social Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote inclusive active travel by prioritising walking, cycling, car-sharing and public transport infrastructure to be the option of choice to travel within the district.</li> <li>2. Promote the positive impact on health, well-being and socio-economic benefits of switching to sustainable and secure modes of transportation.</li> <li>3. Encourage residents to use public transport.</li> </ol>		

		4. Encourage car sharing as a travel option more widely		
Communications & Involvement		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with schools to promote KCCs' Bikeability programme to get more pupils cycling.</li> <li>2. Encourage local taxi policy to include requirements to move to ultra-low emissions vehicles.</li> <li>3. Work with KCC to influence the Local Transport Plan 5.</li> <li>4. Actively collaborate with residents on improvement to local greenways, footpaths and cycle routes.</li> <li>5. Promote walk to school schemes.</li> </ol>		

**Pillar 2: Residential**

<b>Themes</b>	<b>Area of Actions</b>	<b>Key Partners</b>	<b>Delivery</b>
Physical Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote skills training and career pathways in local carbon technologies through our schools and colleges that will address the current skills gap across all ages.</li> <li>2. Encourage improvement of resilience in building designs through the Local Plan</li> </ol>	Registered landlords Residents associations House developers/builders Homeowners Town and Parish Councils Local community groups	A, B & C
Social Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide advice on energy efficiency measures, waste minimisation and water conservation.</li> <li>2. Actively identify and support vulnerable and low incomes homes by signposting available funding options for home energy improvement.</li> </ol>	F&HDC Landlords Forum Alliance of Folkestone Residential Association	
Communication & Involvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signpost to available national grants and resources.</li> </ol>		

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Collaborate with other Local Authorities to take competitive advantage of collective purchasing power for low-carbon technologies.</li> <li>3. Provide support and guidance to the private rented sector and private landlords on energy efficiency measures and compliance with energy efficiency requirements.</li> <li>4. Communicate with our residents to demonstrate the benefits of low-carbon technologies in the district.</li> <li>5. Respond to consultations to try to influence the Government's planning reforms so that climate change mitigation and adaption are at the heart of the new planning system.</li> </ol>		
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### Pillar 3: Commercial

Themes	Area of Actions	Key Partners	Delivery
Physical Infrastructure	1. Facilitate Town Centre Regeneration	KCC Public Sector Landowners Commercial Landowners Businesses Town and Parish Councils Folkestone Hythe and District Hotel and Catering Association	A, B & C
Social Infrastructure	1. Raise awareness of the financial and reputational benefits of reducing their environmental impacts on businesses.		
Communication & Involvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signpost to business grants and resources</li> <li>2. Work with the Federation of small businesses to identify areas of support.</li> <li>3. Promote circular economy where applicable.</li> </ol>		

**Pillar 4: Other activities including water conservation and waste management.**

Themes	Area of Actions	Key Partners	Delivery
Physical Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support KCC to promote reduction, reuse and recycling and encourage waste minimisation.</li> <li>2. Encourage and support local food growing and production.</li> <li>3. Facilitate the development of repair cafes and collection points for recyclables.</li> <li>4. Promote and support tree planting.</li> </ol>	KCC Waste infrastructure Providers Schools and Colleges Allotment Associations Town and Parish Councils Community growing groups	A, B & C
Social Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explore ways to protect and improve air and water quality.</li> <li>2. Engage with Southern Water to promote water quality.</li> </ol>		
Communication & Involvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collaborate with KCC to reduce waste production.</li> <li>2. Respond to consultations to try to influence the plans of water companies, so that water conservation, leakage reduction and effective wastewater treatment are given the highest priority.</li> <li>3. Explore working in partnership with water companies to achieve your common aims</li> </ol>		



**Pillar 5: Land use Absorption including Local Nature Recovery Strategy, improving biodiversity.**

Themes	Area of Actions	Key Partners	Delivery
Physical Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide support to KCC on the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.</li> <li>2. Explore ways within the community to implement the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.</li> <li>3. Promote and support community planting of gardens, orchards, and wildflower meadows, promoting pollinator-friendly planting, and developing natural green spaces.</li> <li>4. Collaborate with KCC on options for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) in collaboration with the water and sewage providers where applicable.</li> <li>5. Create opportunities for carbon offset planting and protecting the coastline.</li> </ol>	Landowners Allotment associations Health care providers Community groups Food groups Schools and colleges Farmers	A, B & C
Social Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide support for local food growing and production.</li> <li>2. Support local agriculture to improve and maintain hedgerows as a place for nature</li> </ol>		
Communication & Involvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with KCC on the implementation of the Climate Adaptation Programme for Kent and Medway.</li> </ol>		

## **5.4 How do we fund our vision?**

We recognise that funding and resources are critical to the delivery of the actions in the plan however, the council along with other local authorities is limited in their ability to deliver the net zero due to a lack of consistent and sufficient funding. This means that the costs involved in moving towards net zero as a district are greater than the council's resources and we are critically aware of the need for immediate actions as well as long-term planning.

Traditionally funds are related to specific district programmes that support the delivery of national or regional climate policy and have come from a combination of the council's funds with significant matched funding support from the central government which the council typically applies for the funding from central government through a time-limited bid window and may sometimes be unsuccessful.

The council will play a role to identify, signpost and utilise the power of collective action and specifically:

- new sources of funding will be needed for climate projects and will need to come from additional partners for example the council and community working with the private sector with appropriate governance, consultation and compliance structures.
- Resources from working in collaboration and supporting community-led projects and roll-out with a net zero objective.

Collaborative and long-term working with residential and commercial landlords to incentivise and support their transition to carbon new-zero in the built environment

## **6. Action Plan**

Where applicable, the council will:

1. Work with private investors to co-fund key local infrastructure projects.
2. Enhance the council's capability to continue to identify and bid for government funding for appropriate local projects.
3. Strengthen the partnership with the communities and local economy to bring forward climate projects in collaboration with others.
4. Embed and communicate the cross-cutting principles of net zero into all the projects where the council has a role or influence, including redevelopments and regeneration activity within the district, recognizing that net zero is to the economic and social benefit of all.
5. Build the quantified district plan to demonstrate the financial and social benefits of carbon net zero projects and the impact on the place.

6. Engage with local stakeholders, such as the local grid infrastructure services, to deliver key improvements to the electricity grid to support the transition to net zero.

It is therefore critical to stress the need for significant government funding, other ongoing external funding sources and contributions from partners, businesses and our communities.

**7. Monitoring and Evaluating Progress** -To include how we will monitor progress and incorporate lessons learnt from the process. Accurate monitoring and measurement of the plan are critical to the success of the plan and are the responsibility of all parties and residents. We will continue to use nationally supported indicators from the central government to measure and report carbon emissions against the targets. Within the district, we will create our community-level plan and monitoring to net zero and adopt an open style of communication and action.

## 8. Conclusion

## 9. Summary Table by Pillar as an appendix

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## District-Wide Carbon Plan (DWCP)- Proposed Questions for Consultation

A draft version of the District Wide Carbon Plan has been produced and this consultation is to find out whether residents, businesses, groups etc support the DWCP.

Through the consultation, we wanted to find out whether there is broad support for our ambition and priorities. We cannot tackle climate change alone and need support from residents, partners and businesses. The consultation aims to find out if there were priorities that have more or less support or whether there is anything we had missed.

<b>Proposed Questions for Public Consultation &amp; Canterbury Council Targeted Consultation</b>		
<b>Section 1: About you</b>		
	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Proposed Options</b>
1.	Who is responding to this consultation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual</li> <li>• A Community Group</li> <li>• A Private Sector Organisation</li> <li>• A Public Sector Organisation</li> <li>• A Voluntary Sector Organisation</li> <li>• A Social Enterprise</li> <li>• A Charity</li> <li>• A Faith Group</li> <li>• A Special Interest Group</li> <li>• Others, please state</li> </ul>
2.	In which area of Folkstone & Hythe District do you live or are based?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadmead</li> <li>• Cheriton</li> <li>• East Folkestone</li> <li>• Folkestone Central</li> <li>• Folkestone Harbour</li> <li>• Hythe</li> <li>• Hythe Rural</li> <li>• New Romney</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Downs East</li> <li>• North Downs West</li> <li>• Romney Marsh</li> <li>• Sandgate</li> <li>• Walland and Denge Marsh</li> <li>• Others, please state</li> </ul>
3.	Please provide the first part of your home or organisation postcode e.g., TN12 or CT20 (This will help understand in more detail how engaged different parts of Folkestone & Hythe District have been in the consultation)	Comment box
4.	What is your connection to Folkestone & Hythe District (you can select multiple answers, for example, if you are both a resident and work in the district)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident</li> <li>• Local community group</li> <li>• Local Charity Organisation</li> <li>• Parish Council</li> <li>• Town Council</li> <li>• Business</li> <li>• Charity</li> <li>• School or College</li> <li>• I work in the area</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>
5.	Please select your age group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under 16</li> <li>• 16-24</li> <li>• 25-34</li> <li>• 35-44</li> <li>• 45-54</li> <li>• 55-64</li> <li>• 65+</li> <li>• Prefer not to say</li> </ul>
6.	Gender orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female</li> <li>• Male</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefer not to say</li> </ul>
<b>Section 2: Your Views on Climate Change</b>		
1.	How concerned are you about the current and future impacts of Climate Change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extremely concerned.</li> <li>• Very concerned</li> <li>• Not concerned at all</li> <li>• Undecided</li> </ul>
2.	How important is climate change to you?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very important</li> <li>• Important</li> <li>• Less important</li> <li>• Not important</li> <li>• Undecided</li> </ul>
3.	Are there any specific climate-related events or incidents that have personally impacted you or someone you know?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Comment</li> </ul>
4.	How have the specific climate-related events or incidents impacted you or someone you know e.g., financial, health, well-being etc?	Please comment
5.	Are you willing to make personal lifestyle changes to reduce your environmental impact? If so, what changes are you willing to make?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very willing</li> <li>• Somewhat willing</li> <li>• Not very willing</li> <li>• Not at all willing</li> <li>• Comment</li> </ul>
6.	Are you aware of the impact that individual behaviour and lifestyle choices can have on climate change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Comment</li> </ul>
<b>Section 3: About the Plan</b>		
1.	What is your overall view of the Draft District Wide Carbon Plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I support the plan.</li> <li>• I support some of the actions but not others.</li> <li>• I don't support the plan</li> </ul>



2.	Are there any specific aspects of the plan that you particularly do not support? Why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment</li> </ul>
3.	Do you agree with the Five Priority Pillars of Focus (they are based on available data)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>
4.	Based on the information detailed in the plan, what date do you support as realistic for the district to reach net zero?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2030</li> <li>• 2040</li> <li>• 2050</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>
5.	The Plan details the Five Priority Pillars of Focus that we need to address based on available data to tackle climate change. Please rate the Five Priority Pillars of Focus ranking each one from 1-5 with (5) = very important and (1)= not at all important. (This is to help us focus on the most important priority pillar(s) to you).	
	Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 5</li> </ul>
	Residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 5</li> </ul>
	Commercial & Industrial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 5</li> </ul>
	Other activities (water conservation and waste management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5</li> </ul>
	Land use Absorption including Local Nature Recovery Strategy, improving biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 5</li> </ul>
6.	Are there any other actions that you think are important to reduce carbon emissions from any of the Five Priority Pillars of Focus that the plan has not covered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
7.	Are there other high-level areas that you think are important to reduce carbon emissions that the plan has not covered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
8.	Do you think the district-wide carbon plan adequately addresses the unique challenges and opportunities of your community and/or the district?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Comment</li> </ul>
<b>Section 4: Challenges, Risks and Opportunities</b>		
1.	The Plan outlines some of the challenges and risks of climate change for the district, do you agree?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree.</li> <li>• I agree with some but not others.</li> <li>• I do not agree.</li> <li>• Others, please comment</li> </ul>
2.	In your opinion, what are the most pressing climate challenges and risks facing the district today?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
3.	The Plan outlines some opportunities that climate change presents to the district, do you agree?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree.</li> <li>• I agree with some but not others.</li> <li>• I do not agree.</li> <li>• Others, please comment</li> </ul>
4.	In your opinion, what are the opportunities present by climate change to the district today?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
<b>Section 5: Where we are now</b>		
1.	The Plan provides some examples of actions that are going on across the district to tackle climate change. Are you aware of any projects/initiatives linked to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>

	any of the Five Priority Pillars of Focus in the plan? Please provide details e.g., websites, social media or contact details where possible.	
2.	Are there actions you can take now or within the next 5 years that can support any of the Five Priority Pillars of Focus? Please comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
<b>Section 6: Where we want to be</b>		
1.	The Plan outlines how we will work together to reduce carbon emissions across the district. Do you agree?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree.</li> <li>• I agree with some but not others.</li> <li>• I do not agree.</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>
2.	Do you know of any other specific measures or actions that the district can take to address climate change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
3.	How can the council help you take action to contribute to achieving any of the Five Priority Pillars of Focus?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
<b>Section 7: About funding our vision</b>		
1.	Are you aware of any innovative funding sources, community funds or strategies that could be used to support our net zero vision?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
2.	How would you prioritise funding between adaptation measures (such as storm drains and flood prevention) and mitigation efforts (such as tree planting, renewable generation and energy efficiency measures) to address climate change?	Please comment
3.	Do you have any potential concerns or considerations regarding the funding of climate change initiatives that you believe should be addressed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Comment</li> </ul>
<b>Section 8: About monitoring and evaluation of progress</b>		
1.	Do you agree that the Carbon Innovation Forum should transition to an implementation group to help monitor and evaluate the progress of actions within this plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
2.	Do you agree that the CI Lab should support and signpost local tasks and finish groups of your local emerging projects/ideas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
3.	Are there any existing frameworks or models for monitoring and evaluating carbon action plans that you think should be considered?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• Please comment</li> </ul>
4.	How likely are you to support and participate in community initiatives that promote environmental conservation and sustainability?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very Likely</li> <li>• Somewhat likely</li> <li>• Not likely</li> </ul>

DRAFT



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