

Overview of the Carbon Action Plan

16 February 2023



Folkestone & Hythe District Council

Following the declaration of the climate and ecological Emergency in July 2019, a Carbon Action Plan was developed covering the council's operations & estate

Commissioned to LASER Energy and adopted by cabinet in February 2021

Established the baseline year as 2018/19 & sets out 33 actions to continue our journey to reduce carbon emissions to zero by 2030

Focus on six key areas - energy, behaviour change, transport, water, contracts and biodiversity/green spaces

Divided into short-, medium- and long-term actions

Regular progress report to portfolio holder for environment

Progress Made – Short Term

Short Term Actions	Achievement to Date	Status
Carbon literacy/climate change training for staff and Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change mandatory eLearning module introduced in May 2021 • 367 staff members have completed the eLearning module on Climate Change e-learning. • General invitation to members to attend climate change workshop run by specialists from Local Government Information Unit 	Ongoing
Review the use of peat, redesign mowing regimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of summer bedding is now supplied peat free 	Complete
Convert street lighting to LED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 321 adoptable lights have been upgraded. In Phase • Phase 2 work in progress 	<p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

Progress Made – Medium Term

Medium Term Actions	Achievement to Date	Status
Checklist of criteria to inform decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate change impact statement introduced to reporting to Cabinet and the Corporate Leadership Team• Review to simplify and automate monitoring and measurement of key activities	Complete Ongoing
Expand opportunities for flexible working	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agile working framework in place	Complete
Sustainable procurement policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carbon reduction requirements are being included in tender contracts and trialled for a period	Ongoing

Progress Made – Long Term

Medium Term Actions	Achievement to Date	Status
Work with contractors to move towards Ultra-Low Emission Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppliers are either required (in the specification) or encouraged (in the specification and tender) to do this, depending on what is proportional for the tender/contract. 	In progress
Reduce energy losses by retro-fit technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing stock condition survey completed. Net Zero toolkit developed to address this 109 least-performing housing stocks being retrofitted through the Social Decarbonisation Housing Fund Trialling low carbon heating measures in some homes as part of the retrofit programme' 	In progress
Develop appropriate flood mitigation measures and tree planting schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Working with Kent County Council on Spatial Risk Assessment for Water for Kent 	Completed In progress

Other Climate Actions

Item	Actions to date
Social Decarbonisation fund wave 1	109 homes social houses to be brought up to EPCC rating homes. Plus Ross House to EPC A rating to be used as an exemplar home
Social housing decarbonisation Wave 2	Bid submitted for 300 homes to be done over a 2-year period with split as 120 year 1 and 180 in year 2
Net zero toolkit produced	Practical, easy-to-follow guide for those planning future building projects. Aimed at making net-zero carbon new build and retrofit more accessible to a range of users



Why a review of the Carbon Action Plan?

- High-level assessment produced during the pandemic
- Availability of more accurate data
- Requirement for actions to be reviewed and updated
- Need to translate the high-level assessment to the service area level
- Need to quantify carbon impacts of the existing actions
- Need to explore other factors that can affect emissions such as:
 - Effects of the pandemic
 - Vulnerability to other external factors

Update of Carbon Action Plan

- Carbon Descent commissioned in September 2022 to:
 - Stage 1 - A review of CAP 2021 33 actions and their expected impacts
 - Stage 2 - Development of a Carbon Reduction Plan with additional measures where applicable
 - Stage 3 – Ongoing support knowledge transfer following the outcome of Phases 1 & 2 as necessary

Initial Findings

- Some of the 33 actions are “Enabling actions”
- Others are “Quantifiable actions”
- Scope of emissions has been defined as:
 - Emissions A: All emissions included in the baseline study
 - Emissions B: All emissions not included in the baseline study but over which the council have a direct influence
- Results by the year 2030 will be dependent on the speed with which the national grid decarbonises
- Consultants are currently examining two models to provide best and worst-case scenarios
- Progress will need to be monitored annually to see how accurate the scenarios are

Next Steps

- Stage 1 report is progressing well and representatives of Carbon Descent will be able to present findings to the next Climate & Ecological Emergency Working Group
- Communicate council actions under CAP to influence the wider delivery of new zero across the district



Any Questions