



<b>Meeting</b>	Health and Environment Policy Committee
<b>Date and Time</b>	Tuesday, 6th July, 2021 at 6.30 pm.
<b>Venue</b>	Walton Suite, Guildhall, Winchester

**Note:** *This meeting is being held in person at the location specified above. In line with relevant legislation and public health guidance the following arrangements apply. Members of the public should note that a live audio feed of the meeting will be available from the councils website ([www.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.winchester.gov.uk)) and the video recording will be available shortly after the meeting.*

*For members of the public who are unable to utilise this facility a limited number of seats will be made available at the above named location however attendance must be notified to the council at least 3 working days before the meeting. Please note that priority will be given to those wishing to attend and address the meeting over those wishing to attend and observe.*

## AGENDA

### PROCEDURAL ITEMS

- 1. Apologies and Deputy Members**  
To note the names of apologies given and deputy members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed members.
- 2. Appointment of Vice-Chairperson for Municipal Year 2021/22**
- 3. Declarations of Interest**  
To receive any disclosure of interests from Members and Officers in matters to be discussed.

*Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests, personal and/or prejudicial interests in accordance with legislation and the Council's Code of Conduct.*

If you require advice, please contact the appropriate Democratic Services Officer, prior to the meeting.



4. **Chairperson's Announcements**
5. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 8)  
Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 March 2021.
6. **To note the date and time of future meetings of the Committee**
  - Tuesday 6 July 2021
  - Thursday 30 September 2021
  - Tuesday 7 December 2021
  - Wednesday 2 March 2022

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### 7. **Public Participation**

To receive and note questions asked and statements made from members of the public on matters which fall within the remit of the Committee.

*NB members of the public are required to register with Democratic Services three clear working days before the meeting*

*(contact: [democracy@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@winchester.gov.uk) or 01962 848 264).*

Members of the public and visiting councillors may speak at this Committee, provided they do so in person and have registered to speak three clear working days in advance. Please contact Democratic Services **by 5pm Wednesday, 30 June 2021** via [democracy@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@winchester.gov.uk) or (01962) 848 264 to register to speak and for further details.

8. **To note the Work Programme for 2021/22 (HEP010)** (Pages 9 - 12)
9. **Community and Wellbeing Strategy Update (HEP012)** (Pages 13 - 24)
10. **Carbon Neutrality Annual Report and Action Plan (HEP013)** (Pages 25 - 56)

**Lisa Kirkman**  
**Strategic Director: Resources and Monitoring Officer**

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App over the QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.

28 June 2021

Agenda Contact: Claire Buchanan, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Tel: 01962 848 438 Email:cbuchanan@winchester.gov.uk

*\*With the exception of exempt items, Agenda, reports and previous minutes are available on the Council's Website [www.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.winchester.gov.uk)*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

**Chairperson:** Ferguson (Liberal Democrats)

**Vice-Chairperson:**

### **Conservatives**

Kurn  
Pearson  
Warwick

### **Liberal Democrats**

Cramoysan  
Tippett-Cooper  
Westwood  
Williams

## **Deputy Members**

Brook and Cook

Fern and Radcliffe

Quorum = 4 members

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

Representations will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes, subject to a maximum 15 minutes set aside for all questions and answers. To reserve your place to speak, you are asked to **register with Democratic Services three clear working days prior to the meeting** – please see public participation agenda item for further details. People will be invited to speak in the order that they have registered, subject to the maximum time period allowed for speaking not being exceeded. Public Participation is at the Chairperson's discretion.

## **FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION**

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## **VOTING**

- apart from the Chairperson, every Member has one vote when a matter before the meeting requires a decision.
- in the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson may exercise a casting vote and that vote may be exercised in any way seen fit.
- a Member may abstain from voting, or vote differently from how they may have indicated during the debate, without further explanation.
- the way each Member voted will not be recorded in the minutes, unless a motion to have a Recorded Vote has been passed.

# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5

## HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 3 March 2021

Attendance:

Councillors  
Clear (Chairperson)

Laming  
Achwal  
Bell  
Hutchison  
McLean

Pearson  
Read  
Scott  
Williams

Others in attendance who addressed the meeting:

Councillors Murphy (Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency) and Porter (Cabinet Member for Built Environment and Wellbeing).

Others in attendance who did not address the meeting:

Councillors Cook and Weir

[Full audio recording and video recording](#)

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1. **APOLOGIES AND DEPUTY MEMBERS**

All members were in attendance.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No disclosures of interest were declared.

3. **CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairperson's announcements.

4. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 December 2020, be approved and adopted.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present to make representations.

6. **TO NOTE THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2020/21**

During discussion, Members' raised points in respect of the number of reports coming forward to committee versus information provided via presentations and requested information regarding air quality data from the Council's housing stock to track progress on reducing carbon emissions in the District.

In response, the Strategic Director: Services advised that he would take the comments forward to deliver a balance between reports and presentations wherever possible for the next municipal year.

RESOLVED:

That the work programme for 2020/21 be noted.

7. **AQMA ANNUAL UPDATE (PRESENTATION)**

The Chairperson reminded the committee that this item had been deferred from the last meeting held on 8 December 2020 due to the late running time of that meeting.

The Service Lead: Public Protection gave a presentation which set out an annual overview and update on the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), the Council's compliance and the monitoring and analysis processes of nitrogen dioxide and particulates, specifically in the town centre. In addition, an outline was provided on the installation of electric vehicle charging points throughout the District and usage statistics. The presentation is available on the Council's website here.

Councillor Murphy clarified that largely as a result of the pandemic, air quality had significantly improved during 2020 and that this would continue to be monitored closely by the Air Quality Steering Group going forward when normal travel resumes.

Members asked questions and raised comments regarding the availability of usage data for electric vehicle charging points, the changes in traffic numbers and carbon emission data in the AQMA as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, park and ride bus emissions and the use of electric buses, sustainable travel options and behavioural change which were responded to by relevant officers and the Cabinet member accordingly.

RESOLVED:

That the content of the presentation be received and the comments of the Committee be noted.

8. **CARBON NEUTRALITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE (PRESENTATION)**

Councillor Murphy provided an update on the Council's latest position with the climate emergency programme of works and reported that the annual report would be available soon, highlighting the Council's progress in reducing its own carbon footprint and areas such as transport and behavioural change where further work had been identified and sought the views of the committee regarding priorities that should be focussed upon going forward. The Service Lead: Communities and Wellbeing gave a presentation which provided an update on the progress achieved over the last year and set out key points and targets for transport and behavioural change to be explored. The presentation is available on the Council's website here.

Members asked questions, raised comments and suggested points regarding community outreach and aligned work with existing community action groups and town and parish councils. These included providing affordable housing in the town centre, infrastructure change, sustainable transport and rural transport, new job posts, internal member and officer groups, bids for funding, WinACC annual reports and public meetings with Ward Member involvement, recycling contamination, reducing plastics, education campaigns and revisiting previous behavioural change project work carried out by SSE led by WinACC. The questions and comments raised were responded to by relevant officers and the Cabinet member accordingly.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the presentation be received and the comments of the committee be noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm and concluded at 8.30 pm

Chairperson

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REPORT TITLE: HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

6 JULY 2021

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON, COUNCILLOR PAULA FERGUSON

Contact Officer: Claire Buchanan Tel No: 01962 848348 Email  
cbuchanan@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

The Health and Environment Policy Committee Work Programme is published by the Health and Environment Policy Committee of Winchester City Council and is usually updated at the beginning of each committee cycle.

This report sets out the work of the Health and Environment Policy Committee, which deals with largely forward looking, policy development work and pre-decision scrutiny relevant to the specific priority area(s) of the Council Strategy. The detailed terms of reference of the Committee is set out at Article 7 of the constitution.

<https://democracy.winchester.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=352&MId=2032&info=1&Ver=4h>

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Committee considers the Health and Environment Policy Committee Work Programme for 2021/22 and suggests any additional items of business for consideration.

## HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE – SCHEDULED ITEMS OF BUSINESS ETC

<b>6 JULY 2021</b>					
	<b>BUSINESS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>COMMITTEE DATE</b>		<b>STATUS/COMMENT</b>
			<b>Original</b>	<b>Revised</b>	
	Health & Environment Policy Committee – Work Programme 2021/22	Claire Buchanan	6 July 2021		HEP010
	Community and Wellbeing Strategy Update HEP012	Steve Lincoln	6 July 2021		HEP012
	Carbon Neutrality Annual Report and Action Plan (to include Governance arrangements/open forum proposals) HEP013	Susan Robbins	6 July 2021		
<b>30 SEPTEMBER 2021</b>					
	<b>BUSINESS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>COMMITTEE DATE</b>		<b>STATUS/ COMMENT</b>
			<b>Original</b>	<b>Revised</b>	
	Core Funding Grants Programme 2022-2025	Steve Lincoln/Melissa Fletcher	30 September 2021		HEP011
	Vision for a sustainable, decarbonised future Winchester District	Steve Lincoln	30 September 2021		

	Carbon Neutrality Programme - Transport policies/actions Approach to Offsetting	Susan Robbins	6 July 2021		
	Grants and Supporting communities through Covid recovery	Steve Lincoln	6 July 2021		
<b>7 DECEMBER 2021</b>					
	<b>BUSINESS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>COMMITTEE DATE</b>		<b>STATUS/COMMENT</b>
	Carbon Neutrality Programme – Energy policies/actions Update re biodiversity actions Links with Local Plan and how its addressing carbon/environment	Susan Robbins	7 December 2021		
	Movement Strategy - Emerging actions	Andy Hickman	7 December 2021		
	Management of Open Space (and how it contributes to wellbeing strategy)	Steve Lincoln	6 July 2021		
	AQMA Update	David Ingram	7 December 2021		
<b>2 MARCH 2022</b>					
	<b>BUSINESS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>COMMITTEE DATE</b>		<b>STATUS/COMMENT</b>
	AQMA Annual Update	David Ingram	2 March 2022		

	Carbon Neutrality Programme – Housing/Property policies/actions (to include update re council homes energy	Susan Robbins	2 March 2022		
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**Other reports are provisionally listed to come forward to the Health & Environment Policy Committee during 2021/22 are as follows: (Meeting date to be confirmed)**

	Enforcement Policy	Date TBC
	Tree Policy	Date TBC
	Local Plan Update	Date TBC

REPORT TITLE: COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING STRATEGY UPDATE

6 JULY 2021

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Clear, Cabinet Member for Communities and Wellbeing

Contact Officer: Steve Lincoln Tel No: 01962 848 110 Email  
[slincoln@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:slincoln@winchester.gov.uk)

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

In March 2020 the Housing and Environment Policy Committee received a presentation on the proposed work to develop a Community and Wellbeing Strategy for the district. Just as work was about to commence the national and local response to COVID-19 diverted all our attention and resources to supporting our residents, businesses and communities. Work on the development of a strategy paused, however community engagement, consultation, collaboration and empowerment was at the heart of our response over the past 14 months. Much has been learned from being active on the ground, working with our partners and understanding our communities' needs.

Therefore the time is right to commence work on the development of a Community and Wellbeing Strategy. The purpose of this report is to review the initial assumptions and reset the parameters of this work by utilising consultation and research that has been recently completed and was not available to us in March 2020.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Policy Committee is asked to:

1. Consider and comment on the approach set out in the report. The committee is requested to respond in particular to:
  - a. The importance of consistent and equitable principles that form the basis of all support to our communities;
  - b. The focus on ensuring that all communities display the characteristics of a 'flourishing' community;
  - c. Prioritising grant support on activity that supports those people most affected by inequality and disadvantage; and
  - d. What learning points from the local community response to the COVID-19 pandemic might inform a new strategy.
  
2. Note the following:
  - a. The evidence base summarised in section 2.19; and
  - b. The timescale detailed in section 2.24.

IMPLICATIONS:1 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 1.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report, though future budget allocation via grants and other community work will be influenced by the approaches detailed below.
- 1.2 Should a more detailed strategy and engagement process be required than that proposed in this report, then it would be necessary to engage consultants and there is no budget approved for this. If required, these would be procured in accordance with the Council's procurement rules and contract management policy.

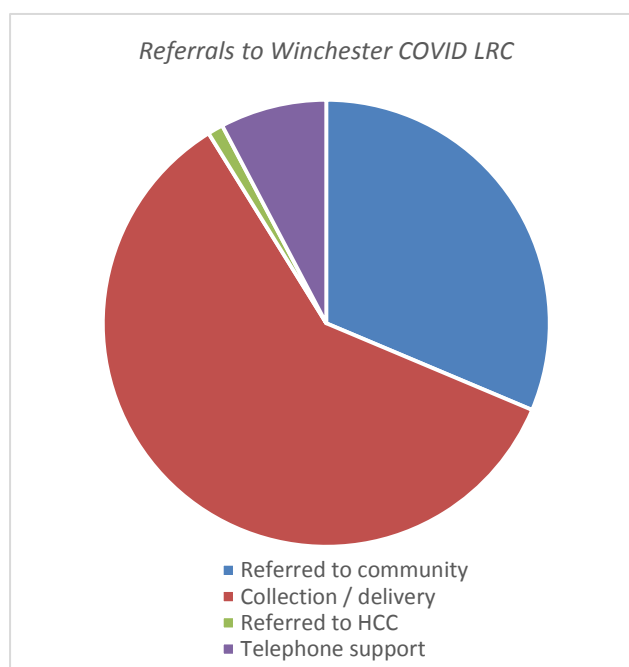
2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

- 2.1 The value and importance of communities has never been more evident than over last twelve months. In Winchester the community has played a pivotal role in supporting each other and ensuring vulnerable people have been looked after.

Of 805 cases supported by the council's COVID Local Response Centre since the pandemic began in March 2020, 252 (31%) were passed to a voluntary / community organisation to resolve. This is in addition to the many thousands of tasks that were undertaken by community groups and volunteers without ever reaching the council or other statutory agencies.

This is reflected across the country through national data and research. In April 2020, ONS research into social impacts of COVID-19 showed a steady increase in community spirit over preceding weeks;

- Nearly two thirds of adults (64.1%) said other local community members would support them if they needed help during the pandemic
- Three in four adults (77.9%) saying they thought people are doing more to help others since the pandemic
- Nearly two in three adults (62.6%) had checked in at least once in the last seven days on neighbours who might need help



- Over one in three adults (37.5%) had gone shopping or done other tasks for neighbours

It is important to capture these positive feelings and outcomes that resulted from the pandemic and that they are not lost as communities return to a more normal existence.

- 2.2 The council has a role in unlocking the potential of communities. Some are capable of great things and require little help, but others need more support to function effectively. However, all can support and learn from each other and our role should also be to create an environment in which this can happen.

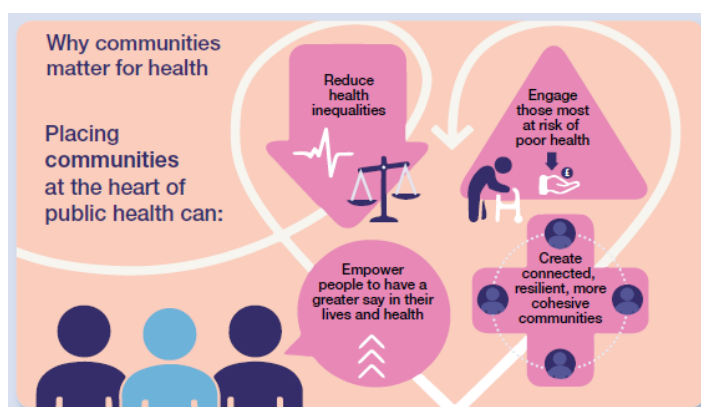
### The national picture

- 2.3 In July 2019, MHCLG published its communities framework - *'By deeds and their results: how we will strengthen our communities and nation'* – which set out four pillars that will shape future work across government to strengthen communities:

- trust, connectedness and local pride – where people feel a sense of pride and connectedness with their local area
- active citizenship and local control – where people are active in their communities and have more control over decisions about their local areas
- shared community spaces - where sustainably-run and inclusive spaces are available for people to come together, including parks, community centres, libraries, pubs, and high streets
- shared prosperity, with no community left behind - where strong communities help create a thriving and inclusive economy

- 2.4 The events of the past year further strengthen the importance of these community pillars. COVID highlighted the value of volunteer activity, which increased dramatically and saw communities looking after their own. However, COVID also caused community spaces to close or fall silent and it has caused hardship that is likely to increase the gap between those that have and those that do not.

- 2.5 The Public Health England Strategy 2020-25 sets out priorities to protect people and help people to live longer in good health. While this has a large focus on the NHS and primary care, the importance of creating



Extract from Public Health England Strategy 2020-25



'healthy communities' is made clear.

- 2.6 The NHS has published its '5 steps to mental wellbeing', which have many similarities and areas of overlap with the MHCLG pillars of strong community:
- (i) Connect with other people
  - (ii) Be physically active
  - (iii) Learn new skills
  - (iv) Give to others
  - (v) Pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness)

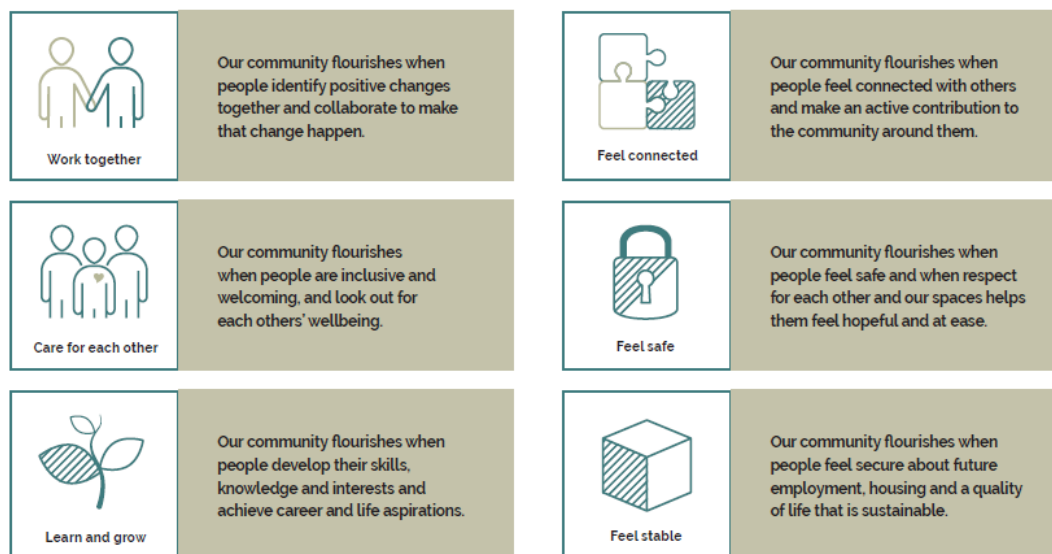
It is clear that strong, connected communities have a positive effect on mental wellbeing, and vice versa.

#### The local picture

- 2.7 The Council Plan clearly identifies a number of challenges we face and ambitions for the future that provide the basis for this strategy:
- Recovery and restoration response to the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Inequality and its effects on mental health and physical wellbeing
  - Focus our activities on the most disadvantaged areas, communities and groups, supporting a greater diversity of residents
  - Diverse, healthy and cohesive communities - not just homes
- 2.8 The University of Winchester completed its two-year research project on *Flourishing Communities* in March 2020. They asked local residents, businesses, charities, voluntary organisations, and public services what makes our community flourish and there was strong agreement about seven features important to community flourishing.

## WHAT MAKES A FLOURISHING COMMUNITY?

Our independent researchers asked local residents, businesses, charities, voluntary organisations, and public services (like a school, hospital or council) what makes our community flourish. Across this broad spectrum of people who live and work in our community there was strong agreement about seven features important to community flourishing.



This work was based on research into communities in and around the city area of Winchester, but the seven identified features should be present in any flourishing community so the findings are equally applicable in all parts of the district. This provides a good basis for understanding how the council might focus its efforts.

- 2.9 Winchester is a large and varied district with many communities, amongst which there are a number of commonalities but also many differences. We need to work with them all in ways that suit them, their own (sometimes unique) circumstances and which reflect what stage each is at in respect of the features detailed above.
- 2.10 This forms part of the core work of the Community & Wellbeing team but, with a large district containing many communities and a team comprising 3.1FTE for supporting them, this is achieved by acting as enablers rather than by the direct delivery of community work. Key to this is collaboration with partner agencies in the public and voluntary sectors with similar objectives around working with local communities. Amongst others this includes health agencies such as Primary Care Networks and Clinical Commissioning Group; educational establishments such as universities and colleges; and voluntary/community sector organisations such as Community First and Winchester Diocese.
- 2.11 One key group of stakeholders is our parish and town councils. They provide leadership at the most local level and have a detailed understanding of local issues and priorities, which is vital in a district as large as Winchester. Close working and good lines of communication are important, especially with communities in the more distant southern parishes of the district. The Cabinet

hosts parish briefings once or twice each year and regular meetings are organised by the council in our larger settlements. These meetings bring together parish / town councillors with ward members and other key stakeholders to share information and discuss topical issues. During the COVID recovery phase these have been an important forum for understanding the extent of the community response and for overseeing the recovery of the high streets and local economies in our market towns.

- 2.12 A more intensive community support is required in new, emerging communities on strategic development areas such as West of Waterlooville, Kings Barton and North Whiteley. To enable this more intensive work, funding is sought through the S106 planning agreements for those sites that allows for the employment on a fixed-term basis of a community worker to help establish the social networks and organisations that underpin all communities.
- 2.13 Grant support is another way in which the council builds the capacity of communities. Not only is this a cost-effective way to provide services thanks to the huge contribution of time on a voluntary basis, but those organisations are often best placed to engage effectively with the people that need them the most. This strategy will build on the direction provided by the Council Plan and reinforce the way in which grant funding is focussed towards activity that supports those people most affected by inequality and disadvantage
- 2.14 All of this work to increase the capacity of our communities creates opportunities for teams across the council to work with and take a lead from the wider community.

### The Strategy

- 2.15 A presentation was made to the Health and Environment Policy (HEP) Committee in March 2020, setting out a framework for a Community and Wellbeing Strategy. The approach was accepted by members of the committee, with comments made about issues such as:
- a) The significant differences between our communities and how they function – for example Winchester’s neighbourhoods and our smaller, rural villages.
  - b) Caution to not ‘label’ communities or group them in ways that generalise the issues affecting them.
  - c) The importance of testing our approaches with the different communities we are aiming to support and viewing things from their perspective.
- 2.16 Other work pressures, including those caused by COVID, have taken priority in the period since but there are some benefits from the unintended delay. Our communities are only just emerging from the unprecedented events of the last twelve months and, even now, some of the impacts are still to be felt.

Volunteer numbers rose, but are now falling again; community buildings closed for long periods and (in some cases) are just reopening; some support groups halted activity and some may never return.

- 2.17 There are also other pieces of emerging work that this strategy needs to reflect and align with. Not least of these is the *Winchester Vision 2020-2030: "One Great Win"*, which was published in December 2020 and includes a wide range of ideas about how to change the way we do things in the city, focusing on the "how" rather than the "what". The recommendations in the Winchester Vision report are informed by three approaches, one of which is "people power" and it is important that the Community and Wellbeing Strategy is consistent with the approach that emerges over the coming months for the Winchester city area.
- 2.18 Winchester district's communities take many forms. Each settlement is a community in its own right and some (especially in Winchester and our market towns) include smaller, distinct communities based around neighbourhoods. There are also communities based on certain demographics or characteristics – for example based around some of the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. All will need to feel that it 'speaks' to them if it is to be a success.
- 2.19 Involving our communities in the formulation of this strategy will be important, but we don't need to undertake large amounts of additional research as much has already been done.
- University of Winchester's *Flourishing Communities*
  - Winchester Vision 2020-2030
  - Local Plan engagement on the *Living Well* priority
  - Hampshire 2050 Commission
  - The council's residents' survey (2019)
  - Health and wellbeing deprivation data for Winchester district

Consultation fatigue is a risk, so by utilising existing work such as that listed above, we can identify the core principles that will form the basis of all support to our communities. This will allow us to balance the work on development of the strategy with the equally important continuation of recovery and restoration work with our communities.

- 2.20 The scope of this strategy will not be to identify and provide the solutions to issues faced by our communities – the Local Plan, Winchester Movement Strategy and many other plans and strategies do that. The aim of the strategy is to enable our communities to work with the council and play a greater part in identifying and developing those solutions. If successful, this would give them a feeling of greater control over their lives and of the decisions that

affect them – one of the factors acknowledged to contribute to personal well-being.

- 2.21 This strategy will give clear direction to the work of the Community & Wellbeing team, but will also set out an approach that can inform the way in which other teams interact and work with communities and enable those communities to better engage with the council and other agencies. The strategy will also recognise the varied aspects of council work that contribute positively to the wellbeing of our residents.

#### Next steps

- 2.22 Work on the development of a strategy paused as the national and local response to COVID-19 diverted all our attention and resources to supporting our residents, businesses and communities. Much has been learned from activity 'on the ground', working with our partners and understanding our communities' needs and it feels that the time is right to recommence work on the strategy.
- 2.23 It is intended to engage our communities in a self-assessment exercise by which they would consider to what extent they currently demonstrate the seven features of a flourishing community and where they might need support. This would help us to identify how to tailor our approach to be most effective, with the learning from the Winchester Vision and Local Plan work adding further context.
- 2.24 The timescale set out below is one that can be achieved by basing the strategy on the sound research that already exists, complemented by a baseline assessment of the current 'functioning of our communities to identify what support might be needed, and where. This work could be undertaken in-house but, should more in-depth engagement be required, the services of external consultants would be required and there is no budget provision for this.



### 3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 3.1 It is not intended to engage consultants to undertake an extensive and far-reaching engagement exercise to inform the draft strategy. By way of comparison, consultants have been engaged to develop a new Green Economic Development Strategy (GEDS) and this work is currently in progress at a cost in excess of £40,000. This is not deemed a necessary expense, as there is much existing data and evidence to draw upon.
- 3.2 The council does not currently have a strategy that sets out the approach to supporting and working with its communities and which provides more detail about the approaches by which it will achieve its stated ambitions of tackling disadvantage and inequality. It is important to have an agreed set of consistent and equitable principles that form the basis of all support to our communities.

#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

#### Previous Committee Reports:-

Framework for Community and Wellbeing Strategy (Presentation) – Health and Environment Policy Committee, 4 March 2020 (item 10)

Other Background Documents:-

*“By deeds and their results: strengthening our communities and nation”* – MHCLG, July 2019

*“Winchester Vision 2020-2030: One Great Win”* – December 2020

Public Health England Strategy 2020-25

*“Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain”* – Office for National Statistics, 23 April 2020

APPENDICES:

None.

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REPORT TITLE: CARBON NEUTRALITY ACTION PLAN 2020

6 JULY 2021

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Cllr. Lynda Murphy, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency

Contact Officer: Susan Robbins Tel No: 01692 848 641 Email srobbins@winchester.gov.uk

WARD(S): ALL

PURPOSE

This report provides a review to date of the council's Winchester District Carbon Neutrality Action Plan 2020-2030, published in December 2019. It also proposes a set of priority actions to be the focus of the council's efforts in 2021/22.

The review covers the period January 2020 to end of March 2021 and is the first review of the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan. Although this Committee has received regular up-dates on the delivery of the Plan over the past year, this document is the first time all that information has been brought together into a single place. It also provides the opportunity to report on the latest carbon emissions data for both the council and the district.

The Action Plan identified ten priority actions and this review updates these and proposes a new set of priorities for 2021/22. These will provide the focus for the council carbon neutrality programme delivery for the next year.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Housing and Environment Policy Committee are asked to:

1. Note the Winchester City Council's Carbon Neutral Programme: Review January 2020 to March 2021 & Priorities for 2021/22 in appendix 1.
2. Consider the priority actions proposed at paragraph 2.9 of this report and provide comment and feedback to enable the Corporate Head of Economy &

Community to include the list of the top ten priority actions in the final version of the Review.

3. Comment on the proposal to establish a Climate Emergency Open Forum as detailed in paragraph 2.12.

## 1 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 1.1 The Council has allocated a revenue budget of £840,000 to support the delivery of Winchester District Carbon Neutrality programmes for the period to March 2023. In addition to this, capital spend on carbon related projects totalled £273,000 in 2020/21. A further £1.26m has been included in the General Fund capital programme over the next three years. In addition, a number of other projects in the programme include carbon reduction measures such as the provision of a decked car park at the former Vaultex site (£6.3m). A total of £15m has been included in the Housing Revenue Account capital programme to fund “retrofitting” of energy measures to council homes. The Council has also sought external funding for carbon projects and to date has been successful in securing £6.2m from external sources.
- 1.2 Two areas of focus that have been identified as needing additional resource as the work has not progressed as well as anticipated are Campaigns & Information and Transport. In liaison with the Communications team a new resource has been agreed and a Campaigns officer starts shortly. Discussions are happening to understand and agree the requirement for additional transport resource. This additional resource is part funded from the existing Carbon Neutrality programme budget.
- 1.3 A resource requirement is needed to develop a detailed forward trajectory of the projects and interventions needed to achieve the carbon neutrality targets; especially the district one at 2030. Based on the carbon emissions data and the level of reduction required a roadmap is needed to set out how this is to be achieved. It is proposed to commission external expertise to assist the team draw up this plan, and utilising work already underway such as the research from University of Southampton that is developing a carbon tracker and the work of Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) with WinACC with parishes and local communities. This work will be funded from the existing Carbon Neutrality programme budget.

## 2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

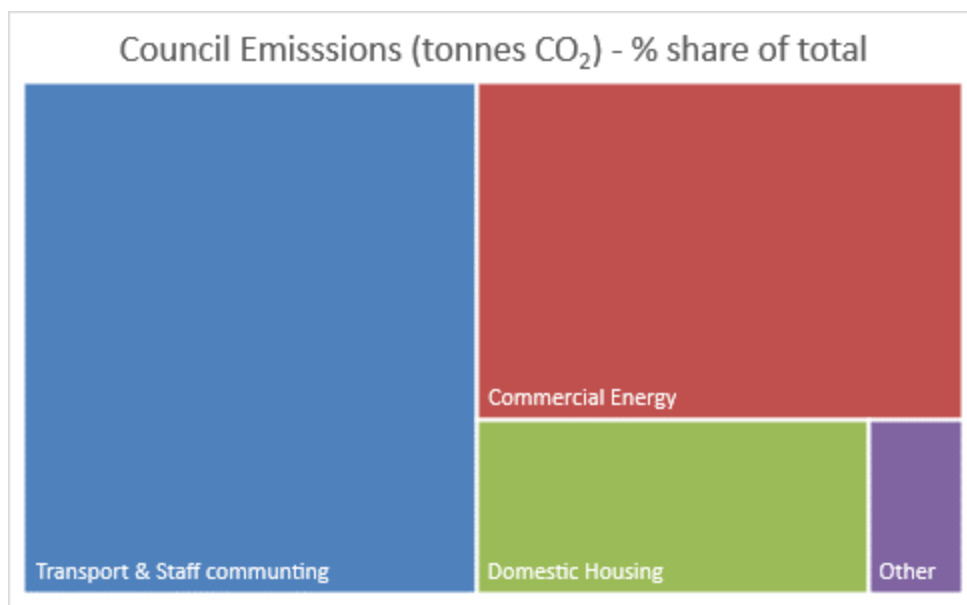
### 2.1 Background

- 2.2 In December 2019 the council approved its Winchester Climate Emergency Carbon Neutrality Action Plan 2020-2030. This set out the council response to the climate emergency declaration in June 2019 to be a carbon neutral council by 2024 and district by 2030. It outlined actions and interventions for the council and the wider community including ten priority actions grouped under the themes of transport; energy; property & housing and mitigation/offsetting. It also set out the delivery principles and against which are detailed a series of activities. Over the past year a number of these have been completed:

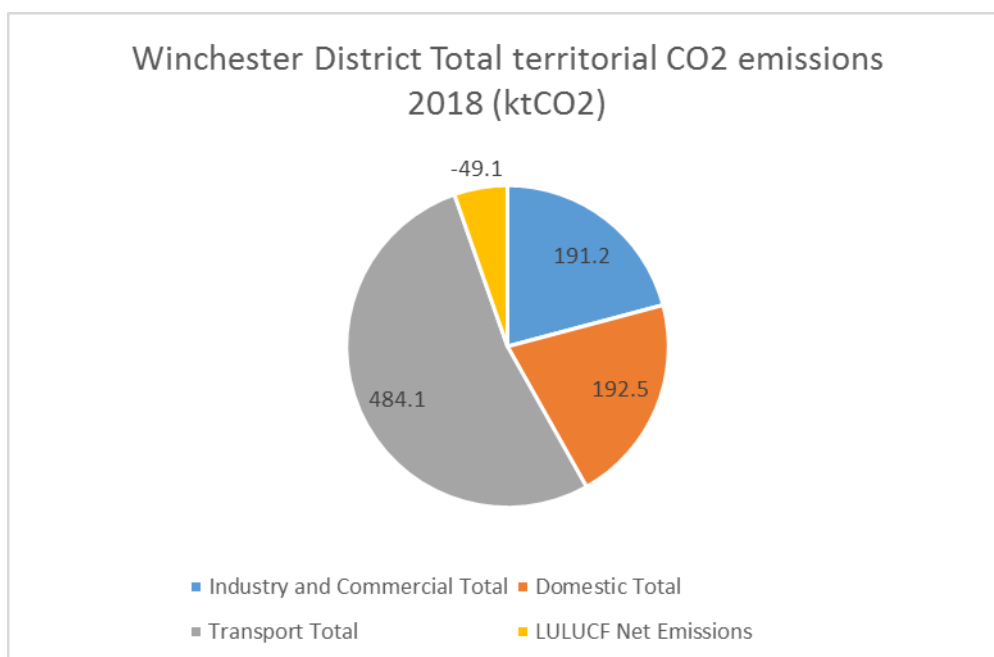
- a) Adapt our way of working

- (i) Procurement strategy will include a requirement to consider environmental and social value within tender evaluations - Minimum 10% weighting now required and a Sustainable Procurement Guide for Officer's is being created by the Procurement Team.
  - (ii) Create a culture of sharing information and ideas across the council – staff Green Team set up and regular tips and advice shared in City Voice.
  - (iii) Introduce a corporate staff training module – Carbon Literacy training now completed by over 60 staff.
- b) Adopt a collaborative approach
- (i) Ensure a district wide approach to engagement - commenced 12-month council project to engage communities run by Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) with WinACC, March/April 2021. 28 parish councils (60%) responded to baseline survey on activity.
- c) Delivery projects and investment
- (i) Deliver projects early to secure the greatest carbon benefit – Project funding secured to install solar PV on the Depot.
  - (ii) Create a fund on the council's crowd funding platform – The Greener Futures Fund has been established which is open to both community organisations and businesses.
  - (iii) Be innovative in seeking funding to deliver capital investments - £560,000 has been secured for installation of PVs and energy efficiency measures at city offices, the Depot and Marwell.
- 2.3 The review of the Action Plan gives more detail on the other delivery principles covering resources, campaigns and collaborations and governance. Feedback and comment from WinACC and Friends of the Earth on the work needed to achieve the carbon neutrality targets has helped inform the drafting of the review and priorities. Their contributions and continued engagement is much appreciated.
- 2.4 Detail Proposals
- 2.5 The review of the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan covers the period from January 2020 to March 2021 and considers the project delivery that has taken place, initiatives and research that have commenced to lay the ground work for future delivery, and importantly it up-dates the carbon emission data for both the city council and the district.

- 2.6 The data from the annual Carbon Footprint report for 2019/20 shows that the council's emissions have decreased by 11.7% on the same scope of emissions in 2018/19. The 2019/20 report included an expanded scope for sources of emissions including Staff Commuting. So as a new baseline the council's total emission were 4383 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> broken down by 48% from transport; 34% commercial energy; 14% domestic housing) energy; and 4% other.



- 2.7 The latest data for district's emissions from Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is for 2018/19. This data shows that the district's emission are 818.8 ktonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. This is broken down as:



2.8 Both these data sets show that focus on the largest sources of emission must be maintained. Therefore the priority for Carbon Neutrality programme delivery will be on Transport; Commercial Energy and Domestic Energy, alongside work on the natural environment.

2.9 The proposed top priorities for 2021/22 are:

Council Priorities 2021/22	District Priorities 2021/22
<p>Transport</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with Hampshire County Council on a Winchester District Bus Breakthrough plan – to include moving to zero carbon buses – and supports the Hampshire Bus Service Improvement Plan</li> <li>2. Ensure employee commuting remains at reduced carbon emission levels</li> </ol> <p>Commercial Energy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Develop a proposal for energy saving measures at the Guildhall and West Wing</li> </ol> <p>Domestic Energy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Identify measures to reduce emissions at Chesil Lodge</li> </ol> <p>Natural Environment / LULUCF*</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Agree the council's mitigation / off setting policy</li> <li>6. Develop a viable business case for investment in energy generation on council land</li> </ol>	<p>Transport</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Pilot emissions-based car parking charges</li> <li>8. Support expansion of zero emission delivery services.</li> <li>9. Work with Hampshire County Council to commission a Local Cycling and Walking plan (LCWIP) for the district</li> </ol> <p>Commercial Energy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Work with the largest businesses in the district to reduce energy use</li> <li>11. Create circular economy initiatives that uses waste as resources</li> </ol> <p>Domestic Energy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Spend £1.5m on retro-fitting housing stock</li> </ol> <p>Natural Environment / LULUCF</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Deliver 80% of the 73 actions from the BAP</li> </ol>

\* *Land use, land use change and forestry*

2.10 A forward trajectory of the required carbon emission reductions to reach the 2024 and 2030 targets is easy to extrapolate and shows the significant increase in rate of change required. However the roadmap of actions and interventions that will generate that rate of change needs to be produced. It is proposed that external expertise is brought in to work alongside the Sustainability Team and to link to research work already underway to create a forward looking trajectory based on quantified interventions to 2024 and 2030.

2.11 Critical to the delivery of the Carbon Neutrality programme and achievement of the both the council's and district's emission targets is the joint effort, collaboration and change in behaviours from all sections of the districts communities; residents, businesses and organisations, and visitors. Over the past year a Steering Group of key institutions, utility providers and

representative bodies has been established to act as a reference group on issues and areas of common interest and to share information on carbon reduction projects. The first annual Sustainability Conference was held, with another planned for autumn 2021.

- 2.12 To enhance the engagement with the public it is proposed to set up a Climate Emergency Open Forum, modelled on the ones for the Winchester Sport & Leisure Park and Central Winchester Regeneration projects rather than in the style of a citizens' assembly. This forum will provide the platform for wider community involvement, facilitating open discussion on key issues, sharing information with a range of stakeholders and gaining feedback on initiatives and programmes to reduce carbon emissions across the district.
- 2.13 In addition a Campaigns Officers has been appointed by the Communications Team, part funded by the carbon neutrality programme, to focus on sharing information, behaviour change messages, develop an online and social media presence and create a wider profile and sense of a climate emergency "movement" across the district.

### 3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Winchester City Council's Carbon Neutral Programme: Review January 2020 to March 2021 & Priorities for 2021/22, provides a summary of delivery over the past 15 months, updates the carbon emissions data for both the council and district and proposes the top priority actions for 2021/22 retaining a focus on transport, commercial energy and domestic energy.
- 3.2 In 2021/22 a new Climate Emergency Open Forum will be set up and greater profile given to the programme and carbon reduction activities across the district through the appointment of the Campaigns officer. Work will also commence on the development a detailed roadmap and forward trajectory of interventions in order to meet the carbon neutrality targets of 2024 and 2030.

### 4 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 4.1 Not to undertake an annual review: this was rejected as council is committed to achieving the carbon neutrality targets which requires monitoring of data and reporting on progress. This review enables the council to demonstrate what progress has been made and also the future work still required, and not only by the council.

### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

#### Previous Committee Reports:-

CAB3203 Winchester Carbon Neutrality Action Plan 23 December 2019

CAB3171 Declaration of Climate Emergency 5 June 2019

Other Background Documents:-

1. Emissions of carbon dioxide for Local Authority areas;\_Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

<https://data.gov.uk/dataset/723c243d-2f1a-4d27-8b61-cdb93e5b10ff/emissions-of-carbon-dioxide-for-local-authority-areas>

2. Carbon Footprint reports

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/climate-change-and-energy/climate-emergency-what-we-are-doing-now/council-energy-and-carbon-management>

3. WINCHESTER CLIMATE EMERGENCY CARBON NEUTRALITY ACTION PLAN 2020 - 2030

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/climate-change-and-energy/climate-emergency-what-we-are-doing-now/carbon-neutrality-action-plan>

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1. Winchester City Council's Carbon Neutral Programme: Review January 2020 to March 2021 & Priorities for 2021/22



**Winchester City Council's Carbon Neutral Programme  
Review January 2020 to March 2021  
& Priorities for 2021/22**



**Carbon Neutrality Action Plan 2020-2030 –  
 Review January 2020 to March 2021**

Introduction

In the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan the council made a commitment that “The Plan will be annually reviewed to enable new issues, challenges, opportunities and solutions to be considered, and projects added over the life time of the document”

This review sets what has been achieved over the past 15 months, and includes an up-date on the carbon emission data, case studies on a number of exciting projects that have been started to show case the work undertaken to reduce carbon emission in the priority areas for transport, housing and energy and natural environment

Throughout the year the council has been keeping people informed on what it has been doing by providing up-dates and progress reports on its work and that of its partners on reducing carbon emission. This had included three presentations for the Housing and Environment Policy Committee, a stakeholder conference and establishing a Steering Group of external institutions and providers.

At the time of agreeing the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan and starting on its first year of delivery it was impossible to know what lay ahead and the COVID19 pandemic. Without a doubt this impacted on the council's resources and its ability to deliver the action plan's programme of work.

Challenges from COVID-19 measures

External	Internal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced investment – concentrate on business critical</li> <li>• Unknown level and duration of impacts yet to come</li> <li>• Disrupted supply chains / available resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diverted resources</li> <li>• Financial pressures and budget constraints</li> <li>•</li> </ul>

As with any challenge there can be benefits and opportunities and this is never more so in relation the positive impact on sustainability from the changing habits, ways of working and reduced travel as a consequence of COVID-19 restrictions. These present a chance to generate a green recovery and create a positive legacy by retaining these beneficial changes. For example:

- More online services developed
  - Businesses have created online services, local delivery by bike, virtual tours and access – some reaching communities they have not engaged with before.
- Reduced car travel and increased remote working
  - Many employees now working at home utilising digital tools and platforms – need to ensure connectivity across the district

- Increased walking and cycling
  - With reduced car traffic there has been increased walking and cycling and improved air quality. Schemes to reopen district centres have included priority for pedestrians and space for cyclists – need to plan for how to retain these temporary changes.
- Increased use of local centres
  - With travel restrictions people are using their local centres for goods, services and supplies - need to maintain a campaign of use local and strengthened community resilience.
- Launched the green fund on our Crowd funder platform
- Local Plan consultation place climate emergency and sustainability at the heart of our development

#### Action Plan Achievement 2020/21

Despite these challenges the council and its partners have still delivered or commenced many of the top ten priority actions agreed in the plan. These are detailed in the next section and include:

- Installation of 34 electric vehicle charging points in council-owned carparks
- Green energy tariff signed up April 2020, cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 19%
- 400 solar panels on new Winchester Sport & Leisure Park will provide enough energy to power the main swimming pool hall for 21.5 hours a day
- £115k secured from BEIS to enable energy efficiency works to homes with the lowest energy ratings and experiencing fuel poverty.
- Biodiversity Action Plan launched

**What we have achieved**


**Review of Delivery - January 2020 to March 2021**

<b>Transport</b>	
Priority Action	2020-2021
Council emissions: 1500 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	1456 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> (2019) ↔
District emissions: (ex. Motorways) 287,400 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	282,300 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> (2018) ↔
1. Deliver key studies in 2020 to take forward the City Movement Strategy which have a focus on achieving carbon emission reduction: a. Walking & Cycling strategy b. Freight Strategy c. Parking & Access strategy	Phase 1 Summary Reports Issued.  Phase 2 reports - Comments on draft completed. WMS Board has approved.
2. Install 46 EV charging points across the council estate at key locations by 2024	Installation of 34 electric vehicle charging points in council-owned carparks completed
3. Develop additional park & ride facilities to increase capacity starting with the Vaultex site with at least 130 new car parking spaces	Vaultex site has secured £5.6m to develop decked car park with sustainability measures. Planning permission submitted in January 2021 to provide 287 additional car parking spaces with 800sqm of solar PV panels and 16 EVCPs
Other achievements	2 of 5 WCC's Neighbourhood Services vehicles are now electric and our Parking Team has replaced one of its higher

emissions vehicles with a hybrid vehicle
University of Southampton commissioned to research where to best locate more electric vehicle charging points across the district
New Homes team has updated their new build requirements to include provision of EV charging points in new affordable housing schemes
Taxi licensing policy approved by Cabinet in November 2020 incentivises uptake of electric taxi vehicles

Commercial ENERGY	
Priority Action	2020-2021
Council emissions 1,780 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	1,500 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> (2019) ↓
District emissions (2017) 192,300 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	191,200 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> (2018) ↔
4. 100% of all electricity purchased by the council to be from renewable sources by 2021	COMPLETE - green energy tariff signed up April 2020, cutting CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 19%
5. Build or invest in large scale renewable generation project(s) e.g. solar farms, heat pumps, solar battery car ports, anaerobic digester, wind farm	£38k secured for solar panels at the Biffa depot in Bar End  400 solar panels on new Winchester Sport & Leisure Park will provide enough energy to power the main swimming pool hall for 21.5 hours a day  Littleton Triangle procured contract for feasibility study

Domestic HOUSING	
Priority Action	2020-2021
Council emissions (2017) 420 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	620.39CO <sub>2</sub> e (2019) ↑
District emissions (2017) 193,000 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	192,500 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> ↔
6. To develop a council let pilot Passiv Haus housing scheme in Micheldever by 2021	Scheme submitted for Planning (due July 2021). Design meets all accreditation tests and on track to achieve "net carbon neutral" if not better.
7. To invest an additional £1m per annum on energy and water efficiency measures to council housing stock	Council now approved £15m (£1.5m pa). Programme approved to focus on "fabric first" insulation of void properties
8. To bring forward the Local Plan up-date with an emphasis on low carbon housing development by 2021	Local Plan consultation event on Strategic Issues included climate emergency and sustainable development.
Other Achievements	£115k secured from BEIS to enable energy efficiency works to homes with the lowest energy ratings and experiencing fuel poverty.  New Homes' Employers Requirements (ERs) amended to reflect no gas heating with immediate effect and new homes to be built to AECB (Association for Environment Conscious Building) standard as minimum

Natural Environment (LULUCF*)	
Priority Action	2020-2021
Council emissions	
District (2017) -48.1 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>	-49.1 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> 
To plant as least 100 trees annually on council ground	800 trees have been planted cross the district
In collaboration with partners and landowners identify up to 100 hectares of land to support additional tree planting and/or creation of grassland / wetland habitat / rewilding	12 wildflower areas have been created

\* Land use, land use change and forestry

### Feedback on the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan 2019

The council welcomes feedback on the action plan and WinACC and Friends of the Earth have both provided comments and suggestion on how the Action Plan can be improved and how the work needed to reach the carbon neutrality target. We thank them for the time and effort they have given to providing this feedback.

### Key improvements

#### WinACC

“We suggest that future iterations of the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan need a clearly delineated path showing what actions will result in emissions reductions that achieve the two targets – net-zero emissions for the City Council by 2024; net-zero emissions for Winchester District by 2030. This requires:

- identification in detail of where the greatest emissions occur
- concentration on where actions can have the greatest impact
- an increase in the range and number of initiatives
- an increase in the scale of the proposals
- more details on how to secure public commitment and action – including a clearer and simpler layout for the plan that dispenses with overlap and repetition”

This review and action plan has endeavoured to include the improvements of:

- Clearer focus on the areas of highest emission
- Separated the council and district targets for greater clarity
- Consistent terms from BEIS reporting.

However both WinACC and Friends of the Earth have called for an evidence based forward trajectory and details actions required to meet the carbon neutrality targets. This work has not been completed and must be addressed in this year's delivery.

A key action for 2021 is to commission this work.

**SECTION 1: Council - What must we do meet the 2024 carbon neutrality targets**

**Source of Council emissions**

Since the Action Plan's publication in December 2019, two carbon footprint reports have been completed in order to bring the data monitored up to date.

	2019/20 Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> e	% Share of total emissions
All emissions		
Transport	1456	33.2%
Domestic Housing	620	14.2%
Commercial Energy	1501	34.2%
Employee commuting (new transport scope)	657	15.0%
Refrigerants	123	2.8%
Water & waste	26	0.6%
Other	1	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4383</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

comparing like-for-like, the council's emissions in 2019/20 are 11.7% lower compared to the base line for the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan baseline of 2018/19.

The most significant emission sources are electricity and gas consumption, together accounting for 48.3% of Winchester City Council's carbon footprint.

**Key message**

- Right direction travel for transport and energy, but focus still required on these
- Increase in domestic energy CO<sub>2</sub> emission is due to the inclusion of Chesil Lodge development.
- Transport emissions reporting has increased in scope to now included employee commuting.

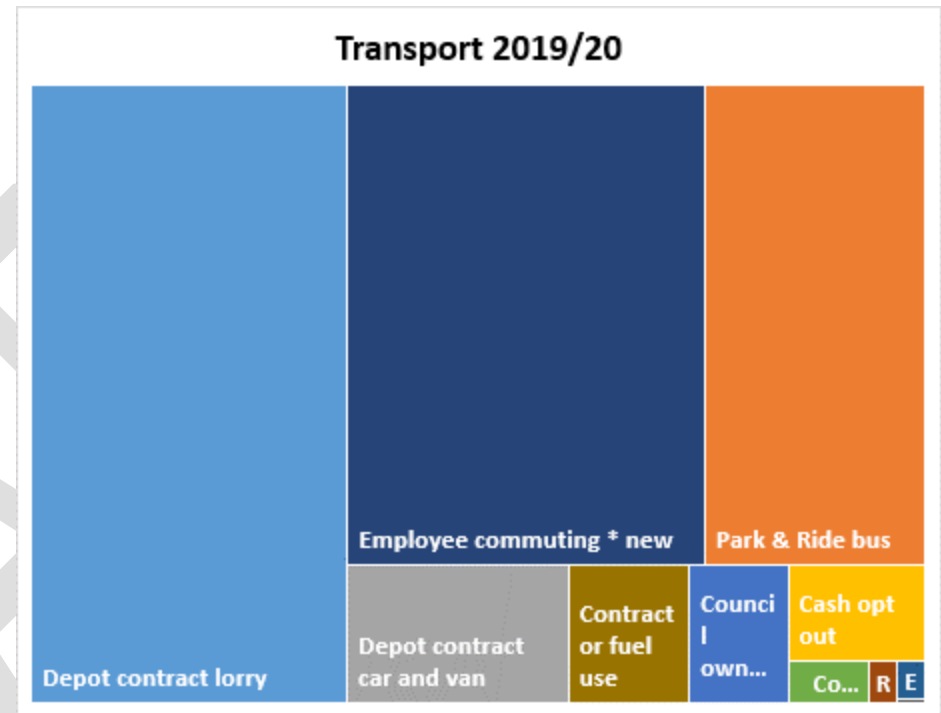
**Carbon footprint – Winchester City Council (Carbon Footprint Report 2019-20, August 2020)**

The scope of the assessment has been expanded this year to include, inter alia, employee commuting and water consumption for all non-housing sites. These new elements account for 846.34 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e, increasing GHG emissions by 9.4% since the previous year. However, if

### Council Transport

Transport accounted for 37.4% of the council's emission when we published the Action Plan. From the 2019/20 Carbon Footprint report transport now accounts for 33.2%. However new for 2019/20 was the staff commuting data that accounts for 656.55 CO<sub>2</sub>e emission which is 15% of the total.

Transport	Carbon emissions tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>		
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Depot contract lorry	824.39	903.91	<b>747.1</b>
Park & Ride bus	386.42	409.29	<b>404.04</b>
Depot contract car and van	152.93	112.14	<b>117.06</b>
cash opt out	45.67	45.43	<b>50.65</b>
Council owned van	43.4	153.62	<b>52.41</b>
Council owed car	22.65	23.53	<b>12.86</b>
Employee car travel	10.66	15.18	<b>4.01</b>
Rail	6.57	6.34	<b>4.28</b>
Flights	0.86	0.16	<b>0.46</b>
contractor fuel use		17.99	<b>63.51</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1493.55</b>	<b>1687.59</b>	<b>1456.38</b>
Employee commuting * new			<b>656.55</b>



#### Key message:

Target for action needs to focus on the depot contract lorries, to reduce employee commuting and park & ride buses emissions.

To note: The council contracts for depot fleet and park & ride buses are not due for renewal until 2024.



Council Housing (Domestic) Energy

The top 10 (domestic) housing sites account for 80% (497 CO<sub>2</sub>e) of all housing site emissions. For all housing the emission in 2019/20 were 620.39 CO<sub>2</sub>e accounting for 14% of the council's emissions.

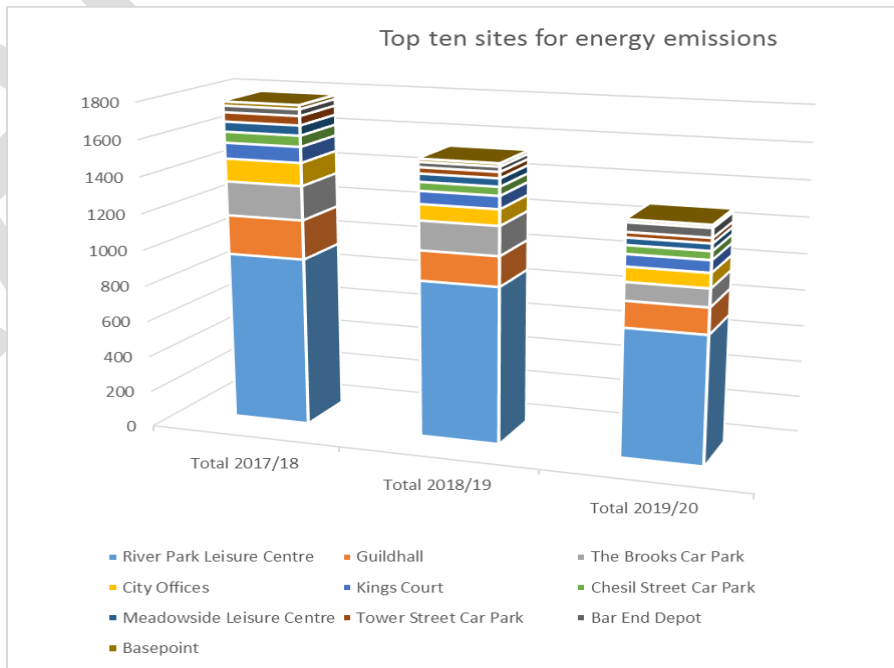
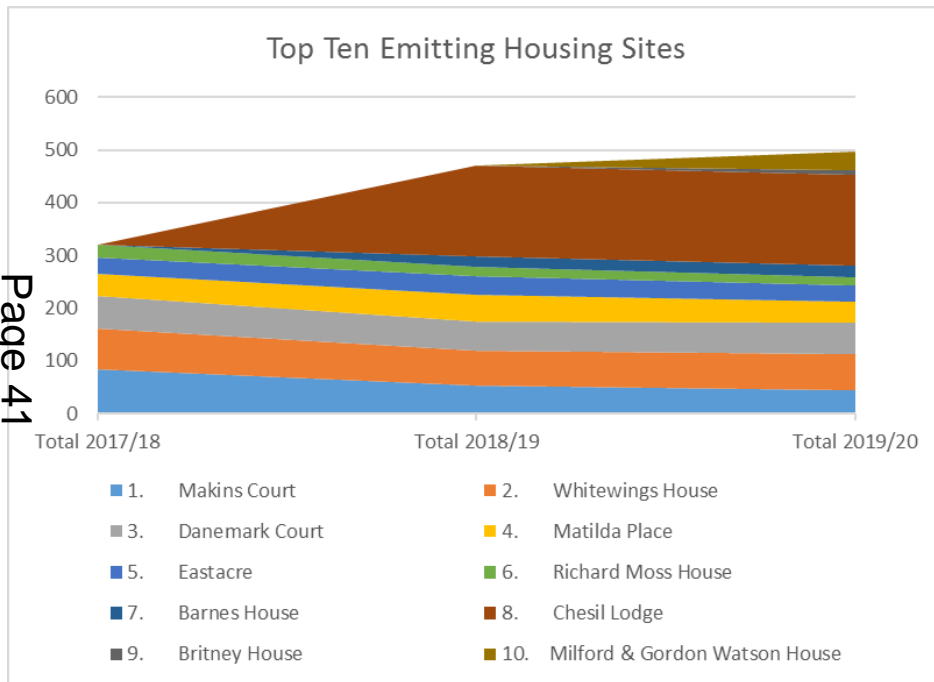
efficiency in Chesil Lodge and expect the emissions to reduce next year.

To note: As these figures are for 2019 that do not take account of the move to green electric tariff in April 2020.

Council Commercial Energy

The total commercial energy emissions in 2019/20 were 1500 CO<sub>2</sub>e which is 34% of all council emissions. As with housing sites, 10 properties account for 85% (1280) of all energy use emissions.

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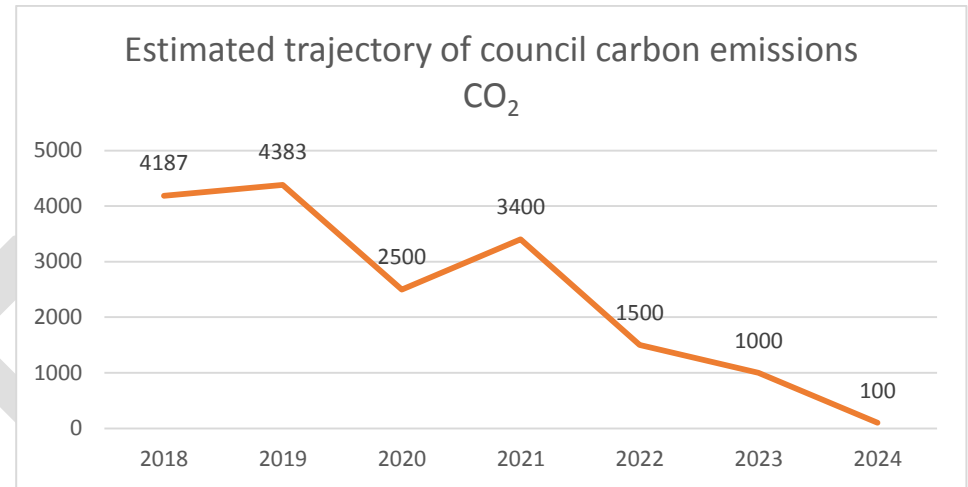


**Key message:** There has been an increase in emissions since 2017/18 due to the addition of Chesil Lodge in 2018. Chesil Lodge accounts for a third of the emission from the top ten sites. Measure are already happening to improve energy

**Key Message:**

There has been a small overall reduction in energy emission since 2018-19 of 280 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. It will be important to assess the change in emission with closure of River Park Leisure Centre and replacement with the Winchester Sport & Leisure Park in 2021.

Focus on the Guildhall improvement measures.



**Reduction Trajectory**

Based on 2019 emission levels of 4383 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> for the council there needs to be a reduction per year of on average 800 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> for the next five years if we are to achieve our target.

Already it is known that the move to a green electricity tariff in April 2020 will make a 19% reduction in emissions. In addition with staff working from home for 2020/21 the employee commuting figure (some 15% of total emissions) will be significantly lower. The challenge in 2021/22 will be to keep it so.

Year	Est. Carbon Emission CO <sub>2</sub>	Intervention
2018	4187	
2019	4383	added 656 employee commuting to scope
2020	2500	19% reduction for green electricity, 15% reduction for employee commuting
2021	3400	Leisure centres reopen, resumption of reduced employee commuting minus decarbonisation of City Offices
2022	1500	decarbonisation of remaining housing and non-housing sites
2023	1000	
2024	100	council solar farm comes on line

Focus has to be on concentrating effort to reduce the highest emissions.

**Council top priorities to achieve a 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on 2019 levels**

Transport

1. Work with Hampshire County Council on a Winchester District Bus Breakthrough plan – to include moving to zero carbon buses – and supports the Hampshire Bus Service Improvement Plan
2. Ensure employee commuting remains at reduced carbon emission levels

Commercial Energy

3. Develop a proposal for energy saving measures at the Guildhall and West Wing

Domestic Energy

4. Identify measures to reduce emissions at Chesil Lodge

Natural Environment / LULUCF\*

5. Agree the council's mitigation / off setting policy
6. Develop a viable business case for investment in energy generation on council land

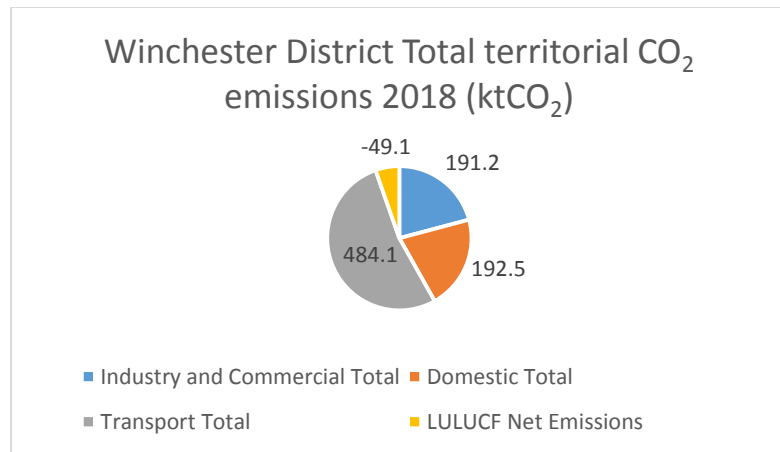
\* Land use, land use change, forestry

**SECTION 2: Winchester District 2030 carbon neutrally target.**

**District Carbon Emissions**

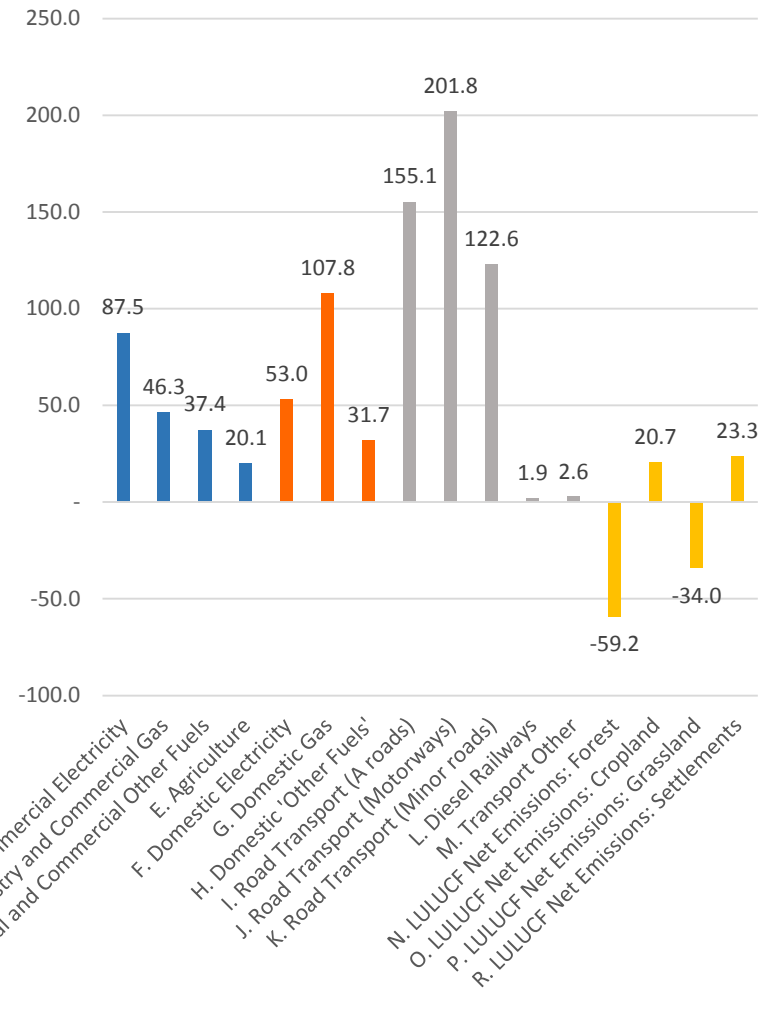
WinACC's report on GHG emissions in the Winchester district summaries that it will not be possible, in present circumstances, to achieve the council's target of reaching carbon neutrality by 2030. It concludes that all sectors within the district must substantially reduce carbon emissions and highlights the most polluting areas as road vehicles, heating homes and commercial electricity consumption.

Total district CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2018 was 818.8 kt



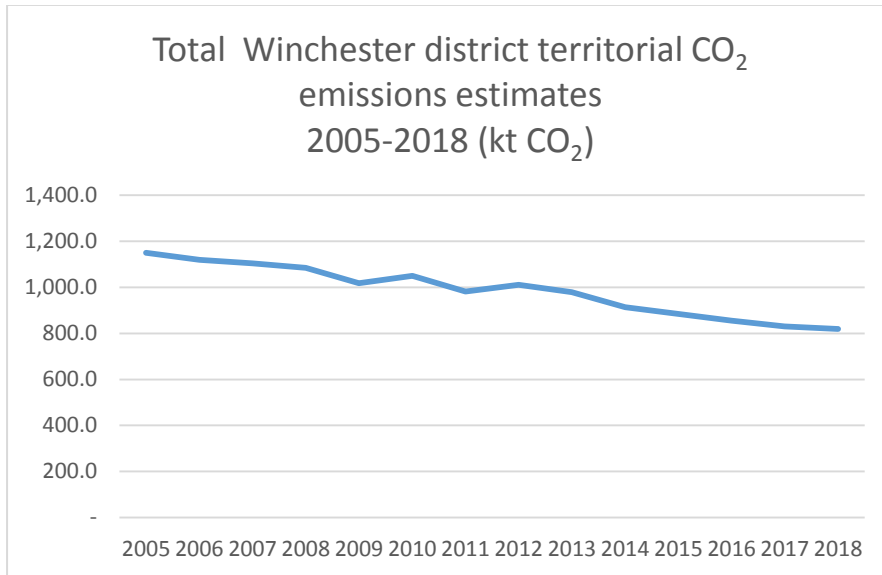
Source: UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2018, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Winchester Local Authority territorial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates 2018 (kt CO<sub>2</sub>)

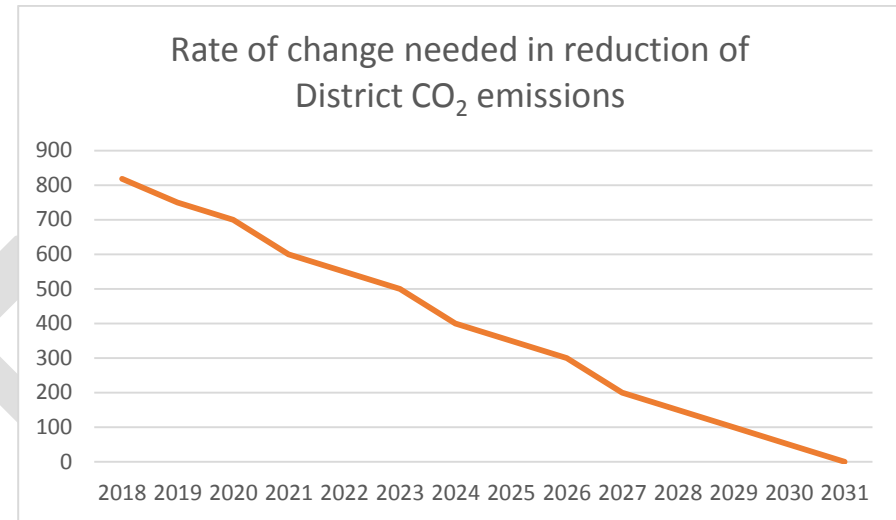


### Reduction trajectory

Over the previous 10 years the districts total emissions has reduced from 1085kt CO<sub>2</sub> to 818.8kt CO<sub>2</sub> or by 266.2kt CO<sub>2</sub>. In order to reach the carbon neutrality target by 2030 the level of reduction over the next ten years needs to triple.



Applying a very simplistic linear trajectory this would be the equivalent of average reduction of 65 kt CO<sub>2</sub> per year. In context the reduction between 2017 and 2018 was just under 12 kt CO<sub>2</sub>



Actions must be focused on the three top emission commercial electricity, domestic gas and road transport.

#### Top district priorities to achieve a 10% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on 2018 levels

##### Transport

7. Pilot emissions-based car parking charges
8. Support expansion of zero emission delivery services.
9. Work with Hampshire County Council to commission a Local Cycling and Walking plan (LCWIP) for the district

##### Commercial Energy

10. Work with the largest businesses in the district to reduce energy use
11. Create circular economy initiatives that uses waste as resources

#### Domestic Energy

12. Spend £1.5m on retro-fitting housing stock

#### Natural Environment / LULUCF

13. Deliver 80% of the 73 actions from the BAP

#### **Key Policy: Green Economic Development Strategy**

By summer 2021 the council will have concluded its work to create Green Economic Development Strategy.

The strategy will set the direction for the next ten years, setting ambitious, bold and dynamic future direction for Winchester district's economy to play a significant role in the district being carbon neutral by 2030. It will support a green recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic whilst presenting a compelling proposition of Winchester district as carbon neutral, sustainable place in which to live, work, study and visit.

The strategy will build on our existing sector, business and skill strengths, using them to springboard to a greener, more technologically driven, creative economy. It will recognise that

growth must be shared by all, reducing inequalities with high quality job opportunities for all demographics across the district. Finally, it will be built on a collaborative consensus of those who live, work and study here now and in the future.

This will be an important policy document but also a practical action plan to transition our economy to a carbon neutral one.

#### **Key Policy: Local Plan**

The consultation on the Strategic Issues and Priorities (SIP) for our new Local Plan and the associated Call for Sites took place between 15 February and 12 April 2021. The council recognises that its planning policies – covering what can be built, where, and how – all have a major impact on the way that places grow and change, helping to protect and shape the future of the district. Also that the target of achieving carbon neutrality must be fully woven into the local plan.

The nine key interlocking topic areas which the new Local Plan needs to address are:

1. Carbon neutrality
2. Biodiversity & the natural environment
3. Conserving & enhancing the historic environment
4. Homes for all
5. Creating a vibrant economy
6. Promoting sustainable transport
7. Living well
8. Low carbon infrastructure & local plan viability
9. Delivery & success of the local plan.

**Key support:**

Campaigns Officer

Creating a sense of a co-ordinated, collaborative effort across the district, generating feeling there is a genuine movement behind tackling the climate emergency requires campaigns, promotions, behaviour changes, sharing information and resources from individuals, community groups to large organisations and institutes.

This will be a key responsibility for a new Campaigns Officer post which the council is creating. They will develop a proactive programme that will:

- Raise awareness and understanding
- Drive behaviour change
- Increase engagement and involvement
- Demonstrate how the climate emergency is central to everything we do
- Highlight and share good practice

## Meeting the Challenge – Case Studies

The four reporting areas for action identified in the Action Plan have the following case studies that demonstrate what has been achieved over this first period of delivery.

### TRANSPORT – Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCPs)

#### Summary

The council has installed 34 EVCPs in council car parks and including additional EVCP's in all new council housing developments. The University of Southampton is undertaking research to map where is best to locate EVCPs across the district.

#### Aim:

To encourage uptake of lower emissions vehicles within Winchester district

#### Outcomes:

- Reduce emissions from vehicles
- Enable 2030 net zero targets to be met

### Commercial energy – Third Party Solar (Marwell and Biffa)

#### Summary:

Winchester City Council lease roof spaces from targeted businesses – for a peppercorn rent – so the council can install solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. Through a Power Purchase Agreement, the council then sells the PV-generated power to the business – at 20% discount on their quoted tariff. After 20 years, when efficiency of the panels has dropped, these are gifted to the business.

#### Aim:

To enable targeted businesses to generate onsite renewable energy

#### Outcomes:

- Enable businesses to reduce their carbon footprint – decarbonisation
- Increase use of renewable technologies and generation of clean energy
- Create significant revenue streams for the council, (the Marwell solar scheme is projected to generate over £300k income for the council over 20 years)





### Commercial Property – Decarbonisation of City Offices and public conveniences

#### Summary:

A feasibility study undertaken in December 2020 proposed options to decarbonise city offices and public conveniences. Options including ceiling insulation, double glazing, air source heat pump and LED lighting were identified, potentially saving 26 tonnes of Co2 and 34,000 kWh of electricity annually. The council has secured for £257k grant funding to cover more than 50% of the costs.

#### Aim:

To improve energy efficiency of city offices and public conveniences

#### Outcomes:

- Lower energy bills – reduced carbon footprint
- Increase use of renewable technologies and generation of clean energy



### Natural Environment – Bio-diversity Action Plan approved and launched

#### Summary

The Winchester City Council Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 (Winchester BAP 2021) sets the strategic direction for how Winchester City Council will respond to the need to protect, enhance and restore key biodiversity across the district with a particular focus on the Council's own operations.

#### Aims

1. Identify realistic and achievable actions:
  - a. Halting the loss of habitats and species;
  - b. Recreating habitat to restore biodiversity;
  - c. Adaptation and resilience for species and habitats.
2. Provide clear evidence, support and input for key policy documents.
3. Monitor biodiversity decline and the effectiveness of the work undertaken.
4. Engage with others and effectively communicate the work of the council a wide audience.

#### Outcomes

1. Ensuring the council is delivering work which benefits biodiversity and helps deliver the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP).
2. Ensuring the council is best placed to respond to drivers such as Biodiversity Net Gain and the Climate Emergency declaration.
3. Deliver works which protect, support and enhance the council's existing tree stock.
4. Increase the number of wildflower meadows, grassland and wetland on council owned land.
5. Raising awareness of the opportunities available to everyone to help make a difference on the ground.



## Resources

In the 2020-21 financial year approximately £100k from the "Transitional Reserve" was spent on the carbon reduction programme, half of which was used on research and feasibility studies. This reflects the early stage of the programme and sets the scene for the delivery of projects in future years. The University of Southampton is undertaking research in a number of areas to support future initiatives including: mapping locations of future electric vehicle infrastructure; costing retrofit options for buildings; and exploring the feasibility of a low energy hub within the district.

Other projects listed below have also contributed to the delivery of the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan.

### Expenditure in 2020/21:

<u>Carbon neutrality transitional reserve:</u>	
<i>Project delivery</i>	£29,000
<i>Feasibility and research</i>	£50,000
<i>Resourcing, communications and engagement</i>	£18,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£97,000</b>
<u>Other projects:</u>	
<i>Vaultex P&amp;R site</i>	£619,000
<i>Electric vehicle charging points</i>	£102,000
<i>Passivhaus scheme at Micheldever</i>	£90,000
<i>Additional carbon works at WSLP</i>	£203,500
<i>Retrofit of council housing stock</i>	£60,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,171,500</b>

Certain costs associated with projects in 2020-21 will not be realised until 2021-22 owing to project delays. The budget allocated to the carbon neutrality programme is set to increase in 2021-22 and again in 2022-23 reflecting the amount of the work ahead.

Some costs have been offset by grants and other funding that has been secured to aid delivery of the carbon neutrality programme.

### External Funding secured for work

<i>Decarbonisation plan for Guildhall &amp; West Wing</i>	<b>£22,000</b>
<i>Decarbonisation plan for City Offices and public conveniences</i>	£14,000
<u>Work to start in 2021/22:</u>	
<i>Vaultex P&amp;R site</i>	£5,650,000
<i>Energy efficiency works at City Offices and public conveniences</i>	£258,000
<i>Installation of solar PV panels at Biffa depot and Marwell Zoo</i>	£157,000
<i>Retrofit of 3 council homes and 10 private sector homes</i>	£115,000
<b>Total funding secured</b>	<b>£6,216,000</b>

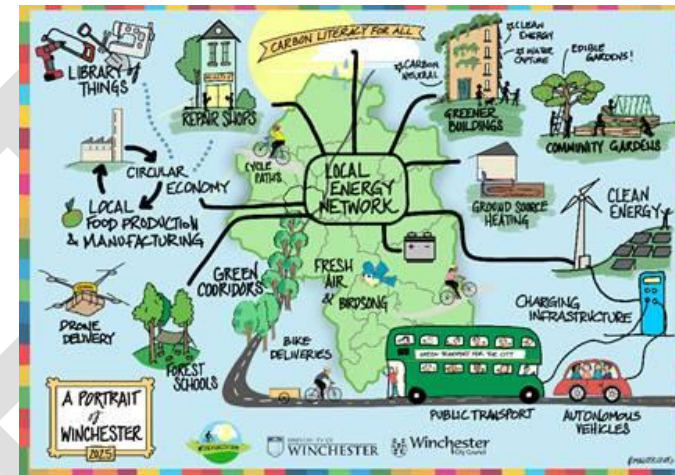
## Campaigns and Collaboration

The council recognised in the Action Plan that in order to meet the challenge of becoming a carbon neutral authority and district we would have to work together and act collectively. Campaigns and collaboration would need to form an integral part of the delivery approach and much has been achieved over the past year to bring people together.

### Sustainability Conference

The first virtual Sustainability Conference; Routes to Carbon Neutrality was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020. The purpose of the conference was to engage with key stakeholders on the themes, initiatives and ambitions of the climate emergency agenda. Topics included climate emergency declarations, threats to sustainable energy transition, decarbonisation of buildings, transport and gas and electricity grids and sustainability in local businesses. The speakers included Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, University of Southampton, Sustrans and Marwell Zoo.

Live attendance to the conference had an average of 68 people per session with many more listening on catch up. Positive feedback was received and a second conference is planned for October 2021.



### Portrait of Winchester District – University of Winchester

The Portrait of Winchester piece of work was commissioned to engage members of the public and industry experts to help create a vision for Winchester and drive the climate emergency. It is a joint project with the University of Winchester and Wessex Green Hub. Two workshops have been held with high levels of public engagement, with a final one to be held in late spring before the policies, projects and pathways identified by the public are heard by the HEP committee.

So far it has been successful in creating new ideas and building movement within the district for the public to engage with the council and the climate emergency. It has also enabled the sustainability team to consider how other vision and strategy documents can be linked together in a way which

enables the climate emergency to create a joined up approach thus enabling the targets to be reached.

### **University of Southampton (UoS) partnership**

The council is working closely with UoS on a number of projects in order to decarbonise Winchester city and district. One project is, that the UoS is creating a carbon neutrality progress tracker which is unique to Winchester. This will enable the council to quantify progress in achieving the agreed targets for carbon neutrality, thus ensuring robust monitoring and progression. Other projects include mapping of EV charging points and network resilience, low carbon energy hub for the District and options for retrofitting listed and non-listed buildings.

### **Green Week**

Winchester Green Week 2020 'Doing more together' was held on 27th September – 4th October.

The aim of the Green Week festival is to highlight the growing movement in the Winchester District towards sustainable ways of living. This was our third Winchester Green Week and was organised by the same steering group of seven volunteers, as in 2019.

This year 65 events, with 25 lasting all week, were put on during Green week and these were provided by over 30 organisations, across all sectors of society: community groups: faith groups: local authorities: businesses: charities: schools

For the first time the Green week website and programme was on line with 1500 unique visitors to the WGW Events web page.

Winchester City Council helped to facilitate a number of events such as the Sustainability Conference held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Free Carbon Literacy Training which provided an understanding of the basics of climate change and a Sustainability Competition for those aged 4-16 who lived or attended school in the Winchester District.

**Project appraisal monitoring and evaluation**

The carbon neutrality programme incorporates a number of different decarbonisation projects being managed across the council to maximise and capture carbon savings contributing our carbon reduction targets.

Through the carbon neutrality board, implementation, delivery and steering groups, stakeholders are regularly updated about progress and consulted on emerging plans.

Quarterly highlight reports are submitted to and scrutinised by the recently-established PAC (Programme and Capital) Board, which aligns with the quarterly Finance and Performance reports.

The University of Southampton will be developing a carbon tracker to monitor progress of the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan across key areas, visually representing the council's progress toward meeting its ambitious carbon reduction targets.

**Governance**

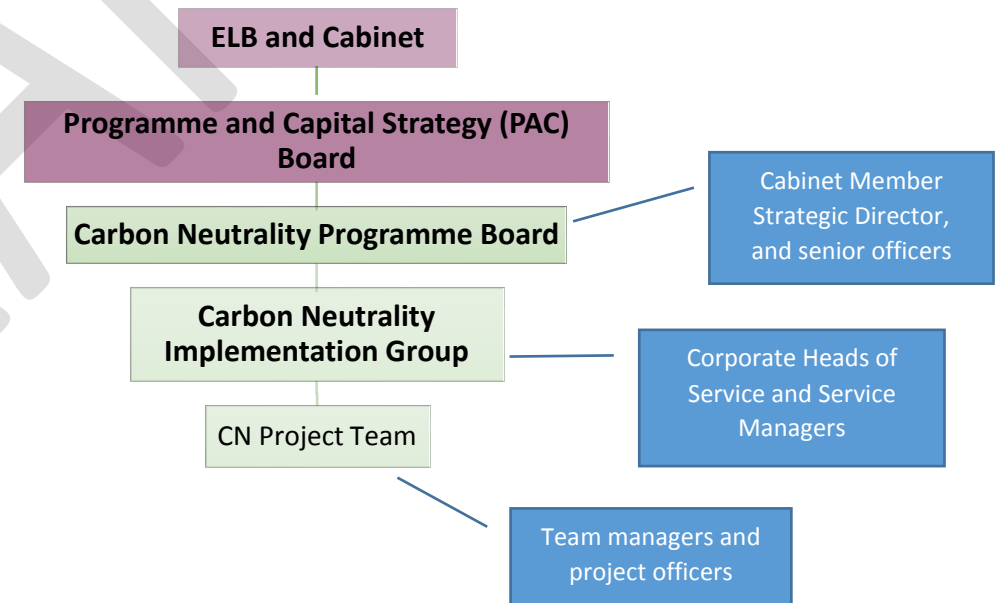
The council has set up governance arrangements to ensure the projects and work undertaken to deliver carbon saving initiatives are reported, reviewed and kept on track. These groups use existing council reporting process so as not to duplicate and to embed and mainstream the carbon neutrality agenda with all the council's work.

Over the past year the team has also been reporting to each meeting of the Health and Environment Policy Committee on the progress of the Action Plan delivery and to showcase

projects. This included an up-date in July 2020 as a one year on from the climate emergency declaration.

Member trainings and briefings were held to provide the opportunity to debate issues and approaches in more detail on net carbon zero development and carbon footprint reporting.

Details of council governance arrangements



### Steering Group

A group of influential stakeholders meets regularly to provide a shared focus on achieving carbon neutrality across the district. This includes representatives of local government, business, environmental groups, the education sector and utility companies.

This group can act as leaders, setting an example for others to follow and encouraging commitment to, and a clear path towards, carbon neutrality.

### Staff involvement

Carbon literacy – 60 staff now undertaken training and the council awarded carbon literate bronze accreditation. Further training scheduled and intention to roll out to councillors and external organisations.

The Green Team formed in January 2020 from a small group of officers from various teams within the council with an aim to support the Council's Climate Emergency through encouraging sustainable practice within the council. Since it formed:

- 80% of the Green team have undertaken "Carbon Literacy" training and are now certified as Carbon Literate. Some members of the Green Team are working with the Carbon Neutrality group to roll out Carbon Literacy to the wider council, with the aim of securing a Bronze award accreditation for the Council.
- There are weekly submissions in City Voice, and so raising awareness and increasing knowledge of sustainable issues. Examples of articles have included how to reduce

your plastic footprint, attracting wildlife to your garden, and a six week series on enjoying a "Green Christmas".

- Supporting the council's composting initiative trial within the office, thus encouraging the council's staff to compost on site. Other sustainable office initiatives are also being considered for example terra- cycling.

The Green Team are launching a new monthly publication within the next few weeks which will be contained within a staff publication to raise awareness of all things sustainable and providing helpful ways in which we can all make greener lifestyle choices.

### **New:** Climate Emergency Open Forum

In 2021 the council will set up a new Climate Emergency Open Forum. Based on and learning for the open forums for the Winchester Sport and Leisure Park and Central Winchester Regeneration, this open forum will provide the platform for wider community involvement.

It will facilitate open discuss in key issues, share information and gain feedback on initiatives and programmes to reduce carbon emissions across the district.

**Top Priority Actions for 2021/22**

Council Priorities 2021/22	District Priorities 2021/22
<p><u>Transport</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with Hampshire County Council on a Winchester District Bus Breakthrough plan – to include moving to zero carbon buses – and supports the Hampshire Bus Service Improvement Plan</li> <li>2. Ensure employee commuting remains at reduced carbon emission levels</li> </ol> <p><u>Commercial Energy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Develop a proposal for energy saving measures at the Guildhall and West Wing</li> </ol> <p><u>Domestic Energy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Identify measures to reduce emissions at Chesil Lodge</li> </ol> <p><u>Natural Environment / LULUCF*</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Agree the council's mitigation / off setting policy</li> <li>6. Develop a viable business case for investment in energy generation on council land</li> </ol>	<p><u>Transport</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Pilot emissions-based car parking charges</li> <li>8. Support expansion of zero emission delivery services.</li> <li>9. Work with Hampshire County Council to commission a Local Cycling and Walking plan (LCWIP) for the district</li> </ol> <p><u>Commercial Energy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Work with the largest businesses in the district to reduce energy use</li> <li>11. Create circular economy initiatives that uses waste as resources</li> </ol> <p><u>Domestic Energy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Spend £1.5m on retro-fitting housing stock</li> </ol> <p><u>Natural Environment / LULUCF</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Deliver 80% of the 73 actions from the BAP</li> </ol>

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