



20 January 2021

Dear Members

Policy and Performance Advisory Committee - 25 January 2021

I am now able to enclose, for consideration, the following report at the above meeting that was unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Item Item
No**

7(f) Climate change and sustainability strategy - (Pages 3 - 88)

Report of Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Regeneration and Planning

Yours sincerely

Committee Services

committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

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Report to:	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee
Date:	25 January 2021
Title	Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021
Exemption:	None
Report of:	Report of Ian Fitzpatrick, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Regeneration
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of Cabinet report:	To agree the strategy and action plan to deliver against the Council's climate emergency declaration and net zero targets agreed in 2019
Officer recommendation(s):	Members of the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee are asked to consider the recommendations in the main report attached at Appendix 1 and to make one of the following recommendations: (1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; OR (2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration of amendments agreed during discussion OR; (3) To not support the recommendations in the report, and provide reasons for this.
Reasons for recommendations:	To provide a critical friend challenge to the Cabinet decision and policy making process.
Contact Officer(s):	Name: Nick Peeters Post title: Committee Officer E-mail: nick.peeters@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 01323 415272

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In its role as a provider of public scrutiny and as critical friend, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee has a duty to provide a challenge to the executive decision and policy makers.
- 1.2 The Policy and Performance Advisory Committee is able to provide this challenge through the inclusion of the Council's Forward Plan of Decisions as a standing item on each of the Committee's agendas, allowing the Committee to

request the inclusion of reports due for consideration by the Cabinet on its agenda and by asking that the relevant officers, heads of service or directors, attend the Committee meetings and discuss the content of the reports.

1.3 Following consideration of each item, where the Members will be able to ask questions of the relevant officers, heads of service, directors and other stakeholders, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee will provide one of the following three recommendations to the Cabinet:

- 1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; or
- 2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration by the Cabinet of any amendments agreed by Committee; or
- 3) To not support the recommendations in the report and give reasons.

1.4 The Cabinet will be provided with the recommendations from the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when it considers the main report.

2 Financial / Legal / Risk Management / Equality Analysis/ Environmental Sustainability Implications/ Background Papers

2.1 All implications are addressed in the Cabinet report attached at Appendix 1.

3 Appendices

Appendix A – Cabinet Report – **Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021**

Report to: Cabinet

Date: 4 February 2021

Title: Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021

Report of: Ian Fitzpatrick, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Regeneration

Cabinet member: Cllr Matthew Bird, Cabinet member for Sustainability

Ward(s): All

Purpose of report: To agree the strategy and action plan to deliver against the Council's climate emergency declaration and net zero targets agreed in 2019

Decision type: Key

Officer recommendation(s): (1) To approve the Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021 and Action Plan set out in Appendix 1 and 2.

(2) To require the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Regeneration to produce an annual progress report detailing the council and district carbon footprints, and progress against the action plan in September each year.

(3) To note the 'Summary of Engagement Responses' report at Appendix 3

Reasons for recommendations: To progress the aims of the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration (2019) to make the Council Net Zero Carbon by 2030 and to assist the same aim to be achieved within the wider district.

Contact Officer(s): Name: Kate Richardson
Post title: Strategy & Partnership Lead- Sustainability
E-mail: kate.richardson@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk
Telephone number: 01323 415202

1 Introduction

1.1 This report seeks Cabinet's consideration of three documents: The Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021; Action Plan and Sustainability Indicators; and a Summary of Engagement Responses received during consultation and engagement on the draft strategy during summer and autumn 2020.

- 1.2 The strategy has been produced following the Climate Emergency declaration made at Full Council in July 2019 and sets out the Council's corporate and district wide strategy and vision for a net zero carbon district by 2030.

The visions and actions contained within the strategy have been developed in response to the urgency of the climate emergency being faced. The strategy will enable the Council to work with the community to co-ordinate its response into meaningful and long-lasting action.

With limited financial resources the Council needs to ensure it prioritises the right actions to have a lasting positive impact on the district in relation to carbon reduction, sustainability and a green economic recovery. To this end effective partnerships must be enabled so that opportunities for external funding and support are identified.

The Corporate Plan prioritises Sustainability and Community Wealth Building. Community wealth building is a key part of the sustainability strategy and forms part of action area 7 Circular Economy and Community Wealth. The Council is considered 'an anchor institution' and can use its substantial spending power and influence to drive investment into the local economy to enable a green economic recovery and local job creation and retention. Community wealth is a thread that runs throughout the climate change and sustainability strategy particularly in relation to procurement but also training and skills. The action plan and strategy refer directly to the 'Reimagining Lewes District Action Plan' that was subject to a cabinet paper in December 2020.

- 1.3 The Council originally aimed to adopt a full strategy by July 2020. With the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent lockdown in mid-March, requiring the council to focus on practical community response activities, it quickly became clear that the production of the strategy was going to be impacted.

Reduced staffing and partnership capacity due to emergency work in particular impacted upon our ability to perform the appropriate engagement that was needed. However, that work has now been undertaken enabling this report to be considered by Cabinet.

- 1.4 The pandemic and lockdown has been mentally and financially challenging for many residents as well as the Council and its staff. However it has also had some positive environmental and social impacts such as: improved air quality; an appreciation of carless streets; increasing appreciation of local nature, renewed interest in cycling and walking; and an improved sense of community cohesion as society has very quickly pulled together for the greater good.

There is an opportunity to harness the positives of this situation and determine how best to take these on into the future. The Council's strategic approach can now build on these positives and work not to revert to the 'old business as

usual'. A new impetus can be given to the sustainability agenda by encouraging support for a sustainable restart and economic recovery. The potential for a new Food Partnership is a good example of this. It had not been a priority workstream for the Council but the pandemic showed how vulnerable we are regarding food supplies and food poverty so the need to support such a partnership has risen up the agenda very quickly and the Council will now work closely with SCDA and others as they set up the partnership.

Some outcomes of the pandemic, which could have taken years of encouragement to develop, have come together over days during this crisis.

This change in attitude and behaviour has been demonstrated by the whole workforce of the Council as they have become more flexible as to their working arrangements in order to enable the corporate Recovery and Reset programme, carry out day to day business as well as progress sustainability actions. The council will need to monitor how these changes affect staff wellbeing as well as district wide carbon emissions.

One action that became clear earlier in the year was the need to produce new Planning Policy Technical Advice Notes (TANs) on sustainability subjects including Biodiversity Net Gain. These TANs have been developed over the last few months and are presented for approval on the agenda of this same Cabinet meeting.

2 The Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy and Summary of Engagement Responses

- 2.1 Three documents have been brought forward for approval by Cabinet. The strategy itself sets the framework to decarbonise the Council's own operations and how we will work in partnership with the community to deliver the Net Zero Carbon by 2030 target. The second is the action plan to deliver the strategy and the initial set of indicators that will be used to measure progress; and thirdly a summary of the engagement work undertaken and how it has influenced the development of the strategy.

Appendix 1 and Appendix 2: Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021 and Action Plan

The full strategy sets the policy framework supported by an evidence base and action plan to deliver against the net zero target. It includes a summary of the pathway analysis conducted by carbon consultants, Anthesis, using the SCATTER tool and illustrates the scope of the challenge faced and the opportunity the council has, to facilitate change and lead by example.

The strategy contains summaries of both the district-wide and Council's own carbon baselines and it also details the vision for Lewes district in 2030 that builds upon the council's Corporate Plan objectives.

The full baseline reports were reported at Cabinet in July 2020 and can be found at www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/climatechange

An action plan accompanies the strategy which sets out more detail on the work required to deliver the vision along with a suite of indicators to demonstrate progress. Some indicators are still in development and will be finalised over the coming months.

It is acknowledged that Lewes District Council is at the beginning of a significant journey that will involve changing the way people think about and operate assets, and how the council works with and enables the community to deliver projects. The strategy does not usurp the multitude of work streams already being delivered by our communities, or indeed the council, but hopefully brings this together under a shared vision and ambition to meet the challenges and develop the opportunities posed by the 2030 target.

It should be noted that some areas are at an early stage of development. Through annual reporting, the public and Members will be kept up to date on evolving workstreams and the benefits they will bring to the district.

2.2 **Appendix 3: The Summary of Engagement Responses**

The proposed strategy and vision has been developed in partnership with the Expert Panel and the Climate Change Scrutiny Panel, a cross-party panel of councillors over the months July-October 2020. This engagement period utilised a draft framework strategy (approved by Cabinet July 2020) containing baseline information and proposed goals to focus facilitated workshops on each action area with key 'experts'. The first Climate Action Forum was held in October and was also used to publicise a public response to the framework questions.

The survey was completed online but was available in word format and passed accessibility criteria for reading software.

In terms of the expert panels we worked with 36 individuals from 33 different organisations based or working within East Sussex and the district, these included the County Council, other district and borough councils, wildlife charities and trusts, community groups and organisations, both Brighton and Sussex University, community interest companies and individual specialists and sustainability practitioners.

In addition to the panel workshops the council received back 38 completed surveys to the framework and had around 70 people attended the first virtual Climate Action Forum.

In total this represents input from around 140 people and organisations.

3 Resources to deliver the action plan

3.1 In the action plan (Appendix 1-part 3 Action Plan) it has been indicated what resources will be required to deliver the various actions in the strategy. In many

instances it is stated that the work will be undertaken within existing staff resources. This work is being progressed through the following;

- An internal Officer Working Group has been established to co-ordinate projects to deliver Net Zero by 2030. This is attended by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Planning and Regeneration, Ian Fitzpatrick.
- A dedicated Strategy and Partnership Lead for Sustainability (shared with Eastbourne Borough Council), to manage delivery of the strategy and action plan both internally and borough wide.
- Through the Decarbonising Our Housing Stock project, a Community Development and Sustainability Specialist is being appointed to undertake tenant engagement work.

3.2 In addition to staff, other resources will be required to enable the delivery of the strategy. Given the challenging financial climate being experienced by the council, a variety of approaches are planned to fund this work.

- The majority of capital funding for decarbonisation projects will be from existing budgets where the intention will be to direct spend towards low carbon options. As the Asset Management Plan is currently being determined, the action plan reflects the need to assess assets on a case by case basis. Any additional capital bids will be made on an invest to save basis
- Competitive funding grants applications will be pursued as and when they become available. An example of this is the recent bid made to the Net Zero Innovation Fund for a research project on alternative finance.
- Non-competitive grants, such as those for Electric Vehicle Charge-points currently available through OLEV, will also be assessed for suitability and applications made where appropriate.
- £500,000 has been allocated to the Decarbonising Our Housing Stock (DOHS) project that will run through to 2024, overseen by a project board that includes the Cabinet Members for Sustainability and Housing. The DOHS project has multiple objectives within the themes of stock analysis, solution development, supply chain development and tenant engagement. The project will enable the primary outcome to decarbonise all the council's housing stock by 2030.

4 Financial appraisal

4.1 The Council expects that there will be resource implications to deliver its Climate Change challenge, and in the current financial climate post COVID-19, it is not possible to confirm where and when this funding will be available. A major part of the Council's role will be to seek external resources, partnership working, lobby for policy and regulatory changes to support investment in the right infrastructure to achieve the Council's Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

4.2 Most of the capital funding for decarbonisation projects will be from existing budgets and given the cost estimates, implementing the Council's Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021 cannot be fully delivered from the existing Council resources alone. Therefore, any additional budget required to

achieve the targets will need to be approved in the usual way through the Council's Budget/Financial Planning process.

5 Legal implications

5.1 Approval of the Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy is an executive function and therefore a matter for Cabinet.

5.2 The Council's duties and powers in relation to climate change and sustainability have been detailed in previous reports to Cabinet on this subject, for example the report considered on 10 February 2020.

Lawyer consulted 04.01.21

Legal ref: 009826-LDC-OD

6 Risk management implications

6.1 Failure to agree and progress the strategy could impact upon the Council achieving its net zero goals. Delaying action will make actions financially more costly, potentially increasing the requirement for carbon offsetting.

7 Equality analysis

7.1 An Equality analysis has been undertaken on these proposals. This has concluded that;

Improved responses to the impacts of climate change and reducing carbon emissions will generate co-benefits such as improved air quality, and this would generally be positive for all residents in the borough. It was noted also that children will be the owners of our legacy of carbon emissions, and that we have a duty to do what we can to reduce these as soon as possible.

Potentially, vulnerable residents may be more susceptible to the impacts of climate change. For groups such as the elderly, low-income households and those with certain underlying health conditions, tackling climate change is particularly positive. The strategy itself includes actions which will assist different need, including those least able to pay for home improvements to reduce their energy bills, enabling them to cope better with unpredictability of energy prices.

8 Environmental sustainability implications

8.1 The strategy is key to delivering the net zero goals of Lewes District Council by 2030.

It will seek to ensure that carbon implications are taken into account throughout the Council and in all decisions.

Implementation of actions to achieve carbon neutrality is key to mitigate the predicted negative impacts of climate change on the environment, economy and communities.

9 Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021
- Appendix 2 - Action Plan and Sustainability Indicators
- Appendix 3 – Summary of engagement responses (2020)

10 Background papers

The background papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

- **Baseline reports-** www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/climatechange
- [Sustainability Policy](#)
- [Lewes District Council Full Council July 2019- Declaration of Climate Emergency](#)
- [Lewes District Council Cabinet July 2020- Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy Framework](#)
- [Lewes District Council Cabinet December 2020- Community wealth building](#)

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Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2021



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Introduction

In July 2019 we declared a climate emergency. The main purpose of this is was to commit to becoming carbon net zero and fully climate resilient by 2030. In some ways it was an easy thing to do; climate change was high profile once again and a report by the Independent Panel on Climate Change had stated that it is likely temperatures will exceed 1.5 degrees between 2030 and 2052 at current levels of CO₂ with highly negative impacts on humanity and nature.

The difficult bit comes next. It requires legislation and action at all levels, from the national to the local and partnerships between council, business, local organisations and communities.

I started working in Lewes at the Community Recycling Centre in Lewes just over one week before the floods in 2000 which caused so much heartache and devastation to the town. The flood was a wake-up call to local people and decision makers to consider the impacts of climate change in all that we do. This culminated with the Coastal Communities 2150 Project in 2012 which was a community partnership brought together to communicate the risks of climate change to communities along the coast and the Ouse Valley.

The partnership approaches which had formed over the years were essentially ended by the 2008 recession as resources focused on sustainability and climate change diminished. With the declaration of the climate emergency this work has begun again with renewed focus and vigour.

Our corporate plan emphasises the priority of tackling climate change. We have already begun decarbonising our social housing stock,

supporting natural flood and infrastructural flood alleviation schemes, initiating hydrogen projects and expanding wildflower and tree planting amongst many other carbon reduction initiatives.

It is a priority for me that we engage with our communities on climate change. We supported the partnership that successfully bid for funds to implement a climate partnership along the Ouse Valley. We've initiated a Community Climate Action Forum and Youth Climate Action Forum as well as Walking and Cycling Forum. It is vital that we work closely with the many active community groups in the District as well Town and Parish Councils.

This strategy and action plan sets out our blueprint moving forwards. It will change as new partnerships form and new opportunities arise, but it sets out clearly our carbon baseline, where we need to focus and what we need to do to tackle greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate.

2020 was one of the three hottest years (with 2016 and 2019) and flood warnings were issued in Seaford 7 times.

We have a limited window to act

One of the few rays of light from the otherwise tragic experiences of Covid-19 was the rise in cycling due to less cars on the road, the increased appreciation of local nature and the rise in online working with less need to travel.



Whether we will see a resumption of former behaviours and CO₂ emissions remains to be seen but we have had a glimpse of how a better balance positively impacts not only on CO₂ emissions but also on our lives and we must ensure that this is not wasted.

Matthew Bird

Lead Cabinet Member for Sustainability

Part 1

The Vision for 2030



The Vision

By 2030 we will have a net zero carbon and fully climate resilient council. Through our partnerships we will have enabled the district as a whole to progress to net zero carbon and to address the ecological emergency.

Lewes District is a mix of urban and rural communities, coast and countryside, modern and historic buildings, agricultural and industrial businesses.

We have a beautiful district but it can be congested at times, it contains pollution hotspots particularly in Newhaven and Lewes town, it has rural areas with limited public transport, it lacks comprehensive cycling and walking routes, it's vulnerable to flooding and is suffering biodiversity losses in line with the alarming national and international trends. It has areas requiring economic regeneration, it needs more affordable housing and we need to reduce income inequality.

As a result we accept and acknowledge that we have a huge amount of work ahead of us to meet our ambition of becoming a net zero carbon and climate resilient council by 2030 and that we will be doing this with uncertain financial resources.

There is enormous enthusiasm and capacity in our local communities to help us meet these challenges. We have seen how fast we can act and come together and enable massive change when faced with the urgent and

common threat posed by the Coronavirus pandemic. We need to translate this urgency to tackling the climate change and ecological emergency. Although climate change will occur and impact on our lives we have a small window in which to reduce the more severe impacts of climate change, as long as we act now to cut emissions and prepare our communities for some inevitable changes.

Our own experience of flooding within the district, the stark predications of the effects of sea level rise on our coastal communities in and around Seaford and Newhaven, and the impacts of cliff erosion in Peacehaven, drives our resolve to enable climate resilient and sustainable communities.

Arresting biodiversity loss is inextricably tied to climate resilience, flooding impacts, and the ability to sequester and store carbon. Committing to nature-based solutions is essential for our recovery from the current Covid-19 crisis, and to better avoid future pandemics promoting healthy, thriving and resilient communities for the future.

The 'Declaration of the Climate Emergency' is our public statement that work the Council



and others, locally and nationally, already do to mitigate and adapt to climate change must be ramped up and progressed at pace.

But we cannot do this alone.

We have committed to becoming a net zero carbon Council by 2030. This means reducing our directly controllable emissions to as low as possible and then, if required, investing in solutions to reduce the remaining carbon emissions (offsetting).

We have also committed to support and work with others to make the district net zero carbon by 2030 though this target will be much harder to achieve.

We will use our influence and lobbying function to enable this and we will lead by example. We will work in partnership with the community to break down current barriers and enable delivery of projects.

Working together locally

We can only deliver on our vision and strategic goals effectively by understanding all the aspects the council can directly act on and those that we can only deliver by working with others in public, private and voluntary sectors across the district.

Regional Partnerships and Networks

Various partnerships and networks already exist and will be developed to further both district and regional zero carbon aims. New partnerships are in development to further objectives for specific purposes such as retrofitting the social housing stock.

The **Greater Brighton city region** has pledged to help tackle the climate change crisis and place itself at the centre of partnership efforts to effect real change.

Together the partners can use their combined authority, lobbying power, expertise and knowledge to work towards **ten pledges** on a range of environmental issues chiefly concerning water and energy conservation.

The Sussex Local Nature Partnership

aims to work across sectors and organizations to secure the healthiest ecological system possible thereby protecting and enhancing the natural environment and all that it gives us. This vision is the key guiding principle behind the work of the LNP, both in terms of its direct delivery and in terms of any advice it may give, the statements it makes and the positions it

may hold. **The Green Growth Platform** is the South East Regional Hub of Clean Growth UK, a national business-innovation network that has collectively supported 1000s of businesses across the UK to innovate and grow. Clean Growth UK has hubs in Brighton, Liverpool and Portsmouth. They provide access to university led research and skills through the Greater Brighton city region working groups.

Partnerships have also developed to enable funding bids to take place, these include:

Ouse Valley CARES a partnership formed of local organisations and community groups including Lewes District Council and South Downs National Park. The partnership was successful in obtaining funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to develop a range of projects tackling climate change along the Ouse Valley.

Changing Chalk is focused on the chalk grassland landscape of the Sussex Downs and the communities of the coastal urban fringe of Brighton and Hove, Eastbourne and Lewes. Development funding of £138,300

has been awarded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to help the Changing Chalk partnership progress their plans to apply for a full grant in 2021. This partnership, led by the National Trust will bring together people and nature, over a five-year period, to tackle the threats, grasp the opportunities and celebrate the heritage that the area offers.



Harnessing Community Action and Expertise

The district is home to a multitude of individuals, organisations, charities, schools, Community Interest Companies and businesses that are like-minded to achieve sustainability goals such as lowering carbon emissions, reducing pollution, improving the natural environment, reducing poverty, promoting community cohesion and more. We are also lucky enough to be close to 2 world leading universities in the fields of sustainability, environment policy and engineering solutions.

Local initiatives include: Plastic Free groups in Newhaven, Seaford and Lewes; Greenhavens Network; Cycle Seahaven; Cycle Lewes; Lewes Walking and Cycling Forum; Refill; OVESCO; Transition Town Lewes; Lewes Climate Hub; Seaford Alliance; amongst many others both long running and **newly emerging**.

There is so much knowledge, experience and expertise that the council desired to bring this together and make it available to others who may be struggling to know how to get started on their sustainability journey. We commissioned 3VA and the Sustainable Business Partnership to facilitate the community **Climate Action Forum** [\[insert link\]](#)

The forum will develop over 2021 to provide a space for the community and youth to engage with the climate change agenda and develop new local action and ownership of the problem as well as the solutions.

Residents (including young people), businesses and organisations can get involved by joining here [\[insert link\]](#).



The Youth Voice

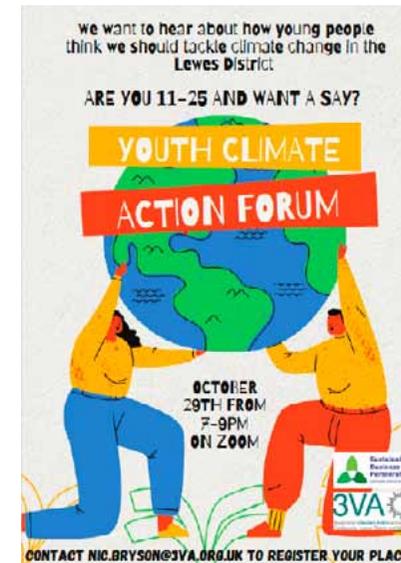
Young people are key to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the longer term. They will inherit our legacy and live with the consequences of climate change. Working closely with young people now will help ensure that sustainability behaviours and climate awareness are taken forward into adulthood. We need to embrace their energy and enthusiasm and enable, rather than stifle, their ideas but they also need to see us act swiftly and decisively for their future.

The **East Sussex Youth Council** is the elected youth voice for East Sussex. It made 'protecting the environment' top of their list of priorities for 2020 mirroring the Youth Parliaments 'Protect our Future' campaign. There is also the **Green United Forum** and schools network. OVESCO have engaged with local schools to install solar panels and many have taken up the environmental challenge by seeking to make their schools more sustainable in many other ways.

Kings Academy in Ringmer is nationally recognised for its sustainability work and is an **Ashden Award** winner. The school generates 70% of its heat on site through a variety of measures including a biomass boiler and heat pumps. They have on-site solar panels and a wind turbine generating **25% of their electrical energy use**. Rainwater flushes the toilets and extensive insulation has been installed.

Most impressively **25%** of their students are actively engaged as **ECO Reps**.

In order to encourage engagement with the district's Climate Action Forum young people from Seaford, Lewes, Ringmer, Chailey and Peacehaven were brought together at the end of October 2020 to speak about how they wanted to address the climate emergency in the Lewes District Area at a facilitated youth specific forum. Some of these young people were also representatives of the East Sussex Youth Cabinet, Seaford Environmental Alliance, Home Schools Network and their own school and college climate action and sustainability groups. The group chose 'campaigning' as their preferred type of action and to focus this within schools and colleges in the area. They also decided to vote for a representative to feedback from the youth group into the wider Climate Action Forum.



ABOVE Youth Climate Action Forum & 3VA

BELOW Rapid Charger installed at Kings Academy, Ringmer



Part 2

Why do we need a strategy?

Page 21



Photo © Sussex Express

Why do we need a strategy?

Overwhelming consensus has been gained through global and national research from the likes of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Met Office's UK Climate Projections to set in motion a policy framework that requires us to step up and take responsibility for our local emissions and environmental impacts.

We must act now to mitigate the impacts of a changing climate, to adapt and manage the risks to service provision, local communities, the natural environment, infrastructure and businesses whilst taking a grasp of the multitude of positive opportunities that the changes we need to make will offer us.

The council has a key role to play as a community leader and through the services we provide but we cannot do it alone. The strategy aims to act as a path directing us towards the net zero target and to bring together all the amazing work going on in our communities and expand upon it, to build resilience and adapt to our changing climate.



This strategy will:

- Set out a vision for Lewes District in 2030
- Set out how the council will act as a community leader and reduce its emissions to net zero carbon by 2030
- Provide a framework for action by the council and other partners to assist the district in becoming net zero carbon by 2030
- Enable best practice to be shared and replicated
- Bring together workstreams occurring across the district to monitor progress against the net zero carbon target.

This strategy will not:

- Be delivered by the council alone. The Evidence Base sets the path we need to take based on current evidence. Many of the things that need to happen cannot be delivered by the council but we can influence them. The Action Plan details the current actions we and others are taking and plan to take over the coming years in order to reduce emissions from our own operations and from the district. It is a live document and will be updated as plans are refined and progressed.
- Detail everything going on within the district or all the actions we need to take in future years. The council will monitor, review and update the strategy as required and formally once per year.

Policy Framework

The policy framework is set out on the following page – click through the links to find out more about each item – this isn't a comprehensive list but provides insight into major pieces of policy and how they link to our climate change and sustainability strategy.

Aerial photos pages 9 and 10:
Lewes flood in 2000 © Sussex Express

Policy Framework

Global

Paris Agreement:

Reduce emissions to limit temperature rise to 2°C

UN Sustainability Goals

National

Climate Change Act: Net Zero by 2050

Current Strategy:

- Clean Growth Strategy
- Road to Zero
- Green Future: Our 25-Year Plan to Improve the Environment
- Clean Air Strategy
- Gear Change

Strategy is delivered by:

- The Environment Bill (due 2021)
- The National Planning Policy Framework and the Building Regulations (specifically Part L)
- Future Homes Standard
- The Agricultural Bill

Strategy in development:

- Transport Decarbonisation Plan
- Energy White Paper
- Heat and building strategy

Regional

- East Sussex Environment Strategy 2020
- South2East Energy Strategy 2018
- East Sussex Local Transport Plan
- Transport for the South East – Transport Strategy
- Greater Brighton Energy Plan and Greater Brighton Water Plan
- South Downs National Park Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Sussex Natural Capital Investment Strategy

Local

- Lewes District Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan
- Corporate Plan 2020-2021
- Lewes Local Plan



UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 goals with 169 targets that were adopted by every country in the world in 2015. They set out a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030. The goals are to be achieved by everyone everywhere and seek to make sure that 'No One is left behind'. They address the interconnected global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice.

Lewes District Council would like to seek to achieve the UN goals in the same period as the net zero carbon target. Many actions within the climate change and sustainability action plan will help deliver the goals but we have not yet gone through a process of detailed analysis.

The table on the following page provides examples of how our 2030 net zero action areas (and their respective goals) align to the SDGs.



UN Sustainable Development Goals Alignment



LDC Action Area:

- Circular economy & Community Wealth



LDC Action Area:

- Agriculture & Food



LDC Action Area:

- Sustainable Transport & Air Quality
- Biodiversity



LDC Action Area:

- Cross cutting theme and part of the green, post covid recovery



LDC Action Area:

- Not specifically mentioned



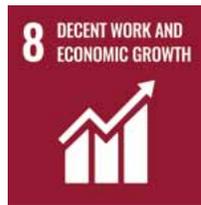
LDC Action Area:

- Water



LDC Action Area:

- Energy & the built environment



LDC Action Area:

- Cross-cutting themes
- Circular economy & Community Wealth



LDC Action Area:

- Cross-cutting theme
- Energy & the built environment



LDC Action Area:

- Circular Economy & Community Wealth
- Energy & the built environment



LDC Action Area:

- All action areas and cross-cutting themes



LDC Action Area:

- Circular Economy & Community Wealth
- Energy & the built environment
- Reducing emissions from waste



LDC Action Area:

- All action areas and cross-cutting themes



LDC Action Area:

- Biodiversity
- Water



LDC Action Area:

- Biodiversity



LDC Action Area:

- Circular Economy & Community Wealth



LDC Action Area:

- Cross-cutting themes
- Expert Panel
- Climate Action Forum
- Circular Economy & Community Wealth

Part 3

Developing the strategy

HIGH AMBITION PATHWAY: 2030 SUMMARY

By 2030, the emissions profile for Lewes is predicted to look very different from today. Concerted local actions can have a significant effect on district emissions, making reductions of around 65%.

Tackling residual emissions - closing the gap to carbon neutrality

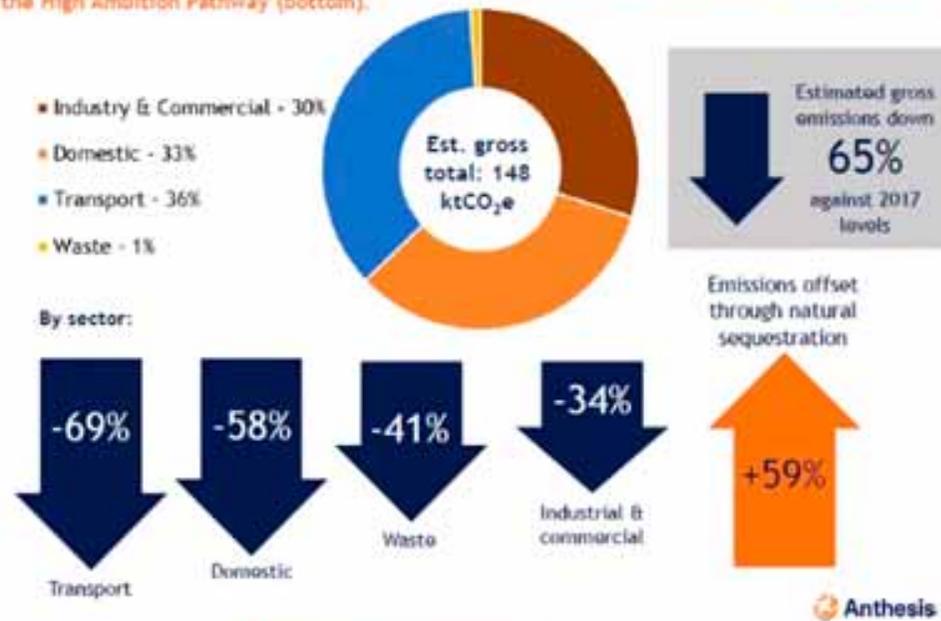
Despite the aggressive actions described, hard-to-remove emissions in industry and freight transport persist. Whilst emissions from the domestic and waste sectors are massively reduced, the scale of improvement is not enough to reach zero by 2030.

Offsetting strategies are recommended as a means of addressing these residual emissions.

Lewes District Council | Executive Summary

Adoption of the High Ambition Pathway interventions delivers emissions reductions of around **two-thirds** by 2030.

Figure iii: Estimated 2030 emissions profile (top). Emissions reductions in key sectors under the High Ambition Pathway (bottom).



White, James



Jones, Oliver



Thompson, Nathan



McDevitt, Millie



Richardson, Kate

Developing the strategy

The strategy has been developed over the period June to December 2020 during which time we engaged with around 140 individuals and organisations throughout the district.

Initial guidance was provided in 2019 by the setting up of the **Climate Change Scrutiny Panel**, a cross-party group that has fed into the development of the engagement plan and of the strategy goals and actions, and the **Sustainability Expert Panels** set up to provide the council with expert insight into developing the climate change strategy.

Experts include: individual experts in their field (eg. Planning and architecture); organisations such as the Sussex Wildlife Trust, University of Sussex, Environment Agency, NFU; and other councils such as East Sussex County Council.

A series of thematic workshops took place involving the 27 representatives on the Expert Panel, to review the **draft Climate Change and Sustainability Framework**.

The Council will continue to work with the group as a critical friend and will actively engage the group to deliver and progress the action plan.

The draft framework and goals were initially developed using an evidence base collated

from national research (such as the UK Climate Projections) [insert link] and the locally specific emission baseline reports such as the district and council carbon baseline reports that were completed by July 2020 and can be found at www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/climatechange.gov.uk

In August 2020 the council commenced the public engagement using the draft framework which ran to the end of October 2020. This coincided with the first virtual meeting of the Climate Action Forum which was also used to engage with the attendees on the draft framework.



The engagement work and responses to the survey has provided direction and specificity to the revised over-arching goals and provided confidence to the council that we are heading in the right direction with our science-based ambition.

The Evidence Base

The need for a clear strategic path and a prioritised action plan has required an evidence base to inform its production. The Strategy and its appendices bring together this evidence to enable the action we must undertake as a local authority to 'get our own house in order' as well as activity the council shall need to do in the wider district to enable others to work towards the district wide net zero target.

Global and national research is useful at a high level, with the UK Climate Projections [insert link] being of most use locally, but we required an in-depth district analysis, this has been provided in the form of 2 Anthesis reports 'Lewes District Council Carbon Emissions Analysis and Pathways' and the subsequent 'Agriculture and Land-Use' study.

We have also carried out a baseline report on council operations.

A summary of the projections and the district and council baselines can be found in this section of the strategy and the full baseline reports can be found at www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/climatechange

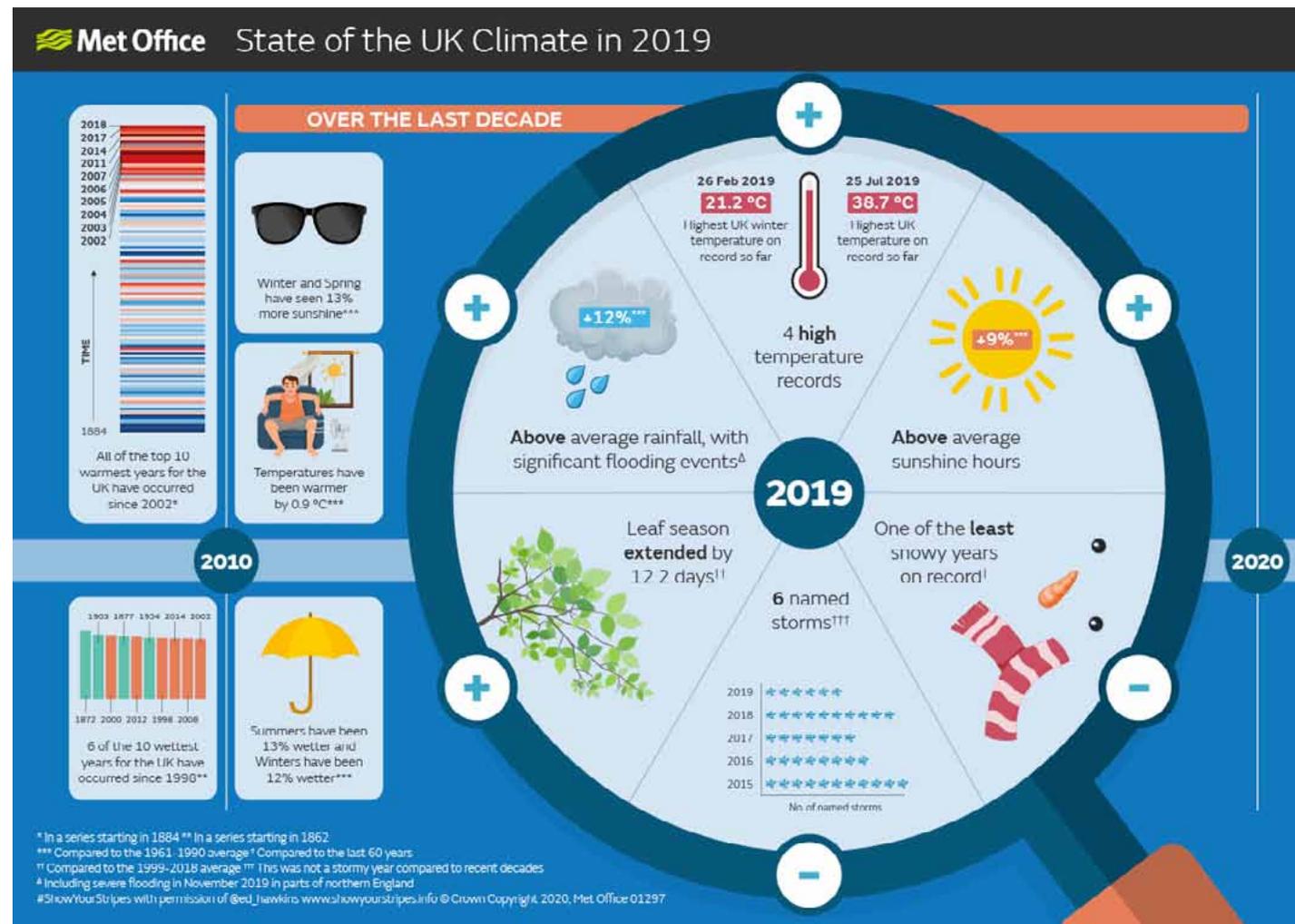
Adapting to Climate Change

The district must become resilient to the effects of climate change through adaptation, for example by preventing homes from overheating, and preventing further increases in emissions which will make these effects worse (mitigation).

The latest State of the UK Climate 2019 report [insert link] shows several indicators consistent with the expected effects of a warming climate.

General climate change trends projected over UK land for the 21st century in UK Climate Projections 2018 are broadly consistent with earlier projections (2009) showing an increased chance of warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers along with an increase in the frequency and intensity of extremes.

You can find out more about how climate change may affect you by using this interactive tool developed by the BBC using the Met Office Climate Projections data. Click here to access the tool <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-d6338d9f-8789-4bc2-b6d7-3691c0e7d138>

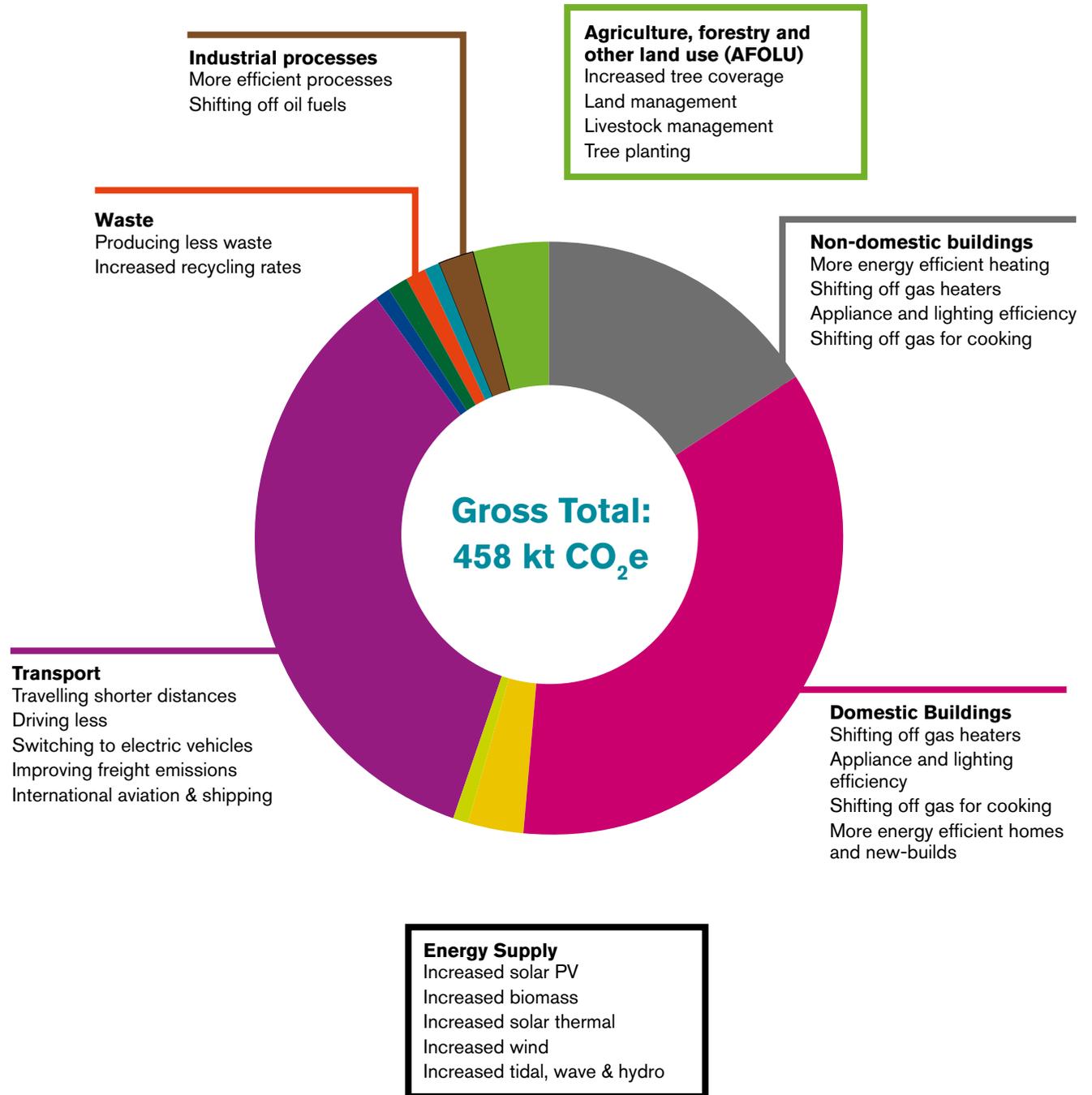


The District Baseline

Anthesis uses the SCATTER local authority emissions inventory tool to define an emissions profile for Lewes district based on 2017 data. SCATTER stands for Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emissions Reductions.

The doughnut chart below defines the baseline emission profile and a summary of the high-level measures modelled within SCATTER to tackle and reduce those emissions.

- Industrial & institutional buildings **16%**
- Residential buildings **36%**
- Commercial buildings & facilities **3%**
- Agricultural fuel use **1%**
- On-road transport **35%**
- Rail transport **1%**
- Off-road transport **<1%**
- Solid waste disposal **<1%**
- Wastewater **1%**
- Industrial processes **2%**
- Livestock **4%**



The District Pathway to Net Zero

Baseline
458,000
tonnes CO₂e

56%

**BUILDINGS
EMISSIONS**

7%

**OTHER SOURCES:
WASTE, INDUSTRY
LIVESTOCK**

8%

**CURRENT
LAND USE
CARBON SINK**

37%

**TRANSPORT
EMISSIONS**

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This is a simplified summary of some large scale actions that have been modelled to meet our target based on current technology – for more information click [here](#) to read the full baseline report and the action plan.

1

Demand reduction

- 25% reduction in miles travelled per person
- More than 16,500 medium and deep retrofits to existing housing
- New homes built to PassivHaus standard or equivalent
- Waste has reduced by at least 24%
- At least 65% of waste is recycled
- Industrial process have become more efficient
- 20% reduction in consumption of meat and dairy

2

Decarbonise energy

- Get buildings off oil and gas
- At least 200 MW of renewable energy generation installed
- EV charging infrastructure in place

3

Tackle residual emissions

- 148,000 tonnes to be captured per year by 2030**
- 24% increase in forest cover by 2030
 - Planting a minimum of 48 hectares woodland per year
 - Community and council investment enabled for energy and nature projects

10%

0 CO₂

**NET ZERO
CARBON
BY 2030**

The Council Baseline

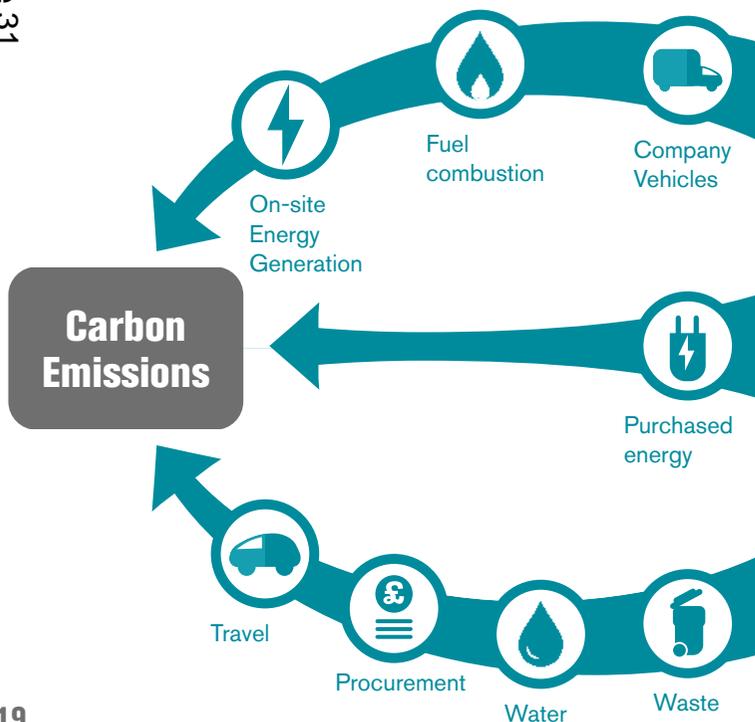
The Council's baseline is based on the Council's directly controllable consumption of gas, electricity and fuel; the baseline emissions for 2018/19 financial year are approximately 1,590 tonnes CO₂e (tCO₂e). This figure is included within the District wide emissions of 458,000 tCO₂e. As such the Council's baseline emissions account for just 0.3% of the overall footprint for the District.

Emissions are divided into three categories referred to as Scope 1, 2 and 3 as illustrated below.

Baseline emissions are reported as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) and are calculated using the Scope 1 and 2 emissions detailed in the table below.

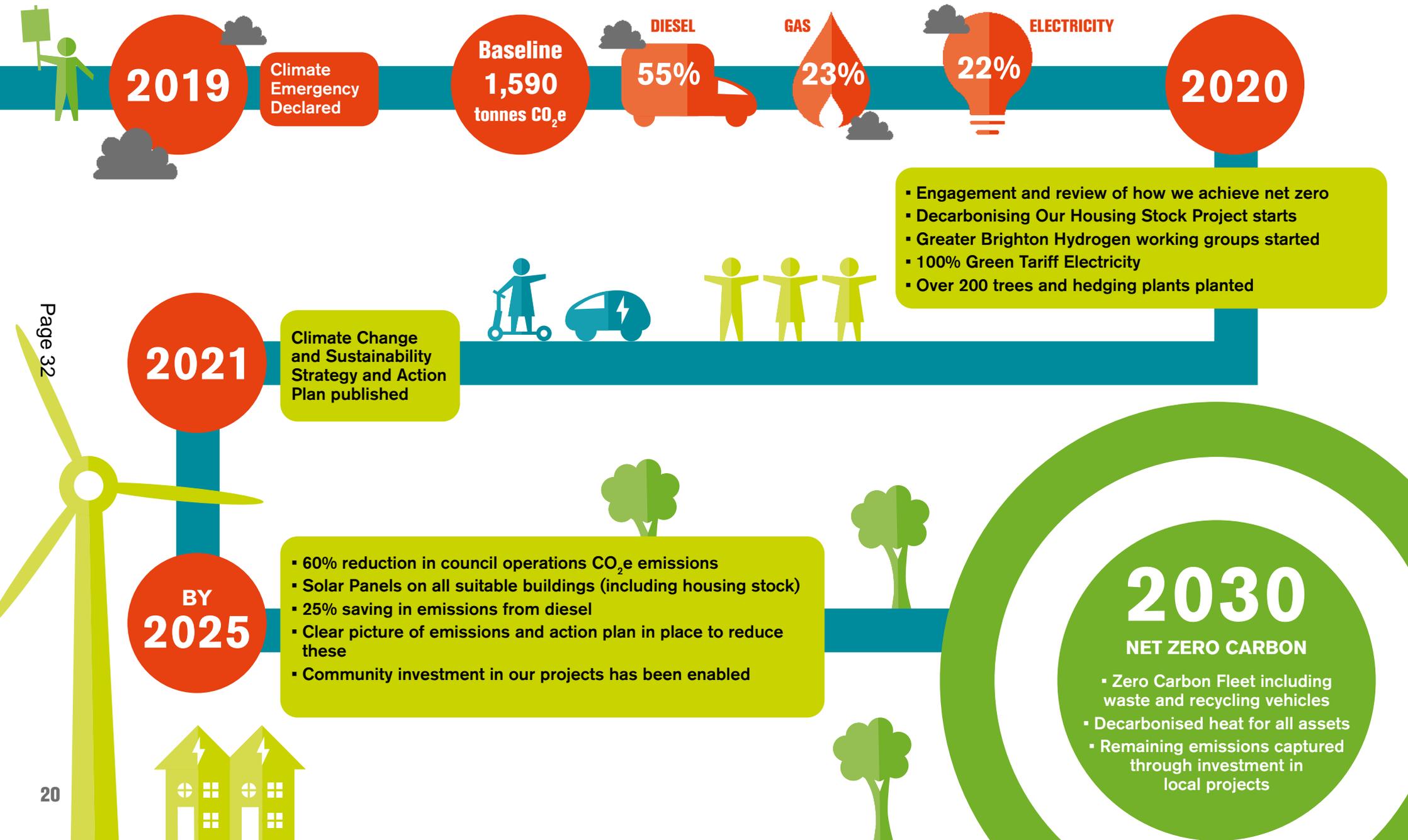
Scope 3 emissions are not something we directly control, they occur when we buy a product or service and the emissions are produced somewhere else. They can be more

difficult than scope 1 and 2 to determine accurately. We will report these emissions as our data collecting procedures improve and where we feel the figures will be accurate. Our ability to reduce emissions from scope 3 sources will also be more difficult but we will work to report them and will clarify those where we have influence or not (for example- our emissions from water use is within our sphere of influence, we can try to reduce consumption once we know what we consume accurately)



Category	Description	Data used in this analysis
SCOPE 1	Direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by Lewes District Council	Metered gas data (for buildings where the Council pay the gas bills) Litres of fuel consumed for fleet vehicles
SCOPE 2	Indirect emissions from the generation of energy purchased by Lewes District Council	Metered electricity data (for buildings where the Council pay the electricity bills)
SCOPE 3	Indirect emissions that result from other activities that occur in the value chain, either upstream or downstream	Not reported this year

The Council's Pathway to Net Zero



Part 4 – The Strategic Action Areas



Part 4 - The Strategic Action Areas

The 7 action areas set out in this Strategy provide the framework for the action plan through which we will focus our efforts in reducing emissions and improving climate resilience.



Some areas cross over, for example the built environment will link with aspects of sustainable transport, so some actions may impact on more than one area.

Each section provides a one-page overview with some facts on the current situation and the 2030 strategic goals. The second page provides a summary of the targets for the area along with key actions happening now or in the near term and the third page highlights a particular case study.

For more information and detail on the actions happening within each theme area please see the full Action Plan in section 6.

In developing the strategy, it became clear that some issues ran throughout all our action areas. These cross-cutting themes are:

Education & training

- Awareness raising and communication with residents- to enable and empower
- Education and training of the next generation
- Upskilling of existing trades to enable the transition to a low carbon economy
- Ongoing upskilling of council officers

Funding

- Developing community investment mechanisms to enable local sustainability and climate initiatives.
- Support of community initiatives by the council to provide confidence to investors/donors and provide oversight on project delivery and carbon savings.

Evidence and targets

- Good quality and reliable data and evidence is needed to back up our decision making and action prioritisation.
- Data and targets will need collating and updating- we need to ensure we are not duplicating the work of others or creating unnecessary work.

Planning policy and building control

- Strengthen planning policy in our new local plan and through guidance for, and early conversations with, developers.

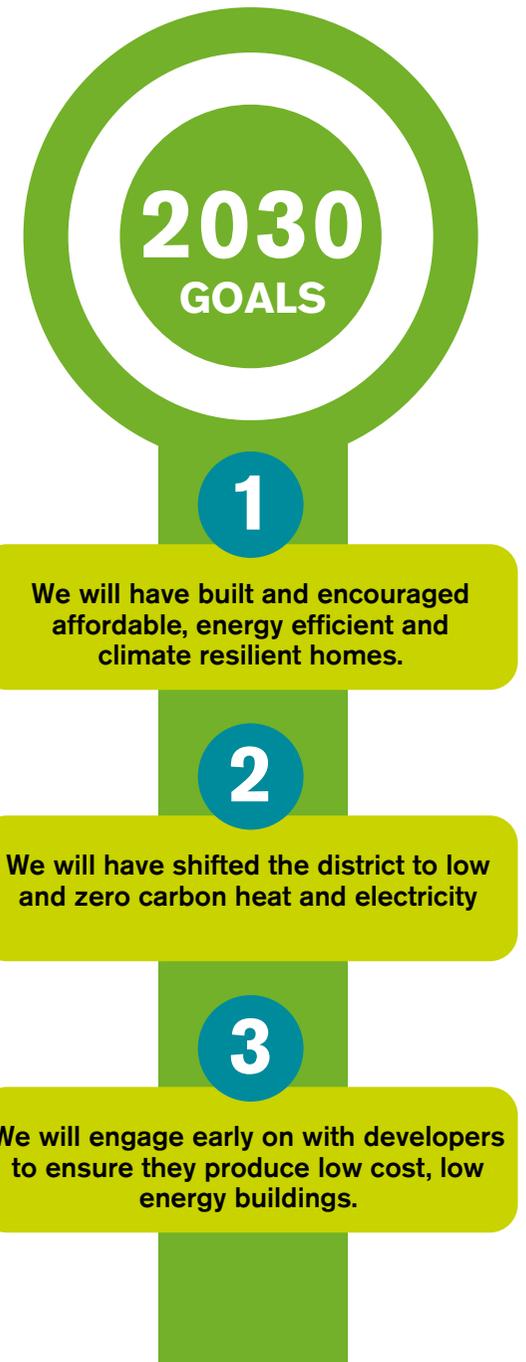
Supporting the action of others

- Obviously the council cannot deliver a net zero district alone but the strategy can support partnership working and the work of others across all action areas.

Energy and the Built Environment



Energy use is the largest source of emissions from our district. This action area covers all the energy consumed by everyone within our district with regards to heating and powering their homes and businesses. It also covers the councils own work to make its buildings net zero carbon and the things we can do to directly influence others such as through planning policy and our housing stock.





12_{MW}

**INCREASE
IN DISTRICT SOLAR
CAPACITY
BY 2025**

50%

**REDUCTION IN
COUNCIL ENERGY
CONSUMPTION
BY 2030**

60%

**REDUCTION IN
COUNCIL CARBON
EMISSIONS
BY 2025**

Key Council actions for 2021/22

- Decarbonising Our Housing Stock project - developing and carrying out energy efficiency and low carbon pilot studies so we can plan a way to decarbonise all of our housing by 2030
- Complete the Asset Review for our non-housing buildings and land- this will allow us to determine our route to net zero buildings and make the most of our other assets for the benefit of the whole district
- Work with the Greater Brighton Economic Board to develop hydrogen hubs
- Support investment in local renewable energy projects
- Support private homeowners and renters in accessing energy efficiency advice and grants such as through Warmer Sussex and the Government Green Homes Grant scheme

Key actions happening in the district:

- Solar schools - Regional work with community energy companies and East Sussex County Council to put solar panels on schools
- Projects to get rural villages off oil for heating and decarbonise electricity
- CommuniHeat Zero Carbon Village - Community Energy company OVESCO in conjunction with UKPN & Buro Happold and Community Energy South are producing a masterplan to decarbonise Barcombe by 2030
- Net Zero Firle - Community energy company BHESCO is leading this project to install a zero carbon micro grid for heat and power in this off-gas village

Spotlight on: Ovesco



OVESCO is the district's local community run energy services company enabling local investment in solar generation projects to reduce our dependency on imported energy.

So far they have built over 5.25MW including projects on Harveys Depot, Priory School, Kings Academy, Brickyard Farm, Barcombe Nurseries and Landport Community Centre amongst others. OVESCO are partners in wider funding bids including Ouse Valley CARES and Communiheat Net zero carbon village at Barcombe.

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Installation on the roof of Priory School, Lewes © Andrew Aitchison

PV installation at Kings Academy, Ringmer © LHW for OVESCO

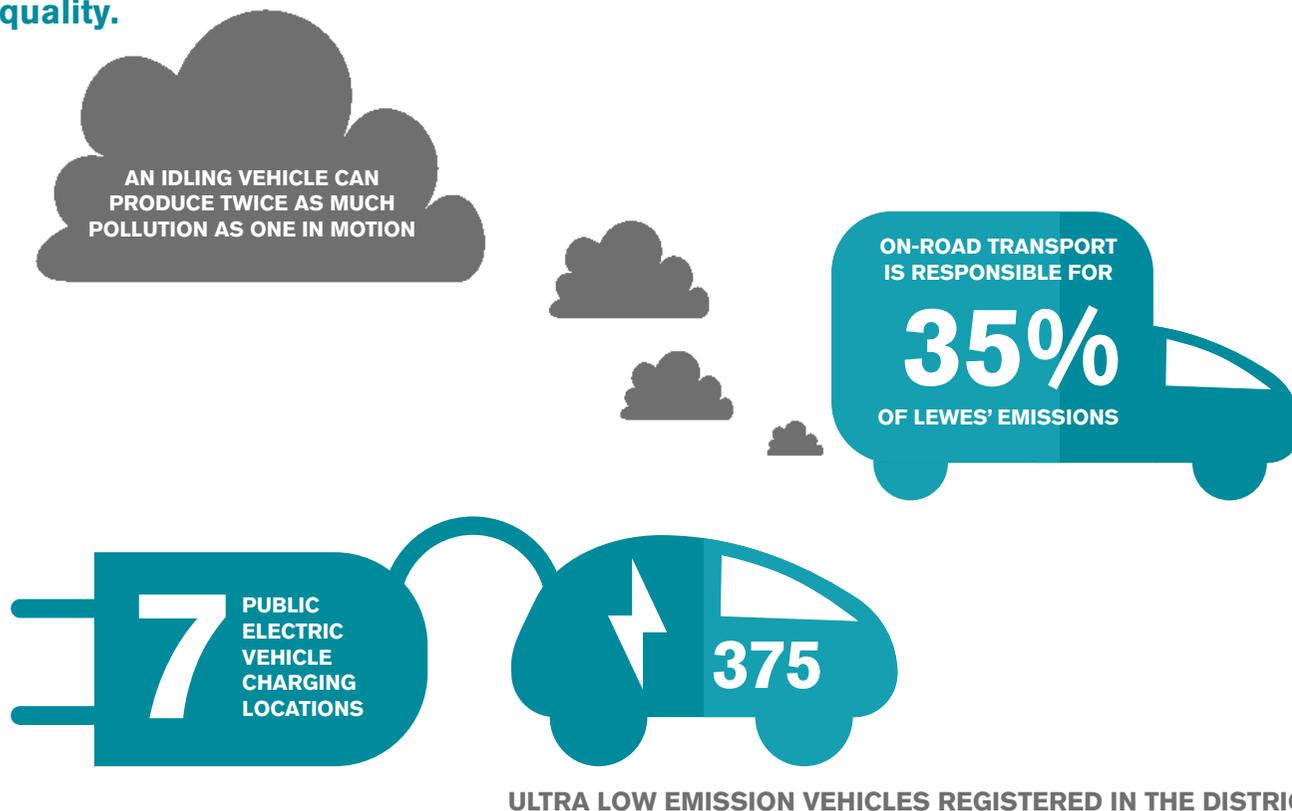
Sustainable travel and air quality



On-road transport is the second largest source of emissions in the district but it is something that the district council can only influence indirectly. We will facilitate change where we can by working with the community and East Sussex County Council to reduce the need to travel in the first instance and to provide active and low carbon travel options regardless of where in the district you live or travel to.

We have 2 Air Quality Management Areas – one in Lewes town and one in Newhaven. Both these areas have levels of nitrogen dioxide likely to exceed national air quality objectives. Transport is the main reason for the poor air quality.

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We will have improved air quality and reduced carbon emissions by:

1

Reducing reliance on car and need for personal car ownership

2

Encouraging a more sustainable and low carbon district wide transport network

3

We have worked with ESCC to promote and develop sustainable travel across the district



20%
REDUCTION
IN FLEET
FOSSIL FUEL
USE BY 2025

WE WILL
HAVE A ZERO
CARBON FLEET BY
2030

WE WILL
HAVE EV CHARGE
POINTS AND CYCLE
PARKING IN ALL
OUR CAR PARKS BY
2025

NEW AIR QUALITY
ACTION PLANS
FOR LEWES AND
NEWHAVEN BY END
2021

Key Council
actions for
2021/22

- Production of the fleet pathway to be zero carbon by 2030
- Assess all car parks for electric vehicle charge points and start installations
- Develop a path towards a low carbon taxi fleet
- New Air Quality Action Plans to be produced for Lewes and Newhaven

Key actions
happening in
the district:

- Working with East Sussex County Council to improve rural public transport
- Work with East Sussex County Council to deliver the new Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan
- Decarbonisation of public transport through use of hydrogen buses and delivering solar power direct to the railway through the Riding Sunbeams project
- Development of Hydrogen fueling hubs

Spotlight on: The Lewes Electric Car Show



The Lewes Electric Car Show has run now for 2 years thanks to Transition Town Lewes, OVESCO, Sussex EV Group and hosts Harvey's Brewery.

800 people visited the last show in 2019 which featured 21 hybrid and fully-electric cars and their owners plus a range of electric motorbikes and mopeds. The show has provided an opportunity for visitors to talk to real-life owners as well as EV experts on the realities of going electric.

Transition Town Lewes have put together some useful information on the show and EV's on their website here [\[insert link\]](#)

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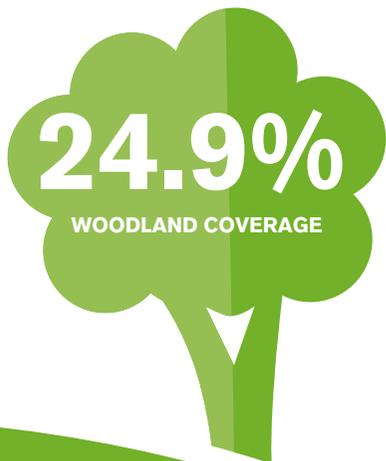


Images courtesy of
Transition Town Lewes





The land (soil and plants) within the district currently captures 23.9 kt CO₂e per year. Biological diversity is essential and intrinsically linked to every part of our health, livelihoods and our future wellbeing. Healthy and resilient societies depend on giving nature the space it needs yet globally wildlife populations have reduced by 60% and insects by 75% since the 1970's. This action area includes work to improve our natural environment and capture carbon through nature based projects.



2030 GOALS

- 1**
All developments maximise the opportunities for well considered net gains in biodiversity
- 2**
We have increased biodiversity on Council owned and managed landholdings
- 3**
We have engaged and enabled community led nature-based projects and we are involved in partnerships that promote natural capital across the district, including the coast and sea



ALL MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS TO ACHIEVE AT LEAST
20%
BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN BY 2025

METHOD TO DETERMINE LOCATIONS FOR TREE PLANTING WITHIN THE DISTRICT BY
2022

TO IMPLEMENT A CARBON CAPTURE FUND NO LATER THAN
2025

Key Council actions for 2021/22

- Adopt a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- Produce a Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Advice Note to advise developers
- Carry out biodiversity training for Officers
- Develop a way of funding community nature based projects
- Develop a method to measure the carbon capture of nature based projects

Key actions happening in the district:

- Partnership delivery of the Local Nature Partnerships 'Sussex Natural Capital Investment Strategy'
- Ouse Valley Cares – development of projects for a National Lottery Grant bid led by the South Downs National Park
- Changing Chalk- Partnership bid led by the National Trust to connect people to nature and address challenges faced by the South Downs

Spotlight on: Lewes Cemetery



Much of Lewes Cemetery is a Designated Local Wildlife Site, recognised as a natural wildflower meadow with many special and exceptionally valuable native plants such as the beautiful purple triangles of the Pyramidal Orchids, the vibrant yellows of the Mouse-ear Hawkweeds, and the hue of delicate white and yellow Bedstraws.

Lewes District Council has changed the management regime in parts of the Cemetery allowing 3.5 acres of traditionally mown grass to become a wildflower meadow. Surveys have been undertaken by the local group Wildflower Lewes and they have also undertaken wildflower plug planting.

To understand the importance of the bee and wasp populations in the cemetery, a series of visits was undertaken throughout summer and early autumn 2020 by James Power. These visits, which will only represent a snapshot of what is present, confirmed that the cemetery supports a good assemblage, including four nationally scarce species. In total, 72 bees and wasps were recorded, representing 34 species, 15% of the total number found in Sussex.

In November 2020 eighteen trees were planted around the perimeter of the Cemetery with the help and funding from the Friends of Lewes. Additionally in early 2021, with funding through the South Downs National Park Authority, works will be undertaken to create a hedgerow on the southern boundary and an area of disturbed ground will be returned to a chalk grassland wildflower meadow.

We are looking to manage the whole of the Cemetery more sensitively to wildlife; maintaining our pesticide free status and monitoring the condition of the wildflower populations to inform future cutting regimes.



Photo courtesy of Wilf Power

Agriculture and food



Emissions from agriculture account for more than 37kt CO₂e per year and are about 8% of the districts total emissions - this figure is slightly higher than is reported in our baseline report as we commissioned a further more detailed study into agricultural and land use that can be found here [\[insert link\]](#).

About 75% of these emissions are from livestock with the remaining 25% from fertilizer application and are typically nitrous oxide emissions

The Council will work with landowners and others such as the National Farmers Union and Sussex Wildlife Trust to work toward more sustainable farming methods and we will develop the local food economy.

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NFU TARGETS
UK NET ZERO
AGRICULTURE
BY
2040

TO HAVE ENGAGED
WITH ALL COUNCIL
TENANTS ABOUT FOOD
GROWING BY
2022

GOVERNANCE IN
PLACE AND A
DRAFT STRATEGY
FOR A FOOD
PARTNERSHIP BY
2022

Key Council actions for 2021/22

- Work with council tenants to enable food growing
- Identify possible land that could be made available for food growing
- Work with existing farmers/local food markets to expand on good practice and access new communities
- Work with district and regional partners on food networks and partnerships

Key actions happening in the district:

- Development of a district-wide food partnership
- Development of a food systems map
- Encouragement of nature friendly farming through the South East Downs Farm Cluster

Spotlight on: Lewes Friday Food Market



Lewes Friday Food Market grew from an idea developed by volunteers from the Transition Town Lewes Food Group and has developed to be run by the Lewes Local Community Interest Company as a not-for-profit initiative. It has main aims of:

- Developing and supporting sustainable local food systems and culture
- Making it easier for people to buy good quality, healthy, seasonal food
- Supporting and providing a platform for small local food producers and growers
- Reducing the use of single use plastic
- Supporting distribution methods which reduce carbon emissions
- Supporting food related community initiatives and the local economy



Reducing Emissions from Waste



To reduce emissions from the waste we generate we must work to reduce the districts waste first, then increase the amount we recycle. The council collects around 278kg of waste per person per year and that which is not recycled is incinerated.

Within this action area we include the emissions from our waste collection vehicles, this source of emissions is over half of the total council carbon baseline. The vehicles are currently run on diesel which contains other pollutants as well that lead to poor air quality and pollution.





PATHWAY TO
ZERO CARBON
WASTE FLEET
PRODUCED
BY END OF
2022

ZERO CARBON
WASTE FLEET BY
2030

55%
OF WASTE
IS RECYCLED
BY
2025

Key Council actions for 2021/22

- Undertake the waste fleet review
- Eliminate use of unnecessary paper within Democratic Services
- Prepare a communications plan to encourage Reduce, Re-use, Recycle
- Develop and take forward new planning guidance to reduce construction waste

Key actions happening in the district:

- Local REFILL campaigns to promote access to water and reduce plastic bottles [[insert link](#)]
- Plastic Free initiatives [[insert link](#)]
- East Sussex County Council review of the Waste and Mineral Local Plan (next consultation due 2021)

Spotlight on: Refill Seaford & Newhaven



Refill Seaford and Newhaven

In January 2018 a group of local people decided to take action, having completed beach and beauty spot litter picks in the past we decided to set up a Facebook Group to raise awareness and to encourage people to reduce single-use plastic from their lives.

The initial response has been encouraging from a variety of businesses, now we want to spread the word wider and involve more and more local organisations and businesses.

The official launch was at Frankie's Beach café on Seaford Esplanade on 1st September 2018 mainly sponsored by South East Water and assisted by some great local volunteers.

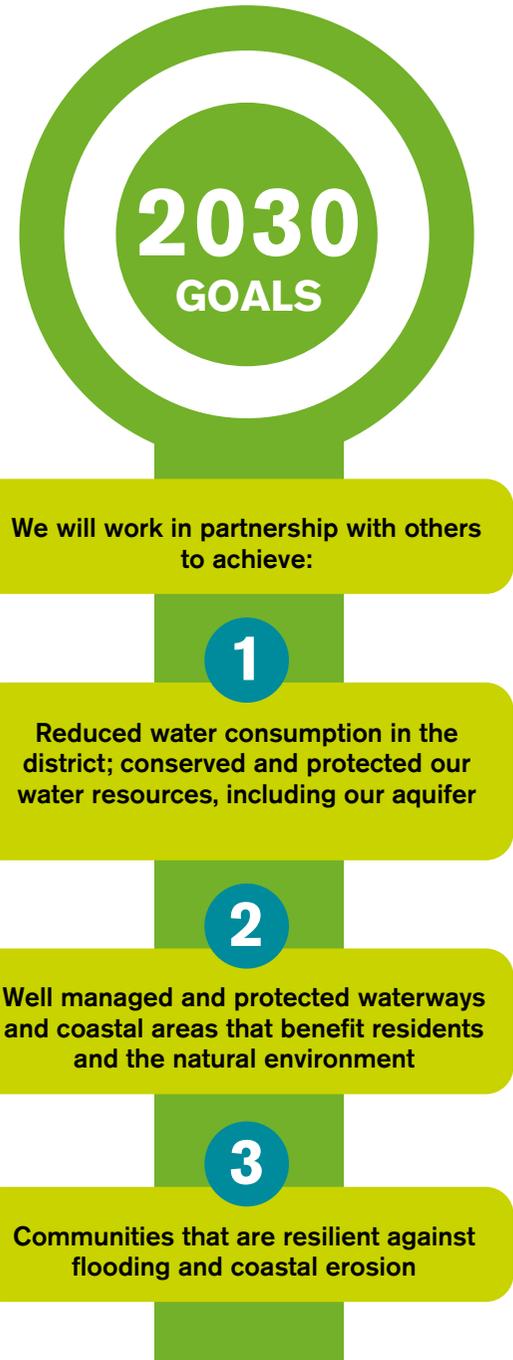
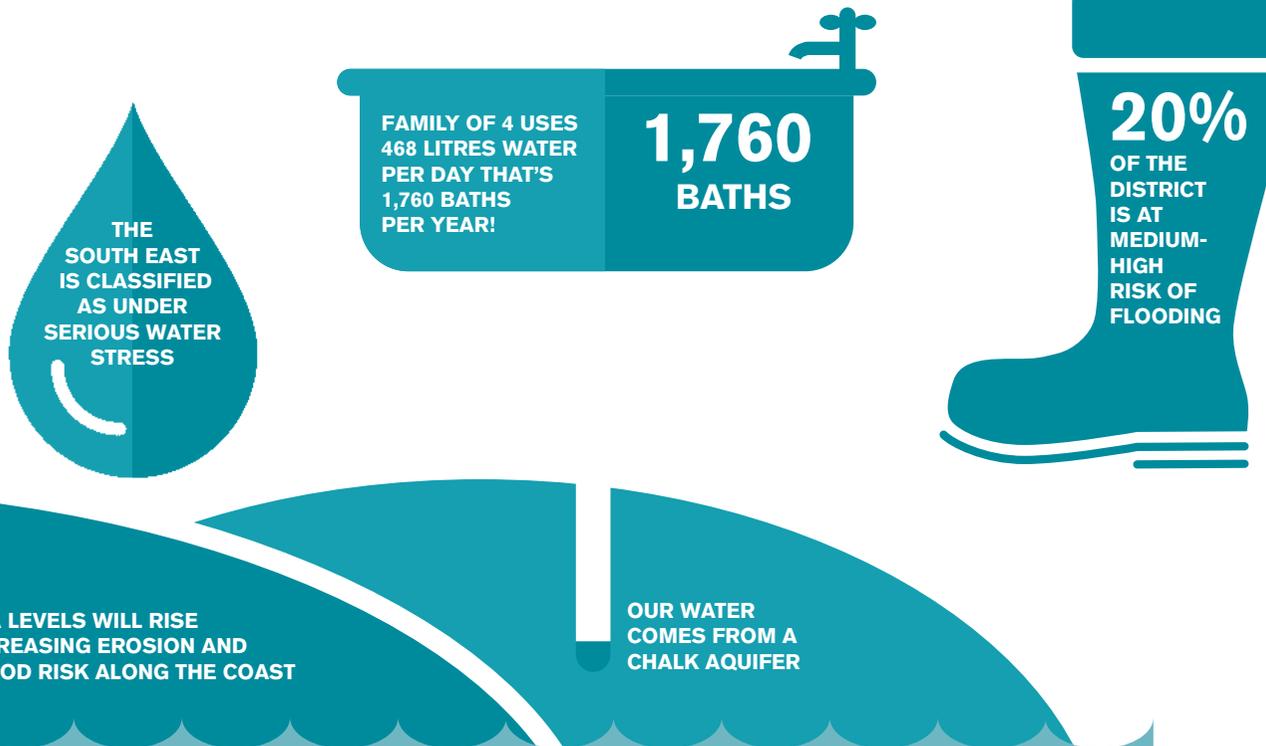




This action area covers the full spectrum of water use and impacts within the district. It covers water consumption as well as flooding from rivers, surface water and the sea and also includes coastal erosion.

We expect to see warmer and drier summers increase water consumption whilst milder and wetter winters will likely see us experience more flooding. Severe rainfall events are likely to increase throughout the year further increasing the risk of flooding.

Whether delivering coastal erosion or flood protection the mechanisms for delivery is complex and the works themselves are expensive, delivered at locations where are inherently dangerous. There is no duty to deliver flood or coastal protection, the Environment Agency and local authorities operate under permissive powers. Partnership working is essential and complex.





100
LITRES
OR LESS WATER
CONSUMED PER
PERSON PER DAY
BY 2030

NEW BUILDS TO
BE WATER
NEUTRAL BY
2030

SOUTHERN
WATER TO
DELIVER UP TO
50,000
WATER EFFICIENCY
AUDITS BY END
OF 2021

ZERO
NEW BUILD
UNITS APPROVED
CONTRARY TO
ENVIRONMENT
ADVICE
REGARDING
FLOODING

Key Council actions for 2021/22

- Work in partnership with the Environment Agency to explore the options viable to manage the risks posed by the undefended cliffs at The Esplanade, Telscombe Cliffs.
- Host coastal management workshop
- Prepare communications (in partnership with water companies) with residents on reducing domestic water use
- Work with partners to develop comms and possible incentives for developers to reduce water consumption and mitigate flood risk
- Produce guidance for developers targeting 100 litres per day in new builds

Key actions happening in the district:

- Expansion of the successful Sussex Flow Initiative to promote natural flood management
- Southern Water's Target 100 campaign to reduce water use
- Southern Water's domestic water efficiency audits
- The Aquifer Partnership will continue to collate knowledge and understanding of our aquifer in order to help us all protect it.

Spotlight on: Sussex Flow Initiative



Sussex Flow Initiative

Sussex Flow Initiative (SFI) is a natural flood management project in the River Ouse catchment, and is a partnership between Sussex Wildlife Trust, the Woodland Trust, the Environment Agency and Lewes District Council. The project was originally set up to see if Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures can create positive benefits for flooding, the environment and society in a lowland setting.

SFI works with landowners, local people and others to investigate, promote and create natural features designed to slow and store water in the landscape and to help reduce flood peaks. We aim to deliver multiple benefits for people and wildlife, as well as to show how Natural Flood Management can be used to support traditional flood management methods to help reduce flooding.

Our Natural Flood Management work includes:

- Introducing Large Woody Debris – leaky dams
- Ditch blocking
- Flood storage areas
- Recreating and restoring washland meadows
- Managing and creating riparian corridors
- Cross-slope hedge planting
- Riparian tree planting (along riverbanks)
- Woodland planting and management
- Soil management to improve capacity to absorb water (infiltration)





The Community wealth building (CWB) approach sits alongside sustainability as the two key policy drivers for the council. As an anchor institution the council can use its spending power and influence to drive investment into the local economy enabling a green economic recovery and local job creation and retention.

The Circular economy seeks to keep resources in use for as long as possible then recover and regenerate the materials at the end of each service life – it links with the CWB agenda in that we can generate local employment and wealth by doing this within our community – re-use networks are a good example of this.

This action area links with many of the other areas within this strategy through things such as decarbonising our housing and creation of community investment vehicles.



1

The Council has a sustainable procurement policy that facilitates local supply chains and encourages a circular economy

2

The council has enabled local re-use networks

3

Investment has been made into the local urban, coastal and rural economies increasing local employment opportunities and reducing income inequality

4

Local skills, supply chains and employment opportunities are improved as a result of our partnerships with East Sussex College Group, public sector organisations, social enterprises, cooperative businesses, as well as other forms of business, particularly focussing on clean and green technologies

Circular Economy and Community Wealth

The Council commissioned the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) to undertake a diagnostic study and consequently offer recommendations to the council on how it could deliver a CWB based approach to its work. This study was undertaken during the summer of 2020 and involved in-depth interviews with a range of council staff and partners, as well as consideration of various council policy and strategy documentation.

‘Re-imagining Lewes District Action Plan’ was informed by the final report and will develop 5 pillars of Community Wealth Building using the power and influence of the Council as an anchor institution with a procurement spend of over £7.5 million per year to build a platform for greater local and community ownership of the economy whilst building back a greener post-COVID economy.





COMMUNITY INVESTMENT IN LOCAL PROJECTS IS POSSIBLE NO LATER THAN
2025

AT LEAST HALF OF ANNUAL COUNCIL SPEND IS WITH SUSSEX BASED PROVIDERS BY
2030

ALL ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE DISTRICT HAVE TAKEN UP THE CWB APPROACH

Key Council actions for 2021/22

- Deliver the Reimagining Lewes District Action Plan
- Mobilise a district wide approach to develop the green economy
- Analyse procurement and commissioning spend
- Develop a localised social value framework
- Deliver the Net Zero Innovation Fund project – Alternative finance models

Key actions happening in the district:

- Team East Sussex Plan- 'think local, act local' embedded as key mission to focus procurement on local providers.
- Greater Brighton Economic Board 3 pillar approach to recovery of economic, environmental and social resilience
- Set up of Lewes District Anchor Network

Spotlight on: Locally constructed social housing



A new development of highly sustainable council homes in Newhaven has been completed during 2020. The 13 modular flats in Fort Road incorporate a host of eco-friendly and sustainable features, including the latest solar panels that will feed energy into hi-tech batteries, effectively taking the homes 'off-grid' for up to three months of the year.

The two-bedroom and one-bedroom apartments have been built by local employer Boutique Modern, a specialist manufacturer of modular homes. The firm designs and builds the properties in their local factory in Newhaven before moving them to the site for installation. 60% of the workforce on this project came from the local college.



Part 5

Delivering the strategy



Tackling Residual Emissions

In order to achieve the net zero carbon goal it is expected that the Council will have to carry out some degree of offsetting.

Offsetting is where we pay an amount of money towards projects that reduce carbon emissions somewhere else to the value of the emissions we are still generating.

We are clear that direct action to reduce consumption and emissions is our priority.

'Offsetting' will be considered only as a last resort when no other option exists.

There was clear direction from the draft framework engagement that locally-based projects should be considered before anything out of boundary (called 'Insetting'). It was generally accepted that due to cost the council should not be expected to offset emissions outside of its baseline (scope 3) but that the council should show clear reductions in these indirect emissions to 2030.

The council has committed to invest in projects to capture the residual emissions from its own operations (direct scope 1 & scope 2 sources) by 2030 and will assess the cost of including known scope 3.

We will explore opportunities for projects that capture carbon either through natural carbon sequestration (such as tree planting) or through technological innovation (such as investing in local solar power).

We will research and develop the methodology we could use for primarily local, but possibly regional projects to meet any council residual emissions by 2030.

We will use the opportunity provided to us by the Net Zero Innovation Fund to investigate the potential to **enable community investment** in these or similar projects. This may be in the form of some kind of **council backed community bond** or a **donation-based community fund**, or a combination of the two.

These alternative funding mechanisms will supplement other available funding streams.

It is possible that regional work (such as that by Ouse Valley CARES and the Sussex Local Nature Partnership) on this subject may offer alternative or complimentary models of tackling residual emissions.



Part 6

The Action Plan and Sustainability Indicators

The action plan details the actions underway and planned to start to address the strategic challenges and goals set out in this strategy. The action plan is a live document managed by the internal council Officer Working Group and the Strategy & Partnership Lead-Sustainability.

The plan will be updated and published annually in September.

Alongside this plan sits a suite of indicators. Those that can be reported now have been but some are still in development and depend on the ability to get baseline data. Finalising the indicators will be a key task for inclusion in the 2021 update report.



The Action Plan 2021

TIMEFRAMES

Short	2021-2022
Medium	2023-2026
Long	2027-2030

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES
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1. Energy & the built environment

Actions by the council to enable the District to become net zero carbon by 2030

E1	Complete social housing stock condition surveys	Provides baseline information to enable retrofit and long term planning	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Housing	Jul-21			Can be delivered using existing resources
E2	Develop and deliver the project plan for the 'Decarbonising Our Housing Stock (DOHS)' project in conjunction with other stock holding authorities *January 2021- leaders meeting to establish extent of initial collaboration *Procurement routes to be established 2021 *Determine initial pilot projects 2021	Best value is achieved through collaborative working, best solutions are determined and method is agreed to deploy retrofit measures, initially as pilots with a plan developed for roll out of appropriate solutions across the portfolio	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Housing, Communities & Customers and Sustainability	Short Term			£500k allocated from HRA
E3	Develop and deliver a project plan to decarbonise all social housing based on findings and experience of the DOHS project (action E3)	All social housing is as energy efficient as it can be and carbon emissions are reduced as far as practicably possible	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Housing and Sustainability		Medium Term	Long Term	Delivery costs to be determined once plan is prepared
E4	Implement the actions defined in the Lewes Housing Strategy TBA	Housing standards in the rented sector improve	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Housing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
E5	Explore opportunities with Southern Water on capturing and using heat from waste water	Low carbon heat source enabled	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Planning & Infrastructure and Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
E6	Support and progress development of hydrogen hubs	Enable and develop a clean hydrogen economy for transport and heating	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Planning & Infrastructure and Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources

E7	Enable and invest in community energy schemes where this is financially viable	Community energy schemes are supported to deliver projects	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure and Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Project specific
E8	Introduce new sustainability Technical Advice Notes for developers (February 2021)- subsequently investigate potential for a more indepth Sustainable Design guide for developers that could link to circular economy work	Developers are advised as to expectations for new development and can easily access information on how to design for sustainability	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
E9	Develop an ongoing programme of awareness raising and promotion of energy efficiency initiatives, especially in fuel poor and hard to reach communities	Educate and raise awareness, those most vulnerable benefit from energy efficiency advice and measures	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Communities & Customers	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
E10	Develop council web pages on sustainability and air quality to enable visitors to the web pages to better engage and understand the council's aspirations thereby increasing web traffic and raising public awareness.	Educate and raise awareness.	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Communities & Customers	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
E11	Develop comprehensive training and guidance for staff on climate change and carbon reduction. Also specific training to ensure decisions properly take into account the carbon emission implications	All staff will improve their environmental awareness to enable carbon reductions in their work and private life. It will be clear to Councillors, officers and the public the carbon consequences of all decisions	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Performance & People and Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
E12	Work in collaboration with others to advertise the Governments Green Homes Grant and associated funding streams	Private sector housing can access funds to help retrofit and improve energy efficiency	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Communities & Customers	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
E13	Work in collaboration with others to develop bids for the Local authority delivery strands of the Governments Green Homes Grant and associated funding streams	Public and private sector housing can access funds to help retrofit and improve energy efficiency	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			
E14	Promote the Warmer Sussex retrofit scheme	Private sector homeowners have easier access to retrofitting advice and suppliers	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Housing and Communities & Customers and Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
E15	Support and facilitate access to the Warm Homes East Sussex scheme	Fuel poverty on the borough reduces	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities & Customers	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources

E16	Support the roll out of smart meters through promotion of the SmartEnergyGB scheme	Supports transition to smart energy grid and makes energy use more visible to residents which enables reductions	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities & Customers	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
E17	Support delivery of regional plans- the Greater Brighton Energy Plan and the South2East Energy Strategy	Decarbonisation at a regional level is progressed and joint aims are met	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
E18	Support the delivery of Communiflex- Zero Carbon Village	Transformation of Barcombe communities energy system to become the UK's first Net Zero Village	OVESCO leading	Short Term	Medium Term		Externally funded
E19	Support the delivery of Net Zero Firle Village	Creation of a local microgrid for heat and power	BHESCo	Short Term	Medium Term		Externally funded
E20	Support the delivery of Solar Schools to achieve regional aims	Expansion of PV on schools	ESCC in partnership	Short Term	Medium Term		Externally funded
Actions to make the Council net zero carbon by 2030							
E21	Complete the Asset Management Strategy (inc. work through Reset & Recovery Programme)	The strategy will enable a long term plan to be developed to reduce energy consumption and increase power generation on our assets	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term			Strategy can be delivered using existing resources- projects will then need costing on a case by case basis
E22	Once Asset Management Strategy is complete- Develop a carbon reduction plan for all remaining non-housing assets	Plan allows for structured and planned delivery to meet carbon neutrality goal	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
E23	Deliver the carbon reduction plan for non-housing assets	Non-housing assets are energy efficient and generating energy	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets and Sustainability		Medium Term	Long Term	Delivery costs to be determined once plan is prepared
E24	Ensure the the council purchases a green electricity provider	100% of electricity supplied will be REGO backed energy that will qualify a 100% reduction in carbon emissions from consumed electricity	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Completed October 2020

2. Sustainable Travel and Air Quality

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME			RESOURCES
Actions by the council to enable the District to become net zero carbon by 2030							
T1	Evaluate car parks for EV charging and prepare proposal for consideration by Councillors by June 2021	The council can make a decision as to how to progress with increasing charging infrastructure in the town and a new project delivery action will be created if this goes ahead	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Finance & Assets and Sustainability	Short Term			Proposal can be delivered using existing resources- implementation TBC
T2	Prepare a plan during 2021 to hold regular Car Free Days/temporary road closures such as School Streets especially in areas of high foot fall	Gradual modal shift to reduce private vehicle travel and sustainable travel becoming the norm	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T3	Prepare a plan during 2021 to promote active travel across Lewes District from a public health perspective - work with NHS partners to promote walking groups for example	Improved public health, better AQ and lots of engaging material for the LDC AQ/sustainability web pages/Twitter feed/local media	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T4	Prepare a plan during 2021 to hold sustainability/air quality events with Theatre in Action groups, smoothie bikes, Dr Bike, community groups, etc.	Bringing awareness of AQ/ Sustainability issues to a personal level in a positive and fun environment	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T5	Determine if the council can produce a Construction Code of Practice with guidance on use of low emission non-road mobile machinery and using on-grid energy instead of diesel generators where reasonably practicable	Lowering of emissions from construction sites, particularly in relation to NRMM	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T6	Ensure that local planning policy and guidance includes requirements for passive and active EVCPs and cycle parking on all new major developments	Increase of sustainable travel infrastructure utilising planning policy	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
T7	Work in partnership with ESCC to deliver new cycling and walking initiatives as detailed in the Draft East Sussex Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and seek opportunities for funding.	Additional cycling and walking routes	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Planning & Infrastructure and Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
T8	Support development of hydrogen hubs (as per action E6)	Enable and develop a clean hydrogen economy for transport and heating	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Planning & Infrastructure and Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		

T9	Support Greater Brighton to develop a network of EV chargepoints so that all residents are 'within a convenient distance' of a place to charge their car (Pledge #4)	Coherent network is developed	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Planning & Infrastructure and Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		
T10	Work in partnership with Greater Brighton to have enabled 50% of Greater Brighton's fleet vehicles to be low carbon by 2025 (Pledge #3)		Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		
T11	Enable expansion of car clubs through discussions with operators, parking space owners and the community	Residents can car share instead of owning their own vehicle- reduces vehicle numbers in town and provides control over type/efficiency of vehicle used.	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
T12	Determine how to support reduction in emissions from deliveries to local businesses/residents in particular 'last mile deliveries.' Eco - cargo bikes, restricted delivery times, provision of logistics facilities.	Reduction of traffic and emissions during peak travel times. Healthier, quieter and less polluted streets with potential to prioritise walkers/cyclists so increasing dwell time and improving local economy	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T13	Determine if the council can install pocket parks, micro green/blue spaces to improve diversity and AQ encouraging active travel	Raises appeal of active travel to visitors and residents	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T14	Develop a localised and targeted education campaign aimed at public service vehicles, consider adopting FPN powers	Discourage unnecessary idling by taxis, coaches and other vehicles	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
T15	Develop a pathway to a low carbon taxi fleet	Reduced carbon emissions and improved air quality	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
T16	Organise partnership work on transport issues required at a county level and nationally, in partnership with community groups- in particular public transport and trains	Coherent district infrastructure is delivered to achieve transport decarbonisation aims	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
Actions to make the Council net zero carbon by 2030							
T17	Complete Phase 1 of the waste and recycling vehicle fleet review	Optimisation of routes and fleet reduction	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources

T18	Produce pathway to decarbonise non- RCV fleet vehicles operated by the Council (small & medium vans, cars, other vehicles) TBD at Fleet Working Group 17 Dec	Plan to move to a low carbon fleet	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Fleet decisions to be costed at the appropriate time
T19	Remove fossil fuel fleet vehicles (small and medium vans, cars, other vehicles)	Low carbon fleet achieved	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces		Medium Term	Long Term	Fleet decisions to be costed at the appropriate time
T20	Introduce sustainability criteria into council procurement policies with weighting given to tenderers with proven sustainability policy particularly in the areas of logistics and servicing due to their high vehicle use and emissions	Support for sub-contractors with green credentials to work with LEC	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources

3. Biodiversity

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME			RESOURCES
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Actions by the council to enable the District to become net zero carbon by 2030 and to address the ecological emergency

B1	Develop and adopt a Biodiversity Strategy and action plan	We will have developed our aims and actions to deliver biodiversity improvements	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B2	Local Plans – work closely with Planning Policy and planners to achieve biodiversity wording that is fit for purpose and ambitious to arrest declines	Green and biodiversity beneficial Local Plans	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
B3	Develop and adopt a Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Note- due February 2021	Developers have specific guidance to meet the biodiversity net gain requirement on all sites	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B4	Council Officer training in biodiversity to be completed - Sussex Wildlife Trust could provide this	Decision makers are better informed about biodiversity and	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Performance & People	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B5	Provide direct assistance when required to tree planting projects at suitable sites if required by others	Carbon capture and improved biodiversity	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources

B6	To work with the Sussex Wildlife Trust to deliver their 'Vision for Sussex'	Sussex is a place where people and nature thrive	Sussex Wildlife Trust leading	Short Term	Medium Term		
B7	Investigate possible partnership with the Sussex Wildlife Trust to deliver a district wide approach to the wildlife crisis	To work with landowners, partnerships and community groups to build a resilient ecological network throughout the district	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			
B8	Develop pipeline of projects for biodiversity net gain and 'offsetting'	Increase in biodiversity and projects enabled	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
B9	Review land holdings for possible biodiversity and nature based climate solutions and carry out feasibility work	Internal and Partnership projects enabled	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
B10	Complete University of Brighton student GIS mapping project for areas of land suitable for large scale tree planting - Due July 2021	GIS tools are easily available for all officers to use to aid decision making	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B11	Support Changing Chalk bid and project if successful	Community ranger for countryside/nature/downland education and involvement	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B12	Continue work with community groups, education and communication	Community groups encouraged and work progressed	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
B13	Continue to provide project support for partnership projects, including expertise, volunteer management and fund raising support	Partners projects are enabled and supported to achieve multiple outcomes dependent on project	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
B14	Support Greater Brighton to re- establish a 10 mile Kelp forest off the coast of Sussex	A new kelp forest could capture 70,000 tonnes carbon per year and help prevent coastal erosion	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
B15	Support Greater Brighton and the University of Sussex in rewilding and rain garden research	Knowledge is developed and shared to enable more and better designed projects	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
Actions to make the Council net zero carbon by 2030 and address the ecological emergency on its own land							

B16	Develop a programme of works on LDC land to increase joining up of biodiversity corridors & ecological networks	Increase in biodiversity Improved well being of residents	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term		Resources to be determined
B17	Determine & provide suitable land to enable tree planting and re-wilding	Carbon capture through trees, increased biodiversity, improved mental wellbeing, increased summer shading	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term		
B18	Improve and reduce mowing practices on District Council land	Improved habitat for insects	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B19	Reduce the use of pesticides on District Council land and lobby East Sussex County Council to do the same	Improved habitat for insects	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
B20	Increase wildflower and pollinator planting where suitable	Improved habitat for insects	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Sustainability and for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources

4. Agriculture & Food

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME			RESOURCES
Actions by the council to enable the District to become net zero carbon by 2030 and to address the ecological emergency							
A1	Support local food growing initiatives by making suitable land available and incorporating it into our work with social housing tenants as part of DOHS	More residents can access local food and grow their own	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Housing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
A2	Work with SCDA and partners to develop a food partnership- led by SCDA and funded by ESCC	By end of 2021 SCDA intend to have-governance structure for district food partnership- draft strategy or action plan-food systems map	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
A3	Work with the food partnership to enable more local food distribution	Residents can access locally produced food more easily	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
A4	Work with the Climate Action Forum and others to share best practice on local food distribution	Best practice (such as Lewes Friday Food Market) and knowledge is shared to help new market establish	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
A5	Support initiatives that promote or enable low carbon and nature-friendly farming locally eg South East Downs Farm Cluster	This wider working will facilitate local (Sussex) food production	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Resources to be determined

5. Reducing Emissions from Waste

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME			RESOURCES
Actions by the council to enable the District to become net zero carbon by 2030							
W1	Review waste & recycling service provision to align them with the requirements of increasing recycling and decreasing residual waste.	We recycle more than we incinerate, and our collection methods and schedules enable that and champion it.	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
W2	Continue with planned communications with regular emphasis on food waste reduction eg. 'How to use Christmas leftovers' and incorporate these comms into the overarching sustainability comms plan	Consistent messaging and comms planned on sustainability issues	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			
W3	Help develop local reuse and repair schemes which divert waste, for example Freegle, Freecycle, repair cafes etc.	Encourages a local circular economy and these schemes provide the most help and benefit to people in greater need.	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
Actions to make the Council net zero carbon by 2030							
W4	Undertake fleet review - produce pathway to zero carbon RCV (refuse collection vehicle) fleet	Plan in place to deliver zero carbon waste and recycling fleet	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
W5	Deliver on zero carbon RCV fleet	Zero carbon fleet achieved	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste & Open Spaces		Medium Term	Long Term	Financial implications to be assessed separately at the time
W6	Eliminate use of Single Use Plastic (SUP) at LDC operated events and third party events supported by LDC wherever possible	Reduced plastic waste.	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
W7	Eliminate use of unsustainable paper for printed marketing materials and within democratic services	Reduced emissions from consumption of paper products	Director of Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources

6. Water							
Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME			RESOURCES
Actions by the council to enable the District to become net zero carbon and climate resilient by 2030							
WA1	Complete the new Local Plan and ensure that planning policies and guidance reflect our strategic goals for water	New development is low carbon, energy efficient and is resilient to future climate change	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
WA2	Expand upon the successful Sussex Flow Initiative and introduce other natural flood management projects	Flood risk is reduced using natural methods which also supports the environment	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Short Term	Medium Term		Resources to be determined
WA3	Work in partnership with the Environment Agency to explore the options viable to manage the risks posed by the undefended cliffs at The Esplanade, Telscombe Cliffs.	The Environment Agency's larger technical capability and resources can be utilised to seek an appropriate solution to managing the risks posed by an eroding coast at this location.	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Partnership working delivered using existing resources
WA4	Deliver a coastal management climate change workshop for experts early 2021 and subsequently determine next steps.	Will complete this important engagement that was not completed during the initial strategy engagement period and will start a process of re-engagement with members on this issue.	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
WA5	Support the Greater Brighton partnership with Southern Water to install water recycling on a housing estate (Pledge #2) and evaluate the learning from the pilot	Research and knowledge is gained and can be transferred for use on new developments within our district	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
WA6	Ensure planning policy reflects the need to avoid substantial development on flood plain	Essential flood plain is retained and flood risk is minimised	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources
WA7	Develop guidance to meet water consumption for new builds of no more than 80?? litres per day (part of GB pledge #10)	Preservation of water resources	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
Actions to make the Council net zero carbon by 2030							
WA8	Once Asset Management Strategy is complete- As per action E22- Develop a water consumption reduction plan for all remaining non-housing assets	Plan allows for structured and planned delivery to meet carbon neutrality goal	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources

7. Circular Economy and Community Wealth

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Sustainability has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME			RESOURCES
Actions by the council to enable the District to enable a green recovery and become net zero carbon by 2030							
C1	Implement the 'Re-imagining Lewes District Action Plan' As per the cabinet paper December 2020	The council will have delivered on the following work streams: 1. Lewes District Council as a community wealth building council 2. Progressive procurement of goods and services 3. Fair employment and just labour markets 4. Socially productive use of land and assets 5. Making financial power work for local places 6. Plural ownership of the economy	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources
C2	Produce a council sustainable procurement strategy with a focus on local and sustainable purchasing	Reduced emissions from procurement. Increased local spend and resulting improved community wealth	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
C3	Complete the Net Zero Innovation Fund project on alternative finance models- DUE July 2021	Understanding of which projects are suitable for community funding and investment models, seed funding and project pipeline	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources
C4	Determine if the council can set up a community investment programme potentially using municipal bonds (utilising output of Net Zero Innovation Fund)	Incorporate this decision into September 2021 strategy update report	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance & Assets	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources

Sustainability Indicators

To be reported annually

Key corporate Indicators		Outturn	Method
Dist.	Annual District Carbon Emissions	458000 tonnes CO2e	Produced by Anthesis Consultants-method to be evaluated for replicability in 2021
Corp.	Annual Corporate Carbon Emissions	1590 tonnes CO2e	GHG Protocol and method described in the baseline report for scope 1 and scope 2 emissions
Energy & the built environment Indicators		Outturn	Method
SI.E1	Carbon dioxide emissions from domestic dwellings	2017 data: 149.8 ktCO ₂ 2018 data: 148.8 ktCO ₂	BEIS UK, Local and regional CO2 emissions dataset (data is annually updated 2 years in arrears)
SI.E2	Average SAP rating of Lewes District Council Housing Stock	2020 data: 71 (Band C)	From Housing Asset database
SI.E3	Percentage of fuel poor households in the borough	2018 = 8%	East Sussex in Figures
SI.E4	Solar PV generation: number of sites and total generation capacity	2019: 2,397 installations Capacity: 41.2 MW	BEIS renewable energy statistics-Renewable energy by Local Authority dataset
SI.E5	Number of staff to have undertaken carbon reduction training	Zero- training to be planned during 2021/22	HR records
SI.E6	Carbon dioxide emissions from domestic properties using 'other' forms of fuel (not gas or electricity)	2017: 17 ktCO ₂ 2018: 17.1 ktCO ₂	BEIS UK, Local and regional CO2 emissions dataset (data is annually updated 2 years in arrears)
SI.E7	Pilot project is completed for Southern Water to deliver combined water and energy efficiency visits within Lewes district by end of 2021 (Greater Brighton pledge #6)	Number of visits: TBA Estimated savings achieved: TBA	Provided by Southern Water records end of 2021
Sustainable travel and air quality Indicators		Outturn	
SI.T1	Carbon dioxide emissions from transport	2017 data: 182.7 ktCO ₂ 2018 data: 178.9 ktCO ₂	BEIS UK, Local and regional CO2 emissions dataset (data is annually updated 2 years in arrears)
SI.T2	Number of electric vehicle chargepoints in the district (total number) and the number in our carparks	District (public): 9 LDC Car parks: 2	ZapMap and internal records
SI.T3	Average minimum travel time to reach the nearest 8 key services by public transport or walking (medium sized centres of employment (500-4999 jobs), primary schools, secondary schools, further education, GPs, hospitals, food stores and town centres)	2017= 18.1 minutes	DfT Journey time statistics: Table JTS0104 2017

SI.T4	% of users within 15 minutes of public transport and cycling/walking journey time of services	2017 = 39%	DfT Journey time statistics: Table JTS0408 2017 (dataset: Town106)
SI.T5	Annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide levels in AQMA's	2019 Lewes NOx: 19µg/m ³ PM10: 18 µg/m ³ Newhaven: TBA	Source: LA Monitoring report
Biodiversity Indicators		Outturn	Method
SI.B1	Number of trees/hedges planted	Nov 2019 to Nov 2020 = 539	Figure collected from council 'Tree planting register'
SI.B2	% of major developments achieving a minimum 10% biodiversity net gain	TBC	TBC 2020/21
SI.B3	% of SSSI's (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) in a favourable or unfavourable and declining condition	2020: Favourable: 53.9% Unfavourable and declining: 1.1%	Local Wildlife Sites Initiative Sussex/LA Monitoring Report
SI.B4	Value of annual investment in natural capital projects	£ = None Carbon sequestration potential = 0 tonnes	TBC- work starting 2021
Agriculture & food Indicators		Outturn	Method
SI.A1	Area of Council land that has been made available for food growing	TBC	TBC
SI.A2	Can NFU provide data on farmers converting to more sustainable practices? or engaged with?	TBC	TBC
Waste Indicators		Outturn	Method
SI.W1	Total amount of waste produced	2019/20 = 31,913.89 tonnes	Sourced from WasteDataFlow
SI.W2	% of waste recycled	2019/20 = 41.71%	Sourced from WasteDataFlow
Water Indicator		Outturn	Method
SI.WA1	Number of units approved contrary to Environment Advice regarding flooding	2018/19= 1 2019/20 = 0	Source: LA Monitoring report

SI.WA2	Percentage of dwellings meeting required water consumption standards	TBC	Source: LA Monitoring report
Circular Economy & Community Wealth		Outturn	Method
SI.C1	Progress against the 'Re-imagining Lewes District' Action Plan	No data- new plan Dec 2020	Progress reporting via the Recovery and Reset Board

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Appendix 3-

Summary of Engagement Responses – Climate Change & Sustainability Framework - November 2020

Contents:

1. Introduction
2. Expert panel summary
3. Public responses to date
4. Strategic Goal revisions

1. Introduction

This paper has been put together to demonstrate how we have used the output from the Expert Panels and the public engagement to revise and strengthen the goals set out in the Strategy Framework.

The Expert panels were conducted with members of the inaugural Sustainability Expert Panel brought together in November 2019 as well as with other invited experts in their area July to September 2020.

The public engagement period ran from the end of August to the end of October 2020 and included members from the Climate Action Forum.

Within this document key points have been summarised from the minutes of the expert panel meetings and an overview of the public response provided. The goals are presented as they were in the draft framework and the re-draft based on comments received, workshops undertaken and updates to the Anthesis carbon baseline report. The final strategy and goals intrinsically link with the baseline reports.

We held an additional Agricultural and Land-use workshop with members of the expert panel and others to inform an additional land-use study by Anthesis. This has now fed into the work stream and goals for the Agriculture and Food action area.

In terms of the expert panels we worked with 36 individuals from 33 different organisations based or working within East Sussex and the district, these included the County Council, other district and borough councils, wildlife charities and trusts, community groups and organisations, both Brighton and Sussex University, community interest companies and individual specialists and sustainability practitioners.

In addition to the panel workshops the council received back 38 completed surveys to the framework and around 70 people attended the first virtual Climate Action Forum.

In total this represents input from around 140 people and organisations.

Cross-cutting themes

In developing the strategy and reviewing the responses received it became clear that some issues ran throughout all our action areas.

These themes are not explicit within the strategy as individual action areas but should be reflected within each area in the action plan. The council will keep these in mind when reviewing and updating the strategy and action plan.

These cross-cutting themes are:

1. Education & training
 - Awareness raising and communication with residents- to enable and empower
 - Education and training of the next generation
 - Upskilling of existing trades to enable the transition to a low carbon economy
 - Ongoing upskilling of council officers
2. Funding
 - Developing community investment mechanisms to enable local sustainability and climate initiatives.
 - Support of community initiatives by the council to provide confidence to investors/donors and provide oversight on project delivery and carbon savings.
3. Evidence and targets
 - Good quality and reliable data and evidence is needed to back up our decision making and action prioritisation.
 - Data and targets will need collating and updating- we need to ensure we are not duplicating the work of others or creating unnecessary work.
4. Planning policy and building control
 - Need to strengthen planning policy where we can- this should be through early conversation with developers, guidance and through development control
5. Supporting the action of others
 - Obviously the council cannot deliver a net zero district alone but the strategy can support partnership working and the work of others across all action areas.

2. The expert panels

22nd July- Biodiversity

Key points from experts:

- Need to set target for net gain- minimum 10% but will need a baseline (so we need to determine if getting a baseline is feasible)
- Must ensure we do not lose any priority habitat (links to baselining)
- LDC should declare an ecological emergency at the time the strategy goes to cabinet (or at Council around the same time)
- Need a fund to enable local business to invest in local nature projects
- Need to broaden remit to include the sea
- 'Call out for land' suggested (possibly co-ordinated by LNP)
- Training of officers needed to ensure biodiversity is understood and thread runs throughout council work
- Make use of the targets used by others
- Make use of others information/records/monitoring

Barriers/issues

- Lack of planning policy expertise in this area
- Need to educate officers to ensure a 'green' thread through all operations

29th July- Reducing Emissions from Waste

Key points from experts:

- Needs to be more explicit regarding waste hierarchy- more focus on waste reduction (including consumption), then re-use
- Links to circular economy particularly around reducing and re-use of construction waste
- Need informed communications with residents (ie. New black bag analysis)
- Need to address packaging
- Need to increase home composting
- Could be more open with information regarding the destinations of waste
- Use national performance indicators but set out data more clearly than we currently do (ie. Separating out waste, dry recycling and garden waste)
- Need a way of reducing TetraPak waste- education/comms?

5th August- Sustainable Travel and Air Quality

Key points from experts:

- Goal 2- could be more specific (currently could include more/better roads)
- Goal 3- difficult to encourage when infrastructure is deemed unsafe
- Reconsider goal 4- possibly too vague & mixed up regarding responsibility to deliver- link to Gear Change- place this goal before 3
- Goal 5- rephrase to 'low carbon vehicles' (alternative could mean higher C)

Actions/targets

- Education and how we communicate messages
- Lacking data- more monitoring needed, more data on vehicle movements and how we use our vehicles
- Aim for a proportion of the population to be able to access (a basket of services) within a certain time by active travel (ONS have data on this)
- Possible that carbon is the only quantitative target- could have some qualitative but would need baseline
- Need to improve efficiency ie. Energy used per mile travelled
- Could use an EVCP target for our estate
- Target of 50% urban active travel by 2030? (Gear Change target -Roddy @ Sustrans)
- Need to include cycle and scooters under 'vehicles'

Issues/barriers

- District lacks non-ICE vehicle rural-town connectivity
- Lack of resources to deliver
- ESCC struggle to get buy-in from stakeholders for changes
- Need to increase lobbying

12th August – Energy and the Built Environment

- **Goal 1** – overly complicated

- **Goal 3-** need to clarify meaning of 'nature based solutions'. All agreed we should try and include the desire for (and to encourage) 'low cost low energy development'(including cooling)
- **Need to ensure-** clear/plain language, no jargon, no need to be all encompassing, more specific

Actions/targets

- Generally agreed we need a design guide to assist planning
- Enable through bonds and incentives (such as using council tax collections)
- Encourage developments to be prosumers
- Need to ensure education goes along with technological change
- Use social housing work to influence private sector
- Fuel poverty metric?
- Early engagement with developers
- Could use the CROHM tool to measure progress through EPC's
- Need to capture what is built- not what is planned
- Need to agree how/if we target high energy users
-

Issues/barriers

- In general- skills and knowledge- grass roots level -schools and FE – education of existing trades people
- LDC role in encouraging retrofit through planning and education of residents
- Not quite enough funding to encourage take up of existing schemes- possible loan scheme?
- Need to be clear with our priorities, realistic,

26th August – Circular Economy and Community Wealth

General Points from Expert Panel:

- LDC as landowner and investor should be a leader- our own procurement policies (especially our developments)
- Economic aspects do not appear linked to wellbeing economy?
- Need to encourage buy local and support local community re-use- (this is possibly the biggest impact after our own procurement)

Actions and targets

- Need a better understanding of manufacturing within the district- suggested it would be good to audit material used in the district for example?
- Need to encourage buy local and support local community re-use- (this is possibly the biggest impact after our own procurement)
- Expand Lewes Town good practice- eg. Farmers market
- Need to refine how this interacts with tourism

Issues/barriers

- We don't know what skills we have in the district
- Ensuring decarbonisation is borne fairly and that all will benefit
- Working with ESCC
- Don't yet have a way to measure community wealth in LDC
- How we deal with tourism and encourage the 'right kind' of visiting
- Inclusivity

- Need to get early buy in to changes
- Not included the marine economy

8th September – Agriculture and food

General points

- Need for a more local diet
- More education needed about food miles, nutrition and seasonality- fundamentally important- could be made more prominent in the goals
- Need more community food growing space
- Need to be more explicit about regenerative farming methods rather than goal 4.
- Can't reduce agri land if we want to grow food for local community
- Need to get involved with the farming community of we are to make a difference
- Goal 3 – strategy should focus on this- healthy and affordable food
- Goal 4- is confusing
- Goals likely to become outdated quickly- need to rethink these in general
- Need to ensure language reflects enabling role- not that LDC will action all these things
- LDC should proactively support a food partnership (but not lead)
- Need to increase community food growing/allotments
- Plant fruit trees
- LDC to attend cluster farm meeting (possibly with final Anthesis reports?)
- LDC could fill a niche by working more with small landowners (sub 30 hectares)
- Need to include marine food production

2nd September – Offsetting

- All agreed primary concern is too reduce emissions first
- All agreed LDC should facilitate a fund (to be determined) as soon as possible
- LDC could not claim offsets by spending on its own estate without being open to criticism.
- Any offsetting should be done within boundary
- Any 'fund' would not need to fund the entire project
- No need to be concerned about what we 'offset' we just need to start delivering projects to reduce carbon as much as possible now.
- Projects should focus on the biggest impact for the funds available- use funds to accelerate project delivery

Issues/barriers-

- How to price carbon? Do we need to focus on carbon?
- Would providing offsetting projects to businesses encourage them to remain polluting or do we set criteria?
- Inability to offset entire footprint within boundary?
- Difference between a bond and a fund which is for offsetting or investing in local projects which may or may not have a financial return

22nd September – Water

General Points:

- Support and then exceed Southern Water's Target 100- to reduce domestic water consumption

- Need to reduce consumption of new builds
- Work with providers to produce new communications with residents to improve efficiency – increase collaboration
- Need to include water quality
- Need to refer to aquifer
- Lack of experts for coastal erosion topic- arrange a future workshop on this
- Need to link energy use and water consumption
- Links to Agriculture and food section (particularly with regards to water quality)
- Strategy largely aligns to work the Environment Agency is undertaking.
- Natural flood management is key
- Engagement needed with East Sussex Highways
- Goals reflect key aspects of the topic

3. Public Responses summary

Responses that were positive were largely in favour with the suggestions of goals and targets provided within the framework.

The responses confirmed that the council is heading in the right direction with regards to its works streams and goals but that there were concerns about the ability of the council to deliver.

There was general consensus across all areas that the council should only have targets if they are realistic and attainable.

Questions were more likely to be left unanswered than to be answered in the negative.

It was clear that there were fewer responses to more 'difficult' areas, or those less understood, such as the circular economy and community wealth action area.

Respondents had good suggestions for work and actions, many of which are already underway or planned, although some were outside of the district council's direct responsibility. The comments were though valid (such as those about water companies doing more to find leaks) and had also arisen during discussion with the expert panels.

At least 2 questionnaires were completed by people who also attended the expert panels.

Questions

The Vision for Lewes District Question

78% responses positive, cited as being clear, ambitious, timely – there was some concern about achieving it, concern about 'net zero' being a 'fudge', suggestion to aim higher (for carbon negative).

Recurring themes in the comments included transport, acting as enabler, communications with residents, carbon neutral housing, more tree cover, enabling others to act.

Negative comments and concerns were mainly concerned with lack of follow through and lack of funds.

Our Approach to Offsetting

58% thought we should offset remaining emissions from the council baseline with 63% of all responses saying this should be local

The main issues raised were – potential cost to taxpayer and the use of taxpayer funds, project scrutiny, local projects, only as last resort.

5 thought it could be completed nationally or globally mainly because the problem is a global one

Regarding offsetting scope 3, the majority made no comment whilst 30% said no- we should not offset scope 3- comments included we should focus on reduction, we could do as 'every little helps' or we could do partially.

Action Areas:

Energy and the Built Environment

47% responses agreeing with goals as: excellent; logical; sensible; fine etc.

Comments include- more work with commercial building owners, planning is key, massive task but got to be done

Most agreed with examples of targets given and 5 added that the council must lead by example in setting and enforcing policy. Actions suggested- stop building on greenfield, more affordable homes, flats to have outside space, higher standard needed for housing.

When asked explicitly about house building policy the highest proportion of respondents (64%) were in favour of infilling existing settlements. There was a slight majority for those with concerns over the expansion of existing settlements. Respondents were split regarding a 'garden village' with 33% a clear no and 30% yes but only with substantial environmental caveats.

Sustainable Travel and Air Quality

47% were positive about the goals. Several mentioned: general infrastructure improvements needed to make roads safer and more public transport; issue of risk of over reliance on 'increasing cycling' to detriment of vulnerable/elderly/those with kids and suggested focussing on public (inc. rural) transport and safe walking routes. 1 thought the goals were too vague and not clear enough when it comes to increasing cycling.

Suggestions included: safer/more cycle lanes, stop building in countryside, on-street EV charging

There was a clear yes for targets: needed to prevent inaction- if they were realistic and modelled before being set. Suggestions included: the example was accepted as good potential target; a certain number of miles covered by safe and usable cycle lanes; a certain number of towns/villages connected by reliable, regular, and frequent public transport and/or cycle lanes; regularly measuring air quality in key areas, making this information easily publically available, and committing to improving air quality by set amounts yearly

Biodiversity

44% were positive about suggested goals. 8% were negative, with the general feeling they were not aspirational enough.

Comments included:

The need for qualified staff within the council was raised, along with a need for baseline data; Need for more guidance to residents on biodiversity at home, linking with food waste/composting/wormery's; Right tree right place; Tree planting not always appropriate; need to include carbon capture; lack of ongoing maintenance.

Agriculture and food

The majority of respondents made no comment. A higher proportion of those that did respond were negative regarding the goals (compared to other action areas) and made comments that the district council should leave this aspect to the experts. This opinion was reflected in the Anthesis Agriculture and Land-use workshop.

Where positive comment was made it was around: increasing allotment space; acting as bridge between community and food producers; encouraging small holdings/ community veg gardens; and enabling pop up shops in vacant unit for local producers.

Reducing emissions from waste

25% of comments were positive about the goals. 52% made no comment and only 1 was clearly negative in that the goals were not stretching enough.

Comments included: more work with producers of waste such as supermarkets; more information needed on destinations of waste; make it easier to recycle; recycle more types; information for residents; need to focus on reduction.

Water

56% of respondents made no comment on this section. 25% were positive and only 1 was negative in that the goals were too focussed on flooding.

Comments made included: more work to promote water butts; work more with experts; water companies to do more around leak detection and fixing; need to promote protection of waterways, and conduct forward looking planned not reactionary work; use natural flood protection methods; promote permeable paving.

Circular economy & community wealth

58% made no comment. 31% were positive about the goals though it was felt targets may be difficult to develop. None were negative.

Comments included: general comments around increasing and encouraging the shop local ethos; training and skills development were considered important.

It was apparent that the terms used within this section may need more explaining for the general public.

4. Strategic Goal Revisions

Biodiversity Goals:

Framework	Revised
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. We have implemented the Biodiversity Strategy2. All developments maximise the opportunities for well considered net gains in biodiversity working at a landscape scale.3. We have increased biodiversity on Council owned and managed landholdings.4. We have engaged and enabled community led nature-based projects and we are involved in partnerships that promote natural capital across	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. All developments maximise the opportunities for well considered net gains in biodiversity2. We have increased biodiversity on Council owned and managed landholdings.3. We have engaged and enabled community led nature-based projects and we are involved in partnerships that promote natural capital across the district, including the coast and sea.

<p>the district, including the coast and sea.</p> <p>5. We have the greenest Local Plan we can and have actively engaged with developers.</p> <p>6. Nature-rich and priority habitat has increased overall throughout the district. <i>To become an indicator</i></p>	
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Reducing emissions from waste:

Framework	Revised
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To have reduced emissions from waste collection and associated emissions from dealing with waste 2. To have reduced the amount of waste generated by the district's residents, businesses and visitors 3. We will have increased the proportion of the waste collected by the council that is recycled and reduced the emissions from this activity where we can influence and control this 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will have reduced emissions from waste collection. 2. We have minimised the waste generated by residents, businesses and visitors (infographic- enabled re-use & home recycling) 3. We will have increased the proportion of the waste collected by the council that is recycled and reduced the emissions from this activity where we can influence and control this

Sustainable travel and air quality:

Framework	Revised
<p>We will have improved air quality and reduced carbon emissions by;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. reducing reliance on car and need for personal car ownership; 2. improving the rural transport network; 3. encouraging more cycling and walking; 4. improving infrastructure and reducing barriers to mobility; 5. enabling the uptake of alternatively fuelled vehicles 	<p>We will have improved air quality and reduced carbon emissions by;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. reducing reliance on car and need for personal car ownership; (planning actions/car clubs/cycle parking etc sit under this) 2. Encouraging a more sustainable and low carbon district wide transport network 3. We have worked with ESCC to promote and develop sustainable travel across the district <p>Indicator/target- The number of short journeys walked and cycled has increased substantially (or phrase to decrease car miles?)</p>

Energy & the built environment:

Framework	Revised
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. We will have built and encouraged affordable, energy efficient, climate resilient and adaptable locally sourced and provided housing that provides multifunctional green infrastructure 2. We will have shifted the district to low and zero carbon heat and electricity 3. We will have the greenest Local Plan we can and actively engage with developers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will have built and encouraged affordable, energy efficient and climate resilient homes. 2. We will have shifted the district to low and zero carbon heat and electricity 3. We will engage early on with developers to ensure they produce low cost, low energy buildings.

to produce low carbon developments using nature based solutions, in line with our vision for the district	
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Circular Economy & Community Wealth - The Goals:

Framework	Revised
<p>1. The Council will be using its financial resources as locally as possible</p> <p>2. The Council has a sustainable procurement policy that facilitates local supply chains and encourages a circular economy</p> <p>3. Investment has been made into the local urban and rural economies increasing local employment opportunities and reducing income inequality.</p> <p>4. We will have an expanding clean tech and creative sector</p> <p>5. We have developed our local economies, including the Newhaven Enterprise Zone in partnership with the South East Local Economic Partnership</p> <p>6. LEAP continues to support business start-ups (pictured below)</p> <p>7. The district, including rural communities, has access to high quality broadband and network services.</p> <p>8. Local skills, supply chains and employment opportunities are improved as a result of our partnerships with East Sussex College Group, public sector organisations, social enterprises, cooperative businesses, as well as other forms of business, particularly focussing on clean and green tech</p>	<p>1. The Council has a sustainable procurement policy that facilitates local supply chains and encourages a circular economy</p> <p>2. The council has enabled local re-use networks</p> <p>3. Investment has been made into the local urban, coastal and rural economies increasing local employment opportunities and reducing income inequality</p> <p>4. Local skills, supply chains and employment opportunities are improved as a result of our partnerships with East Sussex College Group, public sector organisations, social enterprises, cooperative businesses, as well as other forms of business, particularly focussing on clean and green technologies.</p>

Agriculture & Food Goals:

Framework	Revised
<p>Strategic Goals:</p> <p>1. We have fully engaged and supported The Agriculture Bill and attached schemes such as ELMS as and where possible. We have helped protect the environment and produced food, whilst taking care of the health of soil, water and pollinators.</p> <p>2. We have influenced conditions for the reduction in emissions from agriculture and food production.</p> <p>3. We have enabled the increase in local community food production and resilience and its local distribution to provide seasonal, healthy and affordable food.</p> <p>4. We have influenced the conditions for the production of low chemical ecologically sound agriculture in the district</p>	<p>We will work with in partnership with others to:</p> <p>1. Educate and enable residents to access affordable, local and seasonal food through supporting opportunities for local production and distribution</p> <p>2. Implement a district and Sussex wide food strategy</p> <p>3. Enable and support local food growing using regenerative farming methods</p>

<p>5. Articulated a sustainable food strategy for Lewes District and is shaping the East Sussex and Greater Brighton strategic approach</p>	
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Water:

<p>Water consumption in the district has reduced and our water resources are conserved and protected.</p> <p>2. We will have well managed and protected waterways and coastal areas that provide benefit to residents and the natural environment</p> <p>3. We will have adapted communities to be resilient against flooding and coastal erosion due to increased sea level and severe weather events as a result of climate change, using nature based solutions where possible.</p>	<p>Working with others to achieve the goals We will work in partnership with others to achieve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduced water consumption in the district; conserved and protected our water resources, including our aquifer; 2. Well managed and protected waterways and coastal areas that benefit residents and the natural environment 3. Communities that are resilient against flooding and coastal erosion
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