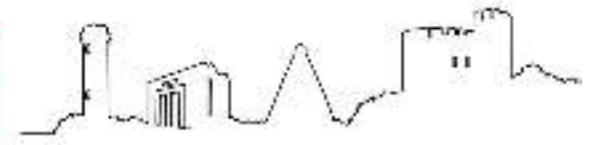


Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Tackling climate change



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What is Climate Change?

Since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels (like coal, oil and gas), which produces heat-trapping gases, mostly carbon dioxide (CO₂). These gases cause a greenhouse effect in the earth's atmosphere, trapping the sun's heat and causing temperatures to rise. The burning of fossil fuels is also directly harmful to health and the environment because of the pollutants generated and their impact on air quality.



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The effects of Climate Change

- **Hotter temperatures;** Nearly all land areas are seeing more hot days and heat waves; hotter temperatures increase heat-related illnesses and can make it more difficult to work and move around.
- **More severe storms;** Changes in temperature cause changes in rainfall. This results in more severe and frequent storms. They cause flooding and landslides, destroying homes and communities, and costing billions of pounds.
- **Not enough food;** Changes in climate and increases in extreme weather events are among the reasons behind a global rise in hunger and poor nutrition. Fisheries crops, and livestock may be destroyed or become less productive. Heat stress can diminish water and grasslands for grazing.



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The effects of Climate Change *(continued)*

- **A warming, rising ocean;** The ocean soaks up most of the heat from global warming. This melts ice sheets and raises sea levels, threatening both coastal and inland communities.
- **Loss of species;** Climate change poses risks to the survival of species on land and in the ocean. These risks increase as temperatures climb. Some species will be able to relocate and survive, but others will not.
- **Poverty and Displacement;** Climate change increases the factors that put and keep people in poverty. Floods destroy homes and livelihoods. Heat can make it difficult to work in outdoor jobs. Weather-related disasters displace 23 million people a year, leaving many more vulnerable to poverty. Increasing temperatures may lead to mass migration to cooler climates.



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United Nations - 17 Goals

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation



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United Nations - 17 Goals

10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development



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Developing our Climate Change Strategy

Proposed Vision

A zero carbon Borough where our residents can live a sustainable lifestyle, businesses can grow and prosper, using green technology and our environment and natural resources are protected for future generations

Overall Target

To deliver a carbon neutral Council by 2030 and a carbon neutral Borough by 2041



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Strategic Plan To Respond To Climate Change

Dudley Council Plan 2022-2025

DUDLEY THE BOROUGH OF OPPORTUNITY

1. Children and young people benefit from the best possible start in life in our Child Friendly borough.
2. Those with special educational needs and disabilities and care leavers achieve the best possible outcomes.
3. Quality education, new skills, apprenticeship training and job opportunities are accessible to all
4. Everyone, including our most vulnerable, have the choice, support and control of the services they need to live independently
5. All residents benefit from access to high quality, integrated health and social care

DUDLEY THE SAFE AND HEALTHY BOROUGH

1. Our climate commitment is creating a sustainable borough on its way to net zero carbon emissions, improved air quality, reduced fuel poverty and outstanding waste and recycling services
2. People have a safe and welcoming indoor and outdoor environment which promotes healthy, physical and active lifestyles
3. Residents live in safe communities where safeguarding of vulnerable people of all ages protects them from harm and supports the prevention of crime and exploitation
4. Discrimination is tackled at all levels in the authority and in our community as we actively promote equality, diversity and inclusion
5. Poverty is reducing as we address all forms of inequality, improve social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing

DUDLEY THE BOROUGH OF AMBITION AND ENTERPRISE

1. Ongoing regeneration schemes are attracting investment, stimulating innovation and entrepreneurs to support new and existing businesses
2. Digital opportunities are being exploited to modernise our working culture, customer experience and public services
3. Business, residents and visitors benefit from improved highways and travel connectivity through multi-modal offer
4. Business support is opening doors to new industries and emerging sectors to support local economic growth
5. Leveling up inequalities is ensuring all borough towns and neighbourhood have good access to services, retail and leisure opportunities

DUDLEY BOROUGH THE DESTINATION OF CHOICE

1. People have access to a range of housing offers that are affordable, accessible and attractive, meeting the needs of our diverse communities
2. Maximising use of brownfield sites, new commercial and residential developments ensure the borough is the destination of choice
3. Our world class visitor attractions continue to grow and are complemented by a strong hospitality sector and vibrant night-time economy
4. Visitors are staying longer, exploring wider and spending locally, benefiting from the full borough offer including over-night accommodation
5. Across our borough we celebrate and promote the diverse culture, history and heritage of the local townships

Accountability • Determination • Working together • Empowerment and respect • Excellence • Simplicity



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Tackling the Climate Emergency in Dudley

- In Dudley we declared a climate emergency in July 2020 to address the impact of temperature increases in Dudley.
- We are working towards the West Midlands Mayoral target of making the West Midlands a Net Zero region by 2041.
- Dudley's Carbon Reduction Plan, will set us on the path to become carbon neutral by 2030, in line with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) target of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C. This will require a concerted action at all levels.
- Decarbonising the Borough is a key priority



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Our commitment to tackling Climate Change

- Creation of a new Cabinet Portfolio for Waste Management and Climate Change
- Set up of a new Scrutiny Committee to focus on Climate Change and Environment
- Delivering a Carbon Reduction Plan and Action Plan
- Set up of a Climate Change Group (public and staff engagement) to communicate actions and progress.
- Policy reviews to align climate actions to planning policy, transport, public health and well-being, safer communities, sustainable neighbourhoods.



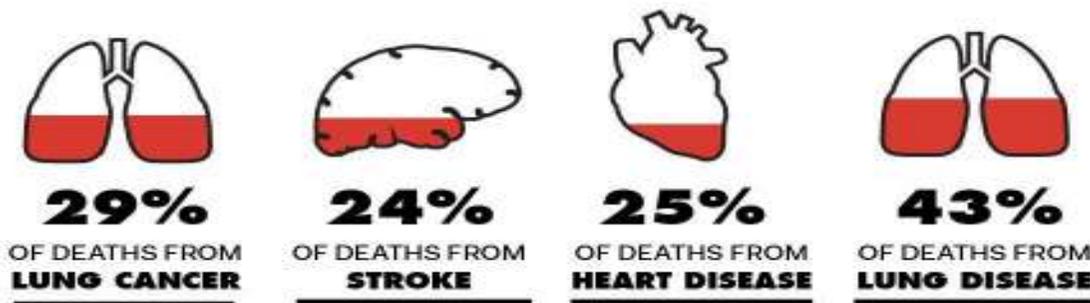
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Air Quality

Reducing pollutants in the air is **important for human health and the environment.**

THE
INVISIBLE KILLER
Air pollution may not always be visible, but it can be deadly.



Poor air quality has harmful effects on human health, particularly the respiratory and cardiovascular systems.

Pollutants can also damage plants and buildings, and contribute to climate change.

BREATHE LIFE.
Clean Air. Healthy Future.

World Health Organization | UN environment | CLIMATE & CLEAN AIR COALITION



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The scale of the challenge – achieving net zero

- **Buildings;** existing buildings, homes and businesses are the single biggest source of emissions. We need to invest in energy efficiency and climate resilience and create local skills and jobs to deliver the program.
- **New Development;** building for the future of Dudley, reducing emissions and supporting net zero
- **Transport;** the second biggest source of emissions, we need to encourage public transport (Metro), walking, cycling and the roll-out of ultra low emission vehicles.
- **Energy;** Invest in renewable energy generation

‘Critical to achieving to good air quality’



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The scale of the challenge

- **Circular Economy**, we need to buy less, use less, reuse more and recycle more.
- **Natural Environment**, green spaces need to be protected and enhanced to make Dudley more resilient to climate change.
- **Wider Change**, making carbon neutral part of everything we do, including encouraging and enabling others to play their part.

‘Critical to achieving to good air quality’



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Dudley's Starting Point

- Investment in corporate buildings, secured **£4.4m** from BEIS PSDS, decarbonisation fund, supporting heat pumps, solar PV and improved insulation.
- Secured **£2.5m** ERDF funding, as part of Low Carbon Place Strategy
- Switching to 100% green renewable energy
- LEDs to **7,000** streetlights
- **74%** Council housing stock have an EPC rating of C or above
- **£1.4m** decarbonization grant this year matched by £1m council investment.
- **£50,000**, Feasibility grant to identify future decarbonization investment.
- 3 x leisure centers improved energy efficiency by installing heat pumps and solar PV.



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Major Programmes for you to scrutinise

- **Engagement** – residents, our workforce, our partners
- **Waste and recycling**
- **Environment** – focus on progress with improving air quality and next steps
- **Review of corporate estates**
- **Workforce** – ways of working



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Waste and Recycling Strategy

Waste Collection

- Review of Collection System
- Policy direction to mirror climate ambitions
- Waste Strategy Refresh

Waste Disposal

- EfW Facility contract expires in February 2023
- Policy Development - Longer term waste and energy opportunities
- Other Waste Infrastructure determined by collection decisions

Waste Behaviours

- Engagement and whole Borough movement



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Getting Carbon Neutral Ready

- Deliver the Carbon Reduction Plan and key actions
- Focus on scope 1&2 emissions, emissions from energy we use and directly released from our buildings.
- Engagement strategy, public consultation, communication strategy
- Build the business case, ready for funding opportunities.
- Start preparing for a blended finance model, the cost of net zero will involve others.
- Carbon literacy, training for staff and councilors
- Facilitate wider change



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Scrutiny Workplan

- Each meeting will receive an overview report showing operational progress across Council teams
- Progress update on developing the key themes and associated action plans
- Review programme for engagement across the borough – our workforce, our partners, our residents and businesses
- Update on Waste Management Strategy - to include plans around the future development of the energy from waste plant based at Lister Road, the proposed options to maximise recycling through changes in our waste collection system



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28th September 2022

Agenda

- Overview report showing operational progress across Council teams
- Update on progress with Air Quality monitoring and filtering
- Progress with developing Climate Change Strategy, action plan and performance management arrangements
- Developing the programme for engagement across the borough – our workforce, our partners, our residents and businesses



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21st November 2022

Agenda

- Overview report showing operational progress across Council teams and engagement
- Update on Waste Management Strategy to include plans around the future development of the energy from waste plant based at Lister Road, the proposed options to maximise recycling through changes in our waste collection system
- Transport fleet Strategy and green transport



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23rd January 2023

Agenda

- Overview report showing operational progress across Council teams
- Review of corporate estates
- Progress with street cleansing and green care (including protection of our greenspaces and natural habitat) and moving to a greener delivery model



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27th March 2023

Agenda

- Overview report showing operational progress across Council teams
- DMBC social housing decarbonisation update including challenges and opportunities
- Our neighbourhood model and support we are giving to local communities to deliver climate change



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