

Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy



Lewes District Council

- Carbon Emissions Report
- Strategy Update



November 2023

Lewes District Council Climate Change & Sustainability Update

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1. Introduction

This update report on the progress of the Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy adopted in February 2021 provides an overview of how work has progressed on the initial action plan and how this work has evolved over the last year. It provides a brief update to the evidence base and reports on the multitude of projects that have been delivered by the council, the community and in partnership.

The council provides a summary emission report for the year 2022/23 along with a progress summary against the baseline year 2018/19.

The district emissions are reported using publicly available data produced by Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ – previously Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy [BEIS]). BEIS data is national and consistent over many years but only consists of scope 1 (direct emissions from fuel use) and 2 (electricity consumed) emissions within the local authority boundary, it is reported, for the first time, in units of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e).

No analysis is carried out on the district data, and it is provided for monitoring purposes only this year. A more in-depth analysis of district emissions will be carried out in 2024/25. This should enable a review of the figures pre, during and post COVID-19 lockdowns.

2. Lewes District Council Carbon Emissions Report

This report provides a summary of the carbon report for the financial year 2022/23, along with a comparison of previous years with the baseline 2018/19.

2.1 Methodology

We have calculated the baseline using the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol methodology and the appropriate annual conversion factors for each year issued by the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (DESNZ – previously Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy [BEIS]). By using this method and these figures, we are ensuring that the baseline emissions we measure can be reported accurately every year to 2030 using a peer reviewed and agreed process.

Lewes District Council generally uses the 'operational control' approach to define the organisational boundary and to inform the emissions inventory boundary described in the table below.

It should be noted, however, that with regards to metered gas and electricity, all sites, regardless of who operates the site, are considered to be in scope 1 or 2 if the council is responsible for paying the bills (even if these costs are re-charged to the lessee) and for fully maintaining the premises. Where these conditions are not met, the sites will sit within scope 3 (eg. for Wave Leisure facilities).

Scope 1 and 2 emissions form the organisational baseline and are considered to be directly controllable by the Council.

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 pays 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 pays the electricity bills)
Scope 3	Indirect emissions that result from other activities that occur in the value chain, either upstream or downstream	As per table 3

2.2 Data summary & review

April 2018 to March 2023

This year's contains condensed information, further detail will be provided during 2024. The emissions summary is provided in Table 1 and Graphs 1 and 2.

The council's total emissions have reduced by 16.8% since baseline 2018/19.

Council emissions are reported using the grid standard electricity factor. This is because the electricity supply is a Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certificate backed renewable supply and, although the council's supplier insists, the authority can claim this as zero carbon at actual point of use the grid standard electricity mix is being used, and it is best practice and a requirement of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol to report this.

There has been **a further year on year reduction** from fleet emissions and there is now have a **13.8% reduction on the baseline** which is largely down to reduced consumption.

Gas consumption is now less than the baseline figure, next year, usage with reviewed to see if this reduction continues.

Operational building gas consumption has reduced by 8.1% on the 2018/19 baseline.

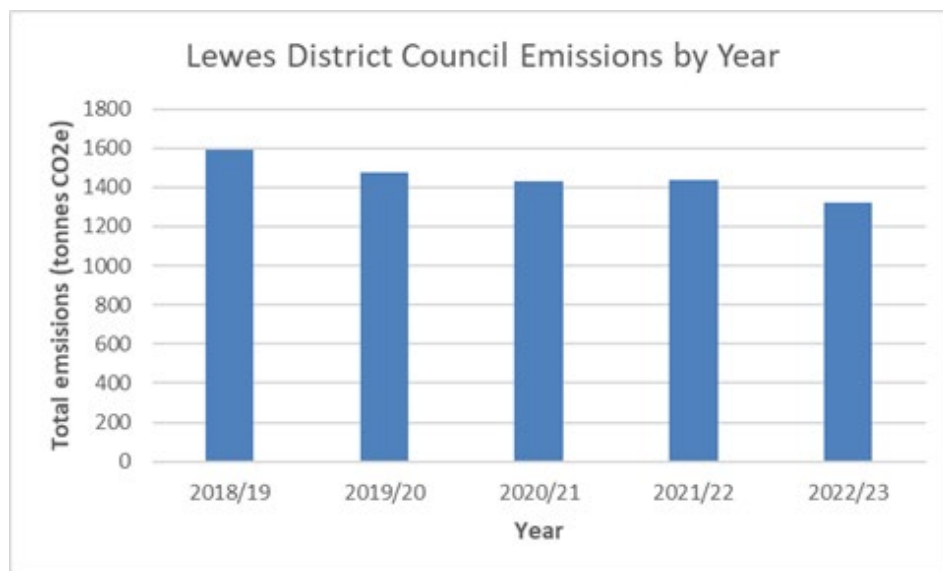
Electricity emissions have overall reduced by 33% on the baseline – largely due to the increase in renewables within the grid electricity mix. It is likely that electricity consumption will increase further in the near future as the work to electrify some of the council's fleet begins.

Graph 2 shows the trends in the source of emissions by scope (gas, electricity, diesel) from 2018 to 2023.

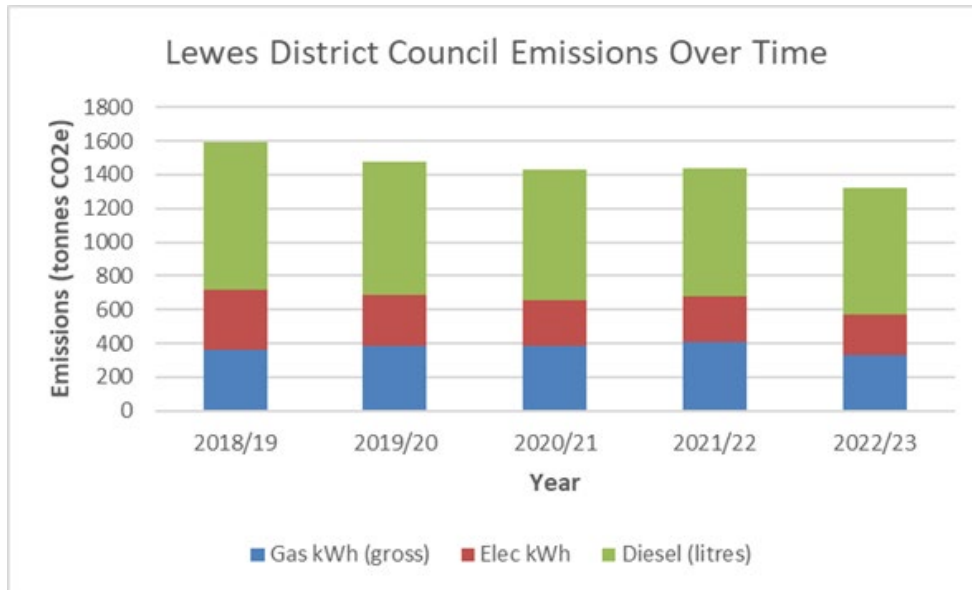
Table 1- Lewes District Council Emissions Summary in CO₂e

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	% reduction on baseline 2018/19
<i>Gas kWh (gross)</i>	360.5	388.5	382.6	409.3	331.2	8.1
<i>Elec kWh</i>	358.4	299.7	276.8	268.8	240.9	32.8
<i>Diesel (litres)</i>	870.9	790.7	770.8	761.2	751.0	13.8
Total	1589.8	1478.9	1430.2	1439.3	1323.1	16.8

Graph 1: Lewes District Council emissions by year



Graph 2: Trends in the source of emissions by scope



2.3 Scope 3 emissions

The council continues to expand upon its Scope 3 emissions reporting.

The council acknowledges that its greatest source of emissions will be from purchasing and contracting. The councils reporting methods continue to improve as contracts renew, as reflected in table 3.

Table 3. Scope 3 emissions- tonnes CO2e

Source	Data source and conversion	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Electricity Transmission and Distribution losses	Utilities consumption information	30.52	25.54	23.42	23.78	22
Water use – supply and treatment	Direct from utility company	N/A	13.9	19.5	9.6	5.3
Wave Leisure	Direct from consumption information (water, gas and electricity)	953.5	945	365.5	763	705
Private Business Miles (staff and councillors)	Calculated using miles claimed and an average petrol car			28.4	20	22.6
Councillors – taxis	'Regular Taxi km' based on spend (average costs)				0.02	N/A
Public transport (staff and councillors)	Estimated km based on spend (rail assumed)			0.39	0.82	1.3
Well to Tank (WTT) diesel fuel emissions	Based on actual consumption			185.3	184.8	179
Well to tank natural gas	Utilities consumption information			56.51	70	57
Grounds maintenance contract – fuel (consumption and WTT)	Diesel and unleaded petrol consumption				83.75	86.5
Total		984t	984t	679t	1156t	1079t

3. Whole District Carbon Emissions Summary

This section summarises the data available for the entire districts carbon emissions.

15% reduction in district wide emissions between 2018 and 2020, with a 10% reduction from 2019 to 2020 (DESNZ/BEIS data)

Data Source	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Anthesis District Baseline	458 kt CO ₂ e	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scatter Cities methodology	534 kt CO ₂ e	527.2 kt CO ₂ e	514.8 kt CO ₂ e	Not available	Not available
DESNZ data July 2022- UK local authority and regional CO2 emissions – data tables (excel)	Data in CO ₂ e is not available. 391 kt CO ₂	483.2 kt CO ₂ e	455.2 kt CO ₂ e	407.5 kt CO ₂ e	425.4 kt CO ₂ e

As the data shows above, there is a 15% reduction on the whole district baseline using DESNZ figures, however, this is insufficient to meet the district wide carbon budget as determined by the [Tyndall Centre](#). The differing methodologies makes it challenging to fully understand the entire picture. <https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/reports/E07000063/>

The district should aim for a year-on-year reduction of 13.3% if it is to stay within the carbon budget for 2020-2021.

It needs to be noted that the available district information is not directly comparable with the district baseline produced by Anthesis in 2020 due to variations in calculation methodology. Therefore, the available information from the Scatter tool (also produced though collaboration by the same consultants Anthesis, Nottingham City Council, the Tyndall Centre and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority with funding from BEIS/DESNZ) is reported for 2017, and it is compared with the DESNZ data available for local authority areas.

Variation between Scatter and DESNZ figures are due to variations in methodology and the scopes reported. Scatter is the only method to count some scope 3 indirect emissions, including 'cruise impacts' as a result of aviation (calculated on percentage of

population assuming flying is uniformly distributed across the whole population) and waterborne transportation, neither of which are covered in the DESNZ data.

4. The Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy – Strategic Action Areas – Update 2023

Summary of progress

The Strategy currently contains 87 actions across 7 action areas. A summary of work to date across the district is below – the full spreadsheet in Appendix 1 sets out more information on the actions within each area.

68% of actions are currently reported as green, 16% as amber, 0% red and 16% complete.



ENERGY & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Progress towards goals:

1. We will have built and encouraged affordable, energy efficient and climate resilient homes

The council's Co-operative Alliance is moving positively towards delivering 200 new council homes within the district over the 2020-2024 period, having 189 homes either in development, planning, under construction or completed. These include developments in Ringmer, Newhaven, Chailey, Lewes and Plumpton with more brownfield sites under consideration. The council has secured a modular housing contract to speed up development delivery and the provision of energy-efficient locally produced housing, is taking a fabric first approach to ensure high levels of insulation and appropriate low carbon heating and cooling requirements as well as building to Healthy Homes principles. Technologies considered at each site include solar panels, batteries, heat pumps, and green roofs/walls. The council continues the process of collating evidence for the new Local Plan to ensure that all development, not just council housing, is fit for purpose for the future, low carbon and climate resilient.

2. We will have shifted the district to low and zero carbon heat and electricity

The council is continuing to work with organisations, such as UK Power Networks (UKPN) regarding upgrading of power supplies within the district in order to facilitate the uptake of low carbon electricity, in order to enable the increased uptake of electric vehicles, and technology such as heat pumps.

Solar Together is a successful group buying scheme to enable and facilitate the able to pay market to access best value solar panels and battery storage. By encouraging domestic solar suitable properties, the council enables residents to reduce

reliance on centrally produced energy and lowers the overall emissions from domestic housing for the district, this has the double benefit of not only lowering emissions but also buffering residents against a volatile energy market.

3. We will engage early on with developers to ensure they produce low cost, low energy buildings

Early engagement with private developers is critical to meeting our net zero goals and continues to be a key focus for the council. This is, however, completed against the backdrop of the current Local Plan which contains our planning policy documents. Moving forward, updating the Local Plan is key to ensuring the development of low carbon, highly energy-efficient buildings enabling early engagement to go hand-in-hand with clear policy direction.

Targets, facts and figures

We are currently on track to reduce council carbon emissions by around **50% by 2025**

Domestic buildings are responsible for **37 %** of Lewes District’s emissions (BEIS LA (local authorities) GHG estimates 2020)

62.5 % of homes in the district have an energy efficiency rating of D or lower as of Sept 2022 – this is an **improvement** on the previously reported figure of 71% meaning homes in the district are becoming more energy efficient.

Solar generation capacity as of end 2021 **16.7 MW**

Council energy consumption has **reduced by 9.5% on the baseline**

Case Studies

Ovesco Energy Champions provide household energy advice.



Ovesco is a not-for-profit community interest company which develops community-owned renewable energy in the Lewes district and across East Sussex. Ovesco Energy Champions offer free, impartial energy advice to residents and helped 840 people in 2022/23. Trained Energy Champions are on hand to provide energy bill health checks, help with reducing energy usage, and have free energy reducing kits and insulation materials. They can check eligibility for the warm home discount and energy related financial support, help with approaching suppliers regarding arrears, direct debits, and payment plans. They are also available to provide advice on eco heating upgrades, renewables and retrofitting. As well as having a dedicated Energy Room at the Climate Hub (supported by the council) situated in Lewes House on

Lewes High Street, the energy champions attend community events and venues such as community supermarkets in Peacehaven and Newhaven, Fitzjohns foodbank, Ringmer Library and the Home First tenants conference. The Energy Champions are available for drop-ins at Lewes House three days a week, as well as for home visits and advice through an Energy Advice hotline.

Decarbonising our Housing Stock: Roadmap for 2030 zero carbon



Zero carbon homes could now be possible thanks to the completion of a ground-breaking study between Lewes District and Eastbourne Councils, the University of Brighton and the council's sustainability joint venture Clear Futures. The study looked at the most realistic solutions that could be delivered by 2030, which includes more investment in local green energy and a targeted approach to retrofit. Delivering these solutions though will require a coordinated effort between Local Authorities, central government, and energy companies, as well as the development of local energy systems. The methodology for this work was to analyse and evaluate our housing stock using archetypes, SAP and dynamic modelling, remote seasonal monitoring, physical inspections from PAS 2035 assessors and architects, stock profiling, and

asset plan modelling. The work was underpinned by a peer review panel made up of leading national expert individual and organisations.

Solar Together



Solar Together Sussex brings the cost benefit of bulk purchasing solar PV panels and battery storage to residents of the district. The council participated in the summer 2023 solar together scheme. The scheme offered residents solar PV panels with optional battery storage and as well as batteries for those with existing solar PV. Home electric vehicle charge points were also included in the scheme for the first time. A high level of interest in the scheme led to 1,197 registrations from residents.



SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL & AIR QUALITY

Progress towards our goals:

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

1.Reducing reliance on cars and the need for personal car ownership

The council recognises our dependency on cars and is working with car clubs to deliver more communally accessible vehicles as part of new housing developments. The council is also in the process of enabling existing and future car club vehicles to transition to electric where these are cited within our car parks. The council is working with car clubs to increase access to car clubs in more areas of the district.

The council is working with the community to improve connectivity to sustainable travel (eg. by providing cycle parking in key locations and continues to work with the county council on increasing cycle parking and car clubs).

2. Encouraging a more sustainable and low carbon district wide transport network

Whilst the council is not the transport authority, studies have been completed by the council in partnership with community groups and other organisations to enable better cycle access around the district, these include a study into facilitating better cycling and more secure cycle parking in Lewes town. Community groups have been particularly active in this area gaining funding from various sources to improve facilities for both pedestrians and cyclists.

3. Working with East Sussex County Council to promote and develop sustainable travel across the district

The council continues to work with the county council, Transport for the South-East and rail operators to further improve the transport network and more locally to develop school streets and cycle parking. We have been actively working with the county council in starting the process of rolling out on-street electric vehicle charge points.

Targets, Facts, and figures

The council is on track to have **64 EV (Electric Vehicle) charge points in 11 car parks across the district by the new year**, we will continue to roll out charge points to further car parks after this.

The council is on track to enable 2 car club vehicles to transfer from petrol to EV.

As a result of the fleet decarbonisation strategy, that is contributing to the electrification of our fleet, **we are on track to have a zero carbon fleet by 2030**

The council is on track to reach around **90% percentage reduction in fleet direct fossil fuel use by 2025** this will significantly exceed our 20% target.

On road transport is responsible for **37.4 %** of Lewes district's emissions (BEIS LA GHG estimates 2020).

921 Ultra Low Emission Vehicles registered by the end of Q1 2022 in the district, of which 546 are pure electric – an increase in ULEVs of 146% since the end of 2019.

The Air Quality Action Plans for Lewes and Newhaven are currently under development with publication expected in 2024.

Case Studies

Electric Vehicle Charge installed in Council car parks

The council entered into a 15-year contract with Connected Kerb, one of the UK's leading providers of electric vehicle charging solutions, to roll out standard chargers in our car parks across the district. Initially, charge points are being installed 11 car parks across the district, with a total of 64 charging bays, and an additional 2 bays in Lewes town and one in Newhaven to enable the electrification of car club vehicles. The car parks are in areas



where the majority of residents have no access to off road parking and these charge points will help overcome a barrier to electric vehicle charging. Over the coming year, the council will be delivering more EV charge points across the district. The council is also working with ESCC which is responsible for on street charge points.

Ouse Valley Climate Action (OVCA) Active Travel Hub Newhaven



The OVCA Active Travel Hub at The Sidings in Newhaven has acted as a facility with space free of charge for Sussex Community Development Association (SCDA). The active travel hub has provided a facility and resource for cycling and training with access to a good store of bikes and tools. Since starting the project, a huge range of cycling activities have been delivered for young people in the Newhaven Area. These include a ‘bike fix’ day, where young people were instructed by a qualified mechanic, learning how to do basic repairs and servicing for their bikes. Weekly ‘learn to ride’ sessions are led for younger children to attend after school and learn to ride, unaided, for the first time. This has been a wonderful and heart-warming experience for everyone involved and it has been great to see children come in on stabilisers and leave, at full speed on two wheels. Over 20 children have attended and passed Bikeability Level 1 to improve their cycling skills. The hub has 27 good quality lightweight bikes that are used for lessons and loaned out to children without a bike of their own, who have learnt to ride.



BIODIVERSITY

Progress towards our goals:

1. All developments maximise the opportunities for well-considered gains in biodiversity

The council currently seeks to maximise biodiversity on all of our own development sites this includes the installation of green walls and green roofs, where feasible. The update to the Local Plan will see net gain written into planning policy for all developments. A green wall is to be included in the development of the health, wellbeing and cultural hub in Newhaven.

2. We have increased biodiversity on council owned and managed landholdings

The council's Biodiversity Strategy was approved by Cabinet in 2021. This strategy complements the pollinator strategy and pesticide policy adopted in 2019. Projects to increase valuable ecological habitats through better mowing practice, tree and hedge planting and continual reviews of management and contracts for council owned land and property support and proactively pursue measures to help arrest biodiversity losses, restore habitats and species and work for climate resilience to promote healthy and thriving communities.

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 coast and sea

Community led projects and partnership working are key to delivering improvements to our natural environment. The council has an active Green Consultancy Team consisting of in-house specialists across water, coast, ecology and parks management, that work with outside organisations and private landowners to deliver work across the district.

For more information on wildflowers, conservation, natural flood management and more: [Home - Making a Difference in Lewes \(makingadifferenceinlewesdistrict.com\)](https://www.makingadifferenceinlewesdistrict.com)

Targets, facts and figures

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) has become a key part of ecology planning consultations, which involves our ecologists reviewing submitted BNG assessments and metric calculations, providing comments and working with planners, developers and their consultants. This has resulted in all major planning applications achieving 10% net gain since Cabinet approval for our technical advice note in February 2021.

BNG as part of planning policy work has seen our in-house ecologists advising on BNG considerations and reviewing information produced by consultants for biodiversity evidence gathering. This initiative will deliver on one of the council's key corporate objectives and put the environment and the enhancement of biodiversity at the centre of the emerging local plan.

Case Studies

Cockshut Stream Restoration Project



The Cockshut is a 3km long chalk stream that flows from springs at the foot of the South Downs in Kingston, eventually joining The River Ouse before flowing out to sea. Work began earlier this year to realign the stream into a new channel which now flows through a 6.8-hectare wetland habitat to the east of the Stanley Turner Ground in Lewes. The stream has a long and vibrant history as a working waterway. Over time, the stream has been straightened, deepened, widened, and disconnected from the surrounding landscape. The current channel is steep-sided, slow flowing and shallow. The



Cockshut Stream currently contains the non-native invasive Parrots Feather, a water plant which has grown so vigorously, and has blocked out light into the stream, preventing the natural balance of indigenous species. The project's aim to eradicate it will not only benefit The Cockshut but other local waterways, too. A rare and unique habitat, an estimated 85% of the 220 world's chalk streams are found in England, and a high proportion of these have been adversely affected by human activities. In 1988, the site was classified as an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest), however, more recent studies of the site have not revealed the presence of the flora and fauna cited in the classification. The Ecological Impact Assessment states that 'it is anticipated that on completion there will be a positive residual effect, significant at the County Level as the population of notable Odonata species and molluscs of conservation importance should increase.'

The Cockshut Stream Restoration Project is set to not only enhance biodiversity, help with flood management, and carbon storage but also to restore the rights of the stream to flow unimpeded, unpolluted and with its native plants and wildlife protected.



Changing Chalk – restoring lost habitats, bringing histories to life



Over four years, Changing Chalk will create connections across the urban and rural areas of the Downs and will restore and reconnect the fragmented areas of remaining chalk grassland. Changing Chalk will support nature's recovery and climate resilience in the area and create opportunities for work, learning and leisure time for people in the area by provide engaging activities for people to enjoy, enhancing health and wellbeing. The Changing Chalk Ranger works with community groups across Lewes and in Newhaven, running a varied program of activities to protect chalk grassland, including practical tasks such as footpath maintenance, step and fence repair, scrub management, glade creation, and pond restoration. Inspiring others about rare chalk grassland ecology with surveying and wildlife discovery such as breeding and wintering bird surveys, wildflower, grasses, pollinator, reptile, and fungi ID and surveys. Encouraging

engagement with the sites from disadvantaged groups who may typically be excluded such as the deaf community, diversity resource international, BPOC writers and artists, people from socio-economically deprived areas, unpaid carers, and youth groups. Over 40 volunteers have been educated on habitat management. A group of 14 volunteer scythers have been trained to maintain the meadows, and a group of 12 site checkers have been supported to look after the sites.



Sustainable Horticulture at the Council

As part of the council's Pollinator and Biodiversity Policies, we ensure that we look at the best ways to manage the land that we own. This may include leaving some grass areas uncut, or cut to different lengths, to create linked up biodiversity areas and areas where wildflowers can grow for the benefit of pollinating insects. As well as wildflowers, these areas create great habitats for other bugs, beetles, and lizards. We often enhance these areas with newly seeded wildflower areas, with plants that are particularly useful for pollinators.

We have significantly reduced our use of annual bedding plants – restricting them to high profile sites. Annual bedding looks attractive but does require a lot of water, especially during hotter summers. It also needs heated green houses for its production, which is expensive and burns energy, adding to climate change. Previous areas where bedding was grown have been changed primarily to perennial planting, again with an emphasis on pollinator plants or wildflower seeding. Our bedding plants and shrubs are grown in non-peat or peat reduced composts wherever possible and where plastic pots are used these are returned to the supplier for re-use.

The council has a pesticide policy that states that we will not use pesticides unless there is a specific problem, such as Knot weed. In these cases, all other options would be considered first, and, if essential, a minimum amount of pesticide would be applied. Many of our parks are classed as “Pesticide Free” parks, where no pesticides are used. The council has not used Glyphosate in its parks, open spaces and play areas for at least 4 years. Looking forward, we will be bringing in more sustainable equipment into our parks and open spaces, including using electric powered strimmers and hedge cutters.



Walk The Chalk – a community arts, nature, and heritage celebration.

Walk the Chalk was a celebratory event for the King Charles III England Coast Path which will be the longest coastal trail in the UK. In late September 2023, a five-day event centred on South Hill Barn, Cuckmere Haven and the Seven Sisters, focused on local heritage, chalk, fossils, flora, fauna, history and folklore through art and creativity. Walk the Chalk celebrated the joys of being in nature and our iconic coastal landscape. Much of Walk the Chalk’s activity took place on a Site of Special Scientific Interest, it is also part of the South Downs National Park, the Sussex Heritage Coast and a Marine Conservation Area. South Hill Barn hosted a full programme of exhibitions, music, performance, debate and sound installation and a Living Coast Undersea Experience enabling visitors to virtually dive into Seaford Bay and discover the unique marine wildlife of the area.



AGRICULTURE & FOOD

Progress towards our goals:

We will work in partnership with others to:

1. Educate and enable residents to access affordable, local and seasonal food through supporting opportunities for local production and distribution.

The council works with the Lewes District Food Partnership (LDFP) and others to ensure accessibility to affordable food. This may be through the provision of space for community organisations in order to enable projects to go ahead, such as community larders and community fridges. Enabling and supporting local food markets where we can and engaging with landowners. The LDFP is bringing together communities, food businesses, local growers and producers, emergency food providers, food waste activists and other organisations from across the district at the October 2023 Lewes District Food Summit, in order to connect the dots and create better food systems for everyone.

2. Implement a district and Sussex wide food strategy.

The food partnerships within Sussex are working together along with SCDA and others to explore how we can make the local food system in East Sussex work for its people, boost the local economy, and protect and enhance the environment through a regional event in October 2023.

3. Enable and support local food growing using regenerative farming methods

The council continues to promote more sustainable farming methods whenever there are conversations with landowners and farmers occurring. This is a crucial strand of how, Sussex wide, we can ensure local food businesses have the opportunity to thrive and tackle the climate and nature emergency at the same time. This action links to projects occurring within other action areas such as biodiversity.

Targets

The council has supported Lewes District Food Partnerships application to Sustainable Food Places Bronze Award for the district.



Case Studies

Lewes District Food Partnership: Grow Cook Eat Network – Building a Good Food Movement for Lewes District



The 'Building a Good Food Movement for Lewes District' aims to ensure food equality, security and sustainability, and explores how to ensure everyone has access to good quality and affordable food, that is good for our health, the health of our planet and future generations. It looks at food as a whole system, where improvements in one area do not cause failures in others. LDFP supports community projects that connect people to Growing Cooking and Eating opportunities, whilst also supporting local food businesses and a sustainable food economy. Building local food security is key, so the network works with growers, chefs, teachers, businesses, community groups, to build a Good Food Movement for Lewes District. The Grow Cook Eat network, which is supported by volunteers, aims to create a future where we can share resources such as land to grow food locally whilst encouraging community connections through cooking and eating together. A future where nature is not viewed as an invisible asset but is included in a circular economy.

Lewes District Food Partnership: Emergency Food Network – Feeling the Pinch: Have your Say.



‘Feeling the Pinch: Have Your Say’ is a project which amplifies the voices of residents who have experienced food insecurity through the Cost-of-Living Crisis. The project challenges misconceptions around food poverty in Lewes District and raises awareness. Feeling the Pinch project talks about the psychological impacts of food poverty. The project explores how to ensure nobody is left worrying where their next meal will come from, whilst ending the need for food banks. The project focuses on how access to support should be non-judgemental and led with dignity; working with Kingston & Brighton University, to create a Toolkit for Dignified Food Support. The district has many examples of projects that are inclusive, accessible, and for many food banks it’s not just food that is being offered but social connectedness and an antidote to isolation and loneliness, as well as access to advice and information services. Whether it be a cup of tea and a chat or a Community Café offering a hot meal,

these have become part of the key-offer for many community food support projects in Lewes District. LDFP supports the concept that food security comes not just from the provision of food but from promoting well-being and opportunities to engage & connect with each other, as well as robust information & advice services.



REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM WASTE

Progress towards our goals:

1. We will have reduced emissions from waste collection.

In June 2022, Cabinet adopted the ‘Fleet Replacement Strategy 2030’. This will lead to a new fleet of ultralow emission refuse and recycling vehicles by 2030. As an interim step, in 2023 existing diesel vehicles moved to a low carbon renewable diesel, and food waste collection pods (fitted on diesel refuse vehicles) were replaced with small dedicated electric trucks. Fleet procurement is now aligned to the zero carbon 2030 target.

2. We have minimised the waste generated by residents, businesses, and visitors.

Communications to increase recycling continue to be a corporate priority and we use all the engagement tools available. The 'Reduce Reuse Recycle' (RRR) bulletin has been well received by members and residents. We have used the RRR bulletin to promote safe disposal of batteries; tips to reduce food waste; guidance on what to include in your dry mixed recycling. We have developed a Planning Technical Advice Note relating to construction waste and this is now a planning app validation requirement.

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.

Enthusiasm around the introduction of the new EV food waste fleet is seeing more food waste being recycled. This complements the ongoing communication strategy implemented by the council including the 'RRR' email bulletin.

Targets, facts & figures

The Council is on track to a zero carbon waste fleet by 2030.

Lewes recycles about 41% of its rubbish.

The council met its target to produce a pathway to a zero-carbon waste fleet by the end of 2022, Cabinet having adopted the strategy in June 2022. Delivery of the pathway is subject to budget and due diligence. The council is continuing to work on strategies to recycle 55% of the district waste by 2025.

'Cheeky Wipes' – our partnership scheme has issued 128 vouchers for local parents to swap to reusable nappies or reusable wipes.

Case Studies

Electric vehicles collect food waste across the district.



Food waste collections in Lewes district are becoming more environmentally friendly with the introduction of new all-electric collection vehicles. Council refuse crews have already started collecting food waste using electric vehicles on some rounds across the district and will be rolling out separate food waste collections to all rounds throughout autumn and winter. Using electric vehicles to collect food waste – and then composting it – is an important step in our ambition of becoming carbon net zero and fully climate resilient in Lewes district by 2030. The council is committed to making the fundamental changes needed to prevent climate change, and using ultra-low emission vehicles for food waste collections is a significant part of the journey. Residents may notice that their regular refuse crews are taking household rubbish or refuse and leaving the other bin behind – but this is because they are being collected separately.

Chewing Gum Task Force – cleaning up and changing behaviour.



The council is one of 56 across the country to be awarded funds from the Chewing Gum Task Force, now in its second year, to clean chewing gum off pavements and prevent it from being littered again. Established by Defra and run by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, the Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme is open to councils across the UK who wish to clean up gum in their local areas and invest in long-term behaviour change to prevent gum from being dropped in the first place.

The Task Force is funded by major gum manufacturers, including Mars Wrigley and Perfetti Van Melle. Monitoring and evaluation carried out by Behaviour Change has shown that in areas that benefitted last year a reduced rate of gum littering is still being observed six months after clean-up and the installation of prevention materials. Estimates suggest the annual clean-up cost of chewing gum for councils in the UK is around £7 million and, according to Keep Britain Tidy, around 77% of England's streets and 99% of retail sites are stained with gum.

Community recycling workshops

The council's Community Engagement and Recycling Officer delivers workshops not only on recycling but on the journey of household waste. Demand for the workshops became apparent as residents enquired about what happens to their recycling and waste once collected. The talk is available to community groups, organisations, and residents of the district, such as Scout Troops, Gardening Groups and Homes First residents. It covers how recycling first travels to Light Brothers facility and then continues its journey to the Material Reclaim Facility in Kent. Information about what can be put in recycling containers to avoid contamination along with information on how to recycle Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE), batteries and dual material products like tetra pack and blister packs are addressed.



WATER

Progress towards our goals:

We will work in partnership with others to achieve:

- 1. Reduced water consumption in the district, and conserved and protected 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**

The council has an excellent track record of working in partnership to meet the goals above. Examples of these are provided in the case studies below but also include working with the Environment Agency to assess options for our coastal frontage and maintain ongoing discussions with East Sussex County Council, Southern Water and other stakeholders.

- Works are currently underway in Peacehaven to repair and maintain the sea defences to provide protection to the toe of the cliffs from erosion. A study has been commissioned to understand the challenges and opportunities of maintaining these sea defences during the middle period of the century as we anticipate sea levels to rise. We continue to work with a range of organisations to monitor how the cliffs along develop and the risks posed by a changing coast.

- The council works in partnership with the Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust and the Sussex Wildlife Trust to deliver a programme of Natural Flood Management works across the district between 2023-2029. Schedules are currently being developed for delivery over autumn and winter 2023/2024. Some of the current NFM and delivered projects are below:
 - Ringmer Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) is currently being developed with two Ringmer schools, to retrofit SuDS in schools with funding from the Department for Education, with further details in the case study below.
 - In 2022/23 the council delivered Ringmer Wetlands, a Natural Flood Management project with Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust. The creation of three linked retention ponds provided 560,000 litres of storage – an Olympic size pool stores 2,500,000 litres and reduced the risk of flooding to 15 properties in Ringmer.
 - Working with the Sussex Wildlife Trust (through the Sussex Flow Initiative Partnership, which is now known as the Wilder Ouse), constructed over 568 leaky natural woody dams, which hold back an estimated 568,000 L4 of water per flood event over the last 5 years. As well as creating storage for over 17 million litres of flood water (or around 17,000 tonnes) – much of which is held back each time there is a new flood event.

Targets, facts and figures

The council's new Local Plan policies will seek to achieve best practice water consumption in new developments, and we will continue to both work with and hold accountable water companies where there is pollution of our water ways and encourage water conservation and activities through communications and events.

Case Studies

Storing the Storm – Ringmer Parish SuDS



Storing the Storm aims to minimise and manage surface water run-off by delivering small Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) to reduce local flood risk and respond to a changing climate. Funding for 'Storing the Storm' was provided by Lewes District Council, as part of its Ouse Valley flood risk management work. Ringmer village has experienced significant problems with surface water flooding in the past, and run-off and drainage issues remain a major ongoing concern to residents.

Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust worked with Ringmer Scouts to install two SuDS rain-planters on a community building. The rain-planters collectively intercept rainfall from 65m² of roof and slow its journey into the drainage system. The rain-planters are situated along the side of the building where members of the public can view them working during rainy weather. Additional native hedging was added to the fence line to further intercept surface water.

Each small rain-planter contributes to the reduction of local flooding and is part as part of a wider Natural Flood Management approach for the Ouse catchment. They reduce volume and 'slows flow' into the drainage system. Managing rainfall contributes to lower risk of sewage overflows. The rain-planters demonstrate the principle and value of SuDS to the local community, are low cost and maintenance, and looks attractive. There are Biodiversity benefits (shelter, food etc.) for wildlife species particularly pollinators. The planters provide natural filtration, trapping pollutants and improving quality of water entering rivers and streams.

Rights of River Ouse

Lewes District Council has passed a motion that sets us on a path to exploring the implications of a rights of rivers approach to assist the Ouse Catchment Partnership deliver natural mechanisms for improving water quality and water availability, creating a climate resilient landscape. Rights of Rivers was included as a concept at the Love Our Ouse River Festival in September 2022 where people from across Lewes district proposed a draft charter for the River Ouse.



CIRCULAR ECONOMY & COMMUNITY WEALTH

Progress towards our goals:

1. The council has a sustainable procurement policy that facilitates local supply chains and encourages a circular economy

- Local spending data over the last financial year suggests that local spend by the council has almost doubled in Lewes District. A Social Value Charter has been produced and a strategy for monitoring, reporting and maximising opportunities to deliver social value projects that benefit communities is being developed. The council has insourced its public convenience cleansing service and office cleaning contract.

- The council has shifted to more local providers delivering some aspects of our housing repairs, so that more locally based and locally run businesses are benefitting from the delivery of this work for the council. This ensures more wealth is retained locally.
- A modular housing framework has been established for the council, and other councils, to use. Local contractor, Boutique Modern have, been able to establish a substantial program of works, using modern sustainable construction techniques.

2. The council is making use of its land and assets to enable sustainable community wealth

- The Marine Workshops (former Newhaven UTC) was acquired by the council in June 2022 to support the regeneration of Newhaven town. The building is being developed into a mixed hub supporting marine and education, commercial space and new public space. The building will, from September 2023, provide accommodation for East Sussex College Group where it will be a 'blue space/climate hub' for aquaculture and marine based industry and training.
- Southover House has been leased to Charleston Trust, an arts and heritage organisation who plan are using the building as a gallery and exhibition space which will contribute to community wealth by further developing the strong visitor and cultural economy of the town.
- In Newhaven, several under-utilised buildings in the town centre are currently being developed with high sustainability standards, to create a new health and wellbeing hub for the town.

Using the principles of 'meanwhile use', the council is also allowing spaces for Lewes Community Volunteers and Lewes Climate Hub to deliver their services in Lewes. In Newhaven, a longer-term meanwhile use has been provided to The Sidings, a bistro style waterside café close to the Marine Workshops.

3. Investment in the local urban, coastal and rural economies increasing local employment opportunities and reducing income inequality

The council has been allocated £12.8 million from the Levelling Up Fund for the 'capturing the value of the catch' project in Newhaven. The project aims to: Provide two new fish landing stages to accommodate 16 small vessels from the Newhaven fishing fleet, build a New Centre of Excellence for Seafood Processing in the town including an auction room and marketplace, and create a new restaurant and community destination on the promenade area by West Beach. The purpose of this project is to retain spending in Newhaven for longer and stimulate a local market for fish, creating jobs and wealth locally.

- In 2020, the council designed and implemented a new grants programme which allowed an open bidding process for a wider range of voluntary and community groups to apply for grants for the first time.

- The council recently also provided a loan to a local community energy group to enable them to develop an innovative project in the district. The loan has now been fully repaid to the council, with interest.

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 focusing on clean and green technologies

- To help develop our approaches locally, council officers have met regularly with representatives from the Centre for Local Economic Strategy (CLES), the national think tank for CWB, to learn about best practice around the country. The council has recently collaborated with CLES to deliver a briefing to members on how CWB is in line with similar approaches to economic development such as ‘Doughnut Economics’ – a sustainable economic model put forward by the economist Kate Raworth.
- Since the inception of the CWB approach, the council has also engaged with key local and regional partners (such as East Sussex County Council, the universities, colleges, Sussex Community Development Association etc) to discuss opportunities to collaborate on CWB. We will continue to work with partners to share best practice and embed CWB principles wherever possible.
- The council has successfully applied to join the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network. This network is a group of councils committed to applying and sharing best practices around cooperative principles in local government. The work of this Network closely aligned with the principles of CWB.

Targets, facts and figures

The council is exploring the feasibility of providing home loans for energy retrofitting.

The council is developing partnerships with anchor institutions in the region to progress our work on circular economy and community wealth incorporating a focus on sustainability.

Over the last year, the council’s local spend has increased from 20% to almost 30%. Through our Strategic Procurement Manager and Community Wealth Building Project Manager, we **expect to incrementally increase** the proportion of annual council spend to be provided locally within Sussex as contracts are tendered and come up for renewal, **in order to meet our 50% local, spend target by 2030.**

Case Study

Lewes District Start Up Programme



As part of its commitment to Community Wealth Building, the council has been working to promote local social entrepreneurialism. The main vehicle for providing this support over the past 3 years has been the Lewes Enterprise and Apprenticeship platform (LEAP) delivered by Edeal. Edeal has delivered a successful Social Enterprise programme for pre-starts and start-ups consisting of a workshop and 121 mentoring. They also have a mentor experienced in supporting social enterprise which residents and businesses have been able to access via the free general support and the annual LEAP business start-up programme.

Between April 2018 to March 2023, there have been:

- 155 one-to-one business mentoring sessions
- 104 one-to-one social media training sessions
- 65 one-to-one specialist consultations in the form of a 'Business Review'
- 14 additional one day business start-up workshops with a total of 69 attendees.
- 2 start-up workshops with mentoring support for social enterprises. These programmes supported a total of 14 attendees.
- 2 leadership and management workshops with mentoring support for local businesses assisting a total of 9 attendees.
- Please see this link for a recent example of Sussex Lavendar, who produce "land-to-hand" eco-contemporary products – ['Exciting' new businesses secure £3,000 prize pot - Lewes and Eastbourne Councils \(lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk\)](https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/news/exciting-new-businesses-secure-3000-prize-pot)

5. Strategy action plan update and sustainability indicators

The council's Scrutiny Emergency Climate Panel have been monitoring and tracking progress of the action plan and sustainability indicators. The panel has helpfully identified challenges with the current framework for tracking progress that chime with the views of the portfolio lead member for Climate, Nature, and Food Systems. The Strategy and action plan will, therefore, be refreshed to reflect updates to national policy and strategy and associated local impacts and will prioritise revisiting methods for carbon counting. A light touch refresh has commenced, and a full refresh will be concluded in full to coincide with reporting arrangements for the new financial year 2024/25.

The Action Plan 2023

RAG Status

TIMEFRAMES

Short	2023-2024	Green	Performance that is at or above target. Project is on track.
Medium	2024-2026	Amber	Performance that is slightly below target but is within an acceptable tolerance. Projects where there are issues causing significant delay, changes to planned activities, scale, cost pressures or risks.
Long	2027-2030	Red	Performance that is below target. Projects that are not expected to be completed on time within requirements.
		Complete	Target/activity or project has been completed.

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	DATE FOR COMPLETION	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status
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1. Energy & the built environment

Lead Officers- Sustainability Lead & Strategic Programme Manager-Property & Development

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

E1	Maintain asset register with up to date social housing stock condition surveys	Provides baseline information to enable retrofit and long term planning	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for tenants and those in housing need	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Business as usual- Ongoing	73% of assets have had their stock condition inspections completed this year. Subsequent project Decarbonising Our Housing Stock (DOHS) delivered and report delivered. Next steps will be subject to funding	Green
E2	Explore collaboration on joint Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund bid (or equivalent) to test joint working. If successful consider scaling up for major works.	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 tenants and those in housing need, Community wellbeing and Climate, nature & food systems	Short Term			£500,000 allocated from HRA	Mar-24	Alternative funding arrangements are being explored to progress this work. The ground breaking study at the following link sets out our next steps- https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/article/1853/Decarbonising-our-Housing-Stock-Roadmap-for-2030-zero-carbon	Amber
E3	Develop and deliver the project plan (and long-term housing asset management plan) to decarbonise all social housing based on findings and experience of the Decarbonising Our Housing Stock project	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 tenants and those in housing need and Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Delivery costs to be determined once plan is prepared	Outline plan produced by March 2023	Alternative funding arrangements are being explored to progress this work. The ground breaking study at the following link sets out our next steps- https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/article/1853/Decarbonising-our-Housing-Stock-Roadmap-for-2030-zero-carbon	Amber
E4	Produce a Housing Strategy and implement the actions defined within it	Housing standards in the rented sector improved	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for tenants and those in housing need		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	March 2024 for plan production	Housing Strategy has been updated to reflect our sustainability intentions.	Amber
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	As opportunities arise	To be closed - Adur exploring further, original project did not go ahead. Whenever there is a redevelopment this should be considered as an option	N/A
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Greater Brighton Hydrogen Strategy now produced: https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/news/2023/discover-how-greater-brighton-championing-transition-hydrogen#:~:text=Developed%20by%20local%20company%20Ricardo,gain%20economic%20and%20environmental%20benefits.	Amber
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Project specific	Ongoing	In conversation with Community Energy South/OVESCO to determine next steps	Green

E8	Determine need for a Sustainable Design guide for developers that could link to circular economy work- once local Plan evidence has been gathered.	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		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Mar-24	A policy will be included in the consultation document for November 2023. The Local Development scheme was adopted by full council in July 2023 which sets out the work programme to 2025. The next milestone is the November consultation on the preferred options document. This will set out the policy direction as well as an emerging spatial strategy for the Local Plan. Work on preparing the next iteration of the plan is progressing and evidence base for this stage is nearing completion. Draft policy directions are being developed for the next consultation stage and should there be an impact on targets amendments will be proposed here accordingly.	Green
E9	Deliver 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 Community wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Monthly drop in cost of living sessions at Saxon House, Newhaven, organised by Neighbourhood First. OVESCO energy champions - drop in energy advice sessions and energy room on Lewes High Street & warm spaces. Tech Resort help and advice sessions. Regular energy saving in Tenant Magazine.. Regularly updated grants and benefits information produced by Income Maximisation Team. Links with OVESCO and Energise South energy champions to provide regular updates to tenants of	Green
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 innovation, delivery and people & Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Mar-24	E learning carbon literacy training is on target for delivery by year end. Carbon literacy training was included in new Councillor induction programme, and will form part of new member induction in future	Green
E12	Work in collaboration with others to advertise the Government's Green Homes Grant and associated funding streams and retrofit schemes. Enable residents to access these and associated schemes.	Private sector housing can access funds to help retrofit and improve energy efficiency	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Community wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing- ad-hoc	We have continued to promote energy advice sessions being delivered in Lewes and Eastbourne. We have also promoted the Warmer East Sussex home checker service during the warmer months, while there is less demand so shorter waiting times for appointments and to ease demand during the autumn and winter	Complete
E13	Work in collaboration with others to develop bids for the Local authority delivery strands of the Government's 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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing - ad-hoc	Agreeing commercials with the Government for roll out of HUG2	Green
E15	Support and facilitate access to the Warm Homes Check service East Sussex scheme	Fuel poverty on the borough reduces	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for tenants and those in housing need & Community wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing - ad-hoc	Attend the East Sussex energy Partnerships funded by public Health East Sussex, we make referrals and get statistics each quarter. Promoting through seeing tenants as a private housing Team and via the Council's communication channels where appropriate.	Green

E16	Support the roll out of smart meters through promotion of the national 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 tenants and those in housing need & Community wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing- ad-hoc	As and when there is a policy change, we will promote the scheme accordingly (no update in this report)	Green
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	Ongoing - ad-hoc	We continue to maintain a watching brief on both of these strategies	Green
E18	Support the delivery of Communiheat - Zero Carbon Village	Transformation of Barcombe communities energy system to become the UK's first Net Zero Village	OVESCO leading Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Finance, assets and community wealth & Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Externally funded- though innovative council funded schemes will need evaluation and resources to be determined	Ongoing- ad-hoc	This will be revisited as part of the proposed refresh in line with action E7	Green
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	Ongoing - ad-hoc	Latest information provided at the following link: https://bhesco.co.uk/firle	N/A
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	Ongoing- ad-hoc	No input from LDC - to be closed	Complete
Actions to make the council net zero carbon by 2030										
E21	Complete the Non-Housing Asset Management Strategy and carbon reduction plan (inc. work through Reset & Recovery Programme) (Also see WA8)	The strategy will enable a long-term plan to be developed to reduce energy consumption and increase power generation on our non-housing assets	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance, assets and community wealth	Short Term			Strategy cannot be delivered using existing resources- *Funds for energy surveys have been requested for 23/24 *Condition surveys funding TBC	Dec-23	Funding opportunities are being explored to complete this action.	Amber
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 community wealth & Climate, nature and food systems		Medium Term	Long Term	Delivery costs to be determined once plan is prepared. Cannot be delivered within existing resources *Funds for external consultancy support with regards to bids has been requested for 23/24	TBC	Funding opportunities are being explored to complete this action.	Amber
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 and community wealth	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Completed October 2020	Completed October 2020- 24 year contract	Current contract expires end Sept 2024 - potentially be procuring through a different framework - still 100% green	Complete

2. Sustainable Travel and Air Quality

Lead Officers- Specialist Advisor Air Quality, Sustainability Lead & Environment Lead

Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)	TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	Date for completion	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status		
Actions by the council to enable the district to become net zero carbon by 2030										
T1	Procure a supplier of Electric Vehicle Chargepoints and produce initial delivery plan	The council can make a decision as to how to progress with increasing charging infrastructure in the district and a new project delivery action will be created if this goes ahead	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Finance, assets and community wealth & Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Proposed can be delivered using existing resources-implementation TBC	Dec-22	Completed - at delivery stage Current installations - https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/article/1906/Public-chargers-for-electric-vehicles	Complete
T2	Plan 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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources (ESCC)	Ongoing	Led by ESCC working with other partners. Planning temporary closures led by District to encourage Active Travel & improve Air quality. None others currently being looked at other than School Streets - Southover to be completed as currently going through studies, 2-year estimated timeline	Green
T3	Work with NHS and Public Health partners via Sussex-air to provide guidance on health impacts of poor air quality. Upgrade Sussex-air website to include information on how to reduce pollution and live sustainably.	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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing funding	Sep-23	Sussex local authorities all pay for Sussex Air, information, monitoring & health impact information on their website. People are signposted to this website on our own Air Quality pages, currently updating the website to be finalised by end 2023. WHO targets are being acknowledged and this will inform our thinking on what is on the working in partnership with Sustrans	Green
T4	Hold sustainability/air quality events with schools, community groups, etc. to raise awareness of the health impacts of poor air quality and climate change	Bringing awareness of AQ/ Sustainability issues to a personal level in a positive and fun environment	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Requires external funding	Ongoing	- funding is allocated, not successful in the last round so project being worked on now will complete around Dec23-Mar24, all planned so nothing more could be added (schools/community events). If successful with new bid can plan for future projects in Feb/March 24. Project being completed currently - Sustrans to work with schools and community groups across Sussex on impacts of poor air quality, and encouraging and supporting active travel	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Planning and Infrastructure		Medium Term		Resources are limited to deliver non-statutory function	No date	Aiming to attend a quarterly planning meeting (Sussex wide) with Planners to present our requirements, 12 month goal is to ensure a standard condition is included in any approval notice	Green
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 and Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2025	A policy will be included in the consultation document for November 2023.	Green
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 and Infrastructure & Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	TBC	County lead - working with Highways on A27 cycling lanes, just received further funding for this (Active Travel fund 4) LDC are responsible for part of this pathway, some funding received for LDC for cycle lanes	Green

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 and Infrastructure & Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	As per action E6 - repeat action in Transport theme	Amber
T9	Support Greater Brighton and ESCC to develop a network of EV charge points 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 and Infrastructure & Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2030	Continuing to support ESCC re: on street charging.	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2025	Applying the learning from the Greater Brighton experience to complement the roll out of new waste fleet vehicles.	Complete
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Funding requested Nov 2022- final decision Feb 2023	2023/24 if budget is allocated and project proceeds	Work is progressing to extend access to car clubs to Newhaven and Seaford.	Green
T12	Determine how to support reduction in emissions from deliveries to local businesses/residents in particular 'last mile deliveries.' E - 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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Get Bikery linking with several local businesses for last mile delivery and cargo bike rental. Focused promotion to business community next step. Newhaven e cargo bikes developing.	Green
T13	Determine if the council can install pocket parks, micro green/blue spaces to improve diversity and AQ encouraging active travel	Supports visitors and residents in choosing active travel over private car use	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	May potentially be delivered using existing resources however external funding likely to be necessary	2023	Drawing up a new Air Quality plan for the whole district, have to wait for updated monitoring results, so in progress. Possible timeline mid 2024 Pocket parks - we have successfully installed 5 pocket parks (parklets) 1 Lewes, 2 Newhaven, 1 Peacehaven, 1 Seaford with funding from the welcome back fund, further progress is subject to future funding and free space	Green
T14	Implementation of anti-idling campaigns	Discourage unnecessary idling by vehicles to reduce pollution and air quality issues	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	A bylaw would need to be implemented before enforcement action and capacity would need to be considered if this is an aspiration to be discussed further at strategy refresh. Campaigning has taken place and signage progressed	Green
T15	Develop a pathway to a low carbon taxi fleet	Reduced carbon and other GHG emissions and improved air quality	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	End Feb 2023	Survey completed mid July - awaiting the report in September onwards. This will inform our further actions	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Planning and Infrastructure	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Ongoing, limited progress can be progressed on trains without central government decision, however the Council will continue to work with local partnerships including community rail and TFSE including supporting reopening the Lewes to Uckfield disused railway line, as capacity allows	Green

T21	Complete Electric Vehicle Chargepoint installations at priority car park sites	Charging is available at key priority car parks in areas where residents lack off-street parking	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Dec-23	Great progress has been made to date, completion early 2024. Current completed installations - https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/article/1906/Public-chargers-for-electric-vehicles	Green	
T22	Review housing sites for electric vehicle charging options and determine strategy to enable installations.	Accessibility to charging is equitable and easily available to our tenants	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	End 2023	Policy development is developing for the next phase of this work. Current activity has focused on the roll out of public car park charging.	Amber	
T23	Prepare delivery & funding plan for non-priority car park sites	Electric Vehicle charging is enabled throughout the district.	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Delivery plan can be completed using existing resources-finance needs to be determined	Dec-23	Finance has been confirmed and work to deliver phase 2 car parks is under way.	Green	
T24	Enable car clubs to convert ICE vehicles to electric	Each area with a car club sited in one of our car parks has at least one EV option.	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Funding may need to be sought through capital fund allocation, S106 or CIL as appropriate at the time.	Initial conversion of 2 sites in Lewes by end of 2023	Waiting for completion of EVCP bays in 2 Lewes locations for EV car club cars. 1 EV car club car planned for Newhaven.	Green	
Actions to make the council net zero carbon by 2030											
T18	Produce pathway to decarbonise non- RCV fleet vehicles operated by the Council (small & medium vans, cars, other vehicles)	Plan to move to a low carbon fleet	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing				Fleet decisions to be costed at the appropriate time	end 2023	We are on track with the detailed plan set out in the Cabinet papers, June 2022 Outputs for the year 2023/24 ahead include procurement of EV food fleet in autumn	Green	
T19	Implement the fleet decarbonisation plans to remove non-RCV fossil fuel fleet vehicles (small and medium vans, cars, other vehicles) - Neighbourhood First	Zero emission at tail-pipe fleet achieved	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing				Fleet decisions to be costed at the appropriate time	2030	Looking at potential sites and working on the strategy (aim to complete by end 2023) which will inform delivery the following year	Green	
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Mar-22	Working towards introducing criteria into every procurement opportunity - acknowledging some are easier to introduce than others given the nature of the product. Aiming for new financial year 2024	Green	
3. Biodiversity								Lead Officer - Environment Lead			
Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)				TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	Date for completion	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status
Actions by the council to enable the district to become net zero carbon by 2030 and to address the ecological emergency											
B2	Local Plans – work closely with Planning Policy and planners and partners 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				Can be delivered using existing resources	2025	We have provided comments on the draft biodiversity study to consultants. Work on a biodiversity policy is underway and this will be part of the consultation document. Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) as part of planning policy work has seen our in-house ecologists advising on BNG considerations and reviewing information produced by consultants for biodiversity evidence gathering.	Green	

B4	Council Officer training in biodiversity to be completed - Sussex Wildlife Trust could provide this for example- and ensure up to date information & signposting is readily available to decision makers	Decision makers are better informed about biodiversity and nature based solutions	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Innovation, delivery and people	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Mar-22	Aim to have live "Carbon Literacy Training" to reflect biodiversity needs through OLLE as a mandatory course - can include links to biodiversity strategy/further bespoke tailoring	Green
B5	We will encourage and support tree planting, and other natural habitat creation measures, providing direct assistance when required	To improve biodiversity, store carbon, protect against flooding and generally enhance the environment which can benefit our physical health and mental well-being	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Bid submitted for determination. Partners include Trees for Seaford, Lewes Urban Arboretum & Chailey Parish Council.	Green
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 (SWT) leading	Short Term	Medium Term			Ongoing	SWT have appointed a new project officer for Wilder Ouse. LDC is developing Natural Flood Management scope of works for autumn/ winter 23/24, with partners as part of the Wilder Ouse vision.	Green
B7	Investigate possible partnerships with the Sussex Wildlife Trust/Sussex Nature Partnership 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 Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term		Ongoing	The successful Cockshut restoration is now in the delivery phase with landscaping taking place through the summer 2023, attractive local and national media attention.	Green
B8	Develop pipeline of projects for biodiversity net gain and 'offsetting'	Increase in biodiversity and projects enabled	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2023	The purchase of land at Landport Brooks has been completed with potential for biodiversity improvements and habitat creation. Ecological assessment underway.	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Budget has been allocated for biodiversity improvements on LDC land holdings and plans are in development. https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/eastbourne-downland-whole-estate-plan-2020-2045	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing as projects and student interests permit	Sussex Nature Partnership has published maps as reference for nature based projects in the region.	Complete
B11	Support Changing Chalk bid and the delivery of the project if successful	Community ranger for countryside/nature/downland education and involvement	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2025/26	Completed - Bid successful and delivery is underway	Complete
B12	Continue work with community groups, education and communication	Community groups encouraged and work progressed	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Volunteer sessions took place at Landport Bottom. Grasses ID training completed in Aug 23. Diversity UK - guided walks in Newhaven and Cuckmere Haven with refugee groups. Making it Happen, Care for the Carers guided walks at Castle Hill, Newhaven and other activities. Walk the Chalk took place also in Autumn 2023	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Work continues around playground refurbishment. Fund raising advice has been given to Telscome Town Council this quarter.	Green

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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Completed -see: https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/help/ourkelp We are exploring any potential links with project with the Newhaven Levelling Up funded project supporting the local fishing economy	Complete
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2025	This has now transitioned into a local programme of delivery. We have funding to retrofit SUDs (Sustainable Urban Drain Systems) in Kings Academy Ringmer Primary and Nursery school - see Storing the Storm project- https://oart.org.uk/project/natural-flood-management/ Funding covers a two year period in which SUDs will be delivered accordingly working in partnership for completion March 2025.	Green
B24	Closer working with Planning colleagues to secure biodiversity and sustainability benefits	Planning applications are reviewed by specialists to support alignment with policy	Directors of Service Delivery and Regeneration & Planning & Cabinet Member for Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Green Consultancy has worked alongside Planning Policy on evidence-gathering requirements for the Local Plan. A set of planning policies that reflect the need for Biodiversity and Green/Blue infrastructure is the desired outcome	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources		Repeat of B7/B8 - suggest to consolidate the two as part of proposed refresh.	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Resources to be determined	2025	Small biodiversity project approx:15 standard trees and 200 whips planted in autumn - winter 23/24 across the district. Please see target B8	Green
B18	Maintain reduced mowing practices on District Council land	Improved habitat for insects	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources		Action complete.	Complete
B19	Continue to review our ability to reduce the use of pesticides on District Council land. Lobby East Sussex County Council to do the same	Improved habitat for insects	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources		Reduced to the absolute minimum (sports pitches). We continue to research alternatives.	Green
B20	Increase and maintain wildflower and pollinator planting where suitable	Improved habitat for insects	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Action complete.	Complete
B21	Increase community management of council owned land and ensure biodiversity commitments are enshrined in all devolved land holdings	Increased community ownership of sites Improved habitat for wildlife.	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Devolved land use is difficult to monitor - may propose amendments to this targets when this is explored further.	Amber

B22	Create wildlife friendly parks & open spaces	Improved natural habitats - for example 'hedgehog highways'	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		BAU delivered using existing resources - additional/new projects will require costing	Ongoing	Capacity issues mean delivery of the management plans has been delayed to Spring 2024	Amber
B23	To develop an approach to habitat carbon counting and reporting	Will improve our awareness of the capacity of our habitats to sequester carbon	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Members for Climate, nature and food systems & Neighbourhood wellbeing		Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2025	Methodology not yet available. Potentially working with South Downs National Park to develop methods.	Green

4. Agriculture & Food

Lead Officer - Sustainability Lead										
Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)		TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	Date for completion	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status	
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 tenants and those in housing need	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2022	Action complete.	Complete
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	Mar-22	Action Complete.	Complete
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Lewes District Food Partnership are working strategically and partnership working with groups, organisations and Sustain. LDC feeds into the Partnership via Steering Group membership and offers support to the Grow Eat Cook Network and Emergency Food Network, by promoting any events and initiatives	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Resources to be determined	Ongoing	South Downs National Park may be able to progress this, investigations are ongoing Lewes District Food Partnership food summit taking place on 18th October	Amber

5. Reducing Emissions from Waste

Lead Officer- Environment Lead										
Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)		TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	Date for completion	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status	
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 Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	Mar-22	New fleet of EV food collection vehicles, September 23 with related positive communications and engagement to encourage greater participation	Green

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 Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term		Ongoing	Most recent edition of RRR bulletin in July - curbside recycling what can/cant be recycled, love food/hate waste - an impact of food waste on the climate. Food caddys/liners information for people who want to sign up. Litter pickers in parks, advice on communal shared bins (flats etc), Cheeky wipes nappies vouchers, and thanks for litter pickers on Seaford beach	Green
W3	Help develop, and encourage the use of, local reuse and repair schemes which divert and reduce waste.	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 Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing	Regular recycling workshop Friday mornings at Seaford Alliance hub, many local schemes are self sufficient - e.g. Greenhaven (library of things, bring and take recycling and reuse) no council assistance required/asked for but promotion given from council through RRR bulletins and comms. Sharing best/good practice also takes place between groups	Green
Actions to make the Council net zero carbon by 2030										
W5	Deliver on zero carbon RCV fleet	Zero carbon fleet achieved	Director of Service Delivery & Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood wellbeing	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Financial implications to be assessed at the time	2030	Pathway is complete - cabinet approved 2022.	Green
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	2022	Now standard practice not to use SUPs at events such as the Gin & Fizz festival	Complete
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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	Ongoing - BAU	Democratic Services have now gone paperless with paperless agendas produced giving a significant Sustainability saving alongside financial savings. Target complete on the democratic services side "The print department has been using sustainable paper and products for a number of years, and Paper from Responsible Sources. 'Printing presses' have not been used for about 8 years, thus the inks are not used either, all products have been removed from the department. We now only use Copiers	Complete
6. Water								Lead Officer - Environment Lead		
Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)		TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	Date for completion	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status	
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	2025	Work is ongoing on local plan policies relating to water. We are looking at policy options around water consumption levels.	Green

WA2	Expand upon the successful Sussex Flow Initiative and Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust 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 Climate, nature and food systems	Short Term	Medium Term		Resources to be determined	Ongoing	The programme is transitioning to a broader Adur and Ouse catchment partnership plan, seeking to deliver a range of eco system services to include projects to create space for water, reduce flood risk and improve water quality - associated targets to follow.	Green
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	Ongoing	To be refreshed in line with the proposed refresh.	Green
WA5	Support the Greater Brighton partnership to deliver Pledge 2- Water Recycling: partnership projects to introduce recycled water into new homes.	Research and knowledge is gained and can be transferred for use on new developments within our district	Southern Water & Greater Brighton Economic Board	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2025	Initiatives relating to water harvesting and meters limiting water usage are delivering positive results.	Amber
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	Ongoing	Continued engagement with the Lead Local Flood Authority and the Environment Agency - the policy will be included in the local Plan - next milestone November 2023.	Green
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	2025	Covered in WA6	Green
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 and community wealth building		Medium Term		Cannot be delivered using existing resources	2025	Delivery of this target is dependant upon funding - exploring as part of business planning, bid to progress this work to be completed	Amber
7. Circular Economy and Community Wealth										
								Lead Officer- Head of Business Planning & Performance		
Action reference	ACTION	OUTCOME	ACTION OWNERS (note: the Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature and Food Systems has oversight of all actions)		TIMEFRAME	RESOURCES	Date for completion	Annual Update November 2023	RAG Status	
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 and community wealth building	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2026	Target on track, see additional targets proposed to give a more focused view on the work streams identified in the outcome. In process of developing new action plan. Draft Action plan went to 14 September cabinet.	Green
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 and community wealth building	Short Term			Can be delivered using existing resources	01/03/2022 - changed to March 2024 to reflect staff capacity.	A Sustainable Procurement Policy will be drafted by the end of Q3 with the aim to implement it by the end of Q4 with a revised completion date of March 2024.	Green

C4	Determine if the council can set up a community investment programme potentially using municipal bonds (utilising output of Net Zero Innovation Fund)	Legal work and project pipeline completed to enable bonds to be raised. Community can invest in local projects.	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance, assets and community wealth building	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2023	Financial and legal due diligence has been completed. Given the current rates of interest associated work has paused. Market conditions will be reviewed quarterly and the scheme progressed when rates become favourable and market conditions allow.	Amber
C5	Investigate partnerships to enable local people to fund the retrofitting of their homes	Council investment works to enable retrofitting and to reduce carbon emissions from homes	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance, assets and community wealth building	Short Term	Medium Term		Can be delivered using existing resources	2023	Further to the completion of legal and financial due diligence, work is ongoing to agree parameters and criteria to enable the retrofitting of homes in Lewes, procure a delivery vehicle and potentially roll out such a scheme accordingly. A Request for Information has been published to test the market	Green
(C6)	(NEW/JULY 23) Socially productive use of land and assets	Council facilities used to support social and environmental uses.	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance, assets and community wealth building	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	2026	Marine Workshops in Newhaven has opened at the start of in 2023 as a marine, commercial and public space. As well as providing a new office base for council staff, the building will provide accommodation for a local college and will be a 'blue space/climate hub' for aquaculture and marine based industry and training.	Green
(C7)	(NEW/JULY 23) Support social enterprises in the district	Deliver business start-up programme with specialist provision to support local entrepreneurs wanting to pursue a social enterprise model including community and environmental goals	Director of Planning and Regeneration & Cabinet Member for Finance, assets and community wealth building	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term	Can be delivered using existing resources	2026	Report going to 14 September cabinet with recommendations to approve funding for new contract. and to rename to 'Lewes District start-up programme'	Green

