

Meeting of the Climate Change Select Committee

**Wednesday, 24th January, 2024 at 6.00pm
in Committee Room 2
at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

Agenda - Public Session (Meeting open to the public and press)

1. Apologies for absence
2. To report the appointment of any substitute members serving for this meeting of the Committee.
3. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct
4. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November, 2023 as a correct record - (Pages 4 to 15)
5. Public Forum
6. Dudley Council Climate Action Plan (Pages 16 to 44)
7. Climate Change Select Committee Action Tracker and Future Items of Business (Pages 45 to 46)
8. To consider any questions from Members to the Chair where two clear days notice has been given to the Monitoring Officer (Council Procedure Rule 11.8).

Distribution:

Councillor P Dobb (Chair)
Councillor T Russon (Vice-Chair)
Councillors C Barnett, C Bayton, D Borley, M Dudley, C Eccles, J Elliott,
S Henley, N Neale and A Tromans



Chief Executive

Dated: 16th January, 2024

Please note the following:

Health and Safety

- In view of ongoing health and safety requirements in the workplace, you are asked to comply with any safety instructions applicable to the venue. Various mitigating actions are in place to minimise any risks and to ensure we adhere to the latest guidance.

Public Gallery

- Seating in the public gallery is subject to limits on capacity and will be allocated on a 'first come' basis.

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site.

No smoking

- There is no smoking on the premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

In Case of Emergency

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below).

Private and Confidential Information

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

Recording and Reporting

- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website www.dudley.gov.uk

If you need advice or assistance

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk

If you are reading these documents on an electronic device, you have saved the Council £7.00 (on average) per printed agenda and helped reduce the Council's carbon footprint

Minutes of the Climate Change Select Committee

**Wednesday 22nd November, 2023 at 6.00 pm
in The Council Chamber, The Council House,
Priory Road, Dudley**

Present:

Councillor P Dobb (Chair)
Councillor T Russon (Vice-Chair)
Councillors C Barnett, C Bayton, C Eccles, J Elliott, S Henley, P Lee, N Neale
and A Tromans.

Dudley MBC Officers:

F Mahon (Head of Energy, Sustainability & Climate Change), N McGurk (Acting
Service Director – Neighbour Delivery), K Jones (Director for Housing and
Communities) and G Gray (Democratic Services Officer)

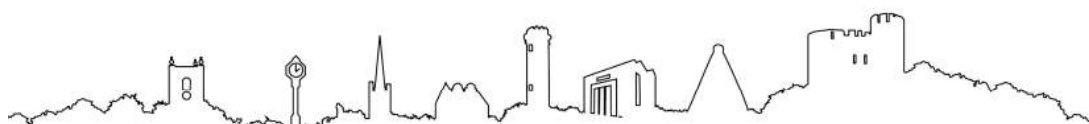
Also in Attendance:

Councillor Dr R Clinton (Cabinet Member for Climate Change)
Councillor D Corfield (Cabinet Member for Highways and Public Realm)
Mr T Weller (Member of the Public by invitation)

Together with 2 members of the public.

18 Apology for Absence

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of
Councillor M Dudley.



19 **Appointment of Substitute Members**

It was noted that Councillor P Lee had been appointed as a substitute Member for Councillor M Dudley, for this meeting of the Committee only.

20 **Declarations of Interests**

No Member made a declaration of interest, in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, in respect of any matter considered at the meeting.

21 **Minutes**

In referring to Minute No. 12(i) – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, Mr T Weller commented that public transport should be accessible and fair for all people and not just for the young.

Resolved

That, subject to the amendments and comments made above, the minutes of the meeting held on 14th September, 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed.

22 **Transport Fleet Services**

A report of the Director of Housing and Communities was submitted to provide an update on the progress on the Net Zero Neighbourhood (NZN) scheme at Brockmoor and to outline additional sustainability measures being taken by the Housing Directorate on existing and future schemes.

The Director of Housing and Communities provided an overview of the report and referred Members to the NZN project together with a number of schemes being carried out in conjunction with Government agencies and external energy providers that were mainly within the private sector and was aimed to increase sustainability and tackle poor energy efficiency, as detailed within the report submitted.

It was noted that several properties had signed up to undertake the retrofit to their properties within the Brockmoor area in December, that installation of Air Quality monitors and Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting had been installed on lampposts and that an Environmental competition scheme for Schools in the Dudley Borough had been launched.

In response to a comment made by Mr Weller concerning the urgency of actions to be taken within homes to make them energy efficient, the Director of Housing and Communities advised that the NZN scheme was now up and running and referred Mr Weller to the Appendix of the report submitted, which outlined timescales and the various actions that had started to take place.

Resolved

That the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting on the update on the progress with the Net Zero Neighbourhood Scheme at Brockmoor and the additional sustainability measures being taken by the Housing Directorate on existing and future schemes, be noted.

23 Update on Carbon Reduction Plan

The Committee received a presentation from the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change on an update on the Council's carbon reduction plan.

In presenting the information the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change outlined the key work that had been completed and it was reported that a Climate Policy Manager had started in September 2023 and that the draft Climate Action Plan had been produced and was going through the Council's approval process. The draft Climate Action Plan would be reported at the meeting of the Climate Change Select Committee in January, 2024.

It was reported that the feedback received following the Your Borough, Your Future consultation would be incorporated within the draft Action Plan and that an audit had been carried out to look into action plans established by other councils to assist in the development of generic actions and themes.

It was advised that approximately 20 meetings had taken place with key Officers to discuss and agree actions for the draft Action Plan and that a new governance process had been formed to oversee the Council's delivery of net zero, which included establishing a Climate and Sustainability Board. It was advised that the first meeting of the Climate and Sustainability Board would be held on 28th November 2023 to consider and sign off the draft Action Plan.

The proposed governance structure for carbon net zero delivery was outlined, which included submitting an annual progress report to the Strategic Executive Board together with theme-based meetings of the Climate and Sustainability Board and the Climate Action Plan Working Group, represented by key Officers.

The Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change outlined further key work that had been carried out, including communications promoting free carbon literacy training for residents within the Council's newsletter and the COP28 social media campaign. Midlands Net Zero Hub had been commissioned to produce a carbon baseline for the Council's Climate Action Plan by January, 2024.

It was advised that key staff had undertaken carbon literacy training at the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and that a training plan had been developed to deliver carbon literacy training to key decision makers within the Council, starting with the Climate Change Select Committee Members in January 2024.

An overview of the carbon reduction tracker together with a list of key projects that had been delivered were presented at the meeting, which included:

- 100% green energy purchased for the Council Estate.
- 8 travel plans agreed as part of new developments or with existing employers.
- 7 new or upgraded pedestrian/cycle lanes.
- 0.96km of new cycle footpaths
- 5 new crossings for pedestrians/cyclists
- 2 new traffic signal junctions including Light Emitting Diode (LED) lamps and extra low voltage power supply.
- 23 new electric machines in Green Care, including leaf blowers and hedge cutters.
- 5 electric quad bikes for street scene operations
- 100 public recycling waste bins installed.
- Trialling electric mechanical road sweepers
- Undertaking a programme to change 30,000 streetlights to LED.
- 90% of streets lights at Lister Road Depot are now LED.
- More than 60% of maintained schools have a 20mph scheme.
- 416 solar panels installed on the roof of Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, saving 23 tonnes of CO2 a year.

It was advised that the most reliable way to report actual carbon savings would be to carry out annual monitoring, for example reductions in business mileage as a result of car share and other schemes. It was also advised that the carbon action tracker could be reported at future meetings.

In referring to the draft Climate Action Plan for Dudley, the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change stated that there would be a three-year action plan from 2024 to 2027 with an annual review and reporting process. The Action Plan would contain climate adaptation and resilience measures together with actions that would contribute to Borough wide carbon reductions towards the Council's carbon net zero ambitions.

It was advised that the draft Climate Action Plan for Dudley would contain six strategic themes, namely Community and Business, Transport and Active Travel, Energy, Waste and Fleet, Land Use and Biodiversity, and Enabling Actions including communications and fundraising.

The Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change provided a summary of the contents page of the Action Plan and referred to the importance of co-benefits; emissions data being provided; the importance of partnership working, engagement and funding as well as the requirement for offsetting residual emissions from hard to decarbonise sectors, such as commercial transport.

Examples of enabling actions within the draft Action Plan were outlined in the presentation submitted and it was explained that a corporate communications and engagement plan for the climate emergency would be developed and delivered by the end of March 2024. A funding tracker to provide Officers and Elected Members with key information regarding funding opportunities to support the delivery of projects would also be developed and maintained. It was also reported that carbon literacy training would be rolled out in 2023/24 to key decision makers in order to achieve Bronze accreditation for the Council from the Carbon Literacy Trust.

In referring to the next steps of the draft Action Plan, The Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change advised that the draft Action Plan would be submitted to the Climate and Sustainability Board on 28th November 2023 and confirmed that the Action Plan would be presented to the Climate Change Select Committee on 24th January 2024.

The Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change further advised that the approval process would be completed during February/March 2024, and that the climate communications plan would be produced by the end March 2024. Work would also be undertaken with key external stakeholders to develop a new climate partnership and that Dudley would lead on the development of the Borough Climate Action Plan during 2024. It was also proposed that a public consultation process for the Borough plan would be conducted during Spring/Summer 2024.

Arising from the presentation, Members asked questions and made comments. Responses were provided where appropriate as follows:-

- a) The Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery referred to the significant work that had been undertaken by the Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change team to formulate the draft Action Plan and that the key projects that were outlined would provide Members a better understanding of the scale of activity that needed to be undertaken and that all information would be shared going forward.
- b) In response to a question raised by Councillor C Bayton in regard to spending controls and the potential impact in delivering the Action Plan and what priority was given, the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change clarified that all actions within the Action Plan had already been approved and that an annual review would be carried out. It was advised that the reporting process mechanism was being developed and that delivery progress for all actions would be reported on and the information made available to this Committee.
- c) Further to a question raised by Councillor C Eccles concerning the implementation of traffic restriction policies within Dudley Town Centre and neighbourhoods being declined at a meeting of the Council and the affect this would have on the Action Plan going forward, the Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery advised that various considerations were being looked into regarding transport and that this would also be expanded upon within the Action Plan and within focus groups. It was advised that work had been undertaken to reduce the speed around schools to 20mph, which would transfer into low carbon neighbourhoods. Officers would be considering all aspects of transport and implement trials as necessary to identify whether these could be pursued and presented to Cabinet.

- d) In response to a query raised by Councillor C Barnett regarding how the reduction of private vehicles and the reduction of the carbon impact would be achieved and measured, the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change recognised that travel actions and carbon impact were difficult to measure and that co-benefits would also need to be measured. It was advised that any funding would need to be quantified and that sustainability was also an important factor throughout the Dudley Borough as well as carbon reduction. With regard to measuring energy, it was reported that specific elements such as decarbonisation would be included within the Borough Plan, with some delivery undertaken by external partnerships.
- e) A further question was raised by Councillor C Barnett concerning the Council's position on the Climate Emergency Scorecard and whether there would be an improvement in the score in future. The Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change advised that no further submission had been carried out and that there would be a right to reply as part of next year's scorecard process, however, this would take time to input to. It was advised that the Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change team would work to ensure that the score for Dudley would improve as a result of delivery of actions within the Action Plan.
- f) Reference was made to the timescales proposed in implementing the Borough Action Plan, and the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change advised that the Action Plan would be a Borough wide process and would be dependent on working with various partnerships as to when the Action Plan could commence. It was noted that the Council was facilitating implementation alongside independent partnerships with a view to maintaining self-sustainability.
- g) In responding to a query raised by Councillor C Barnett regarding the involvement of Community Groups, the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change clarified that a variety of Community Groups including Dudley Council for Voluntary Services (DVCS) and Friends of the Earth would be invited to contribute towards the Borough Action Plan when it is developed in 2024.

- h) In response to concerns raised by Councillor D Borley regarding what checks were undertaken to implement pedestrian crossings, in particular on the Stourbridge Ring Road, which would stop traffic, cause congestion and in consequence create more pollution, the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change advised that relevant Officers would need to be consulted on schemes and any concerns that may arise regarding safety issues.

The Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery advised that Air Quality monitoring was carried out by the Environmental Services team who monitor and understand where the hot spots for pollution were situated around the Borough.

- i) Mr T Weller welcomed the information provided on the update of the Council's Climate Action Plan, and suggested that there were easier ways to reduce traffic and mileage by pedestrians cycling or using commuter trains on railways.

Mr T Weller further commented that there were several railway lines that had been destroyed or converted, which was considered to have created a significant cost and suggested that a previous proposal for the Tram line to be bought to Stourbridge Junction from Flood Street in Dudley to be reinstated and considered this would be more beneficial and should be implemented.

- j) Councillor C Bayton advised that in regard to air quality, Electrical Vehicles would still create 2.5 Particulate Matter pollution from tyres and breaks, therefore, there would need to be a reduction in traffic and reducing speed. It was noted that an air quality action plan had been adopted by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), whereby mobile sensors were used, and local authorities were required to provide data to the WMCA in order to identify hot spots.
- k) Councillor T Russon considered that the wider public transport issues should be looked into and commented that monitoring of Electrical Vehicles had evidenced that these vehicles would break at a lower rate, therefore, creating lower pollution.

- l) Councillor A Tromans welcomed the information provided, and queried whether the quad bikes used for administering pesticides were Electrical Vehicles as there were none shown within the Council's fleet and whether harmful weed killer was being used. In responding, the Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change advised that the plans for Glyphosate weed killer would be a separate issue from the Carbon Reduction Plan.

Councillor D Corfield advised that there were Electric Vehicles within the Council's fleet and invited Councillor A Tromans to visit the Lister Road depot to view vehicles, including the quad bikes, that were being used.

- m) Councillor A Tromans appreciated the work carried out concerning the 20mph zones at schools and the Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery clarified that 65% of the roll out for 20mph zones outside of schools had been undertaken with a view for this to be completed within the next two years.
- n) In responding to a query raised by Councillor A Tromans regarding the Cycle pathways and maps of existing routes, the Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery advised that there were several Cycle routes throughout the Borough, however, acknowledged there were many sections that were unconnected to other routes.
- o) Mr T Weller commented that there was a continuous cycle route from Saltwells/Merry Hill to Wolverhampton, which crossed through three Council authorities, which was considered to be unusable as a consequence of many sections of the route being a mud way. Mr T Weller suggested that the Greencare Team consider using gravel or clear the mud so that the cycle route could be used.

Resolved

That the information contained in the presentation submitted, and as reported at the meeting, on the update on Council's Carbon Reduction Plan, be noted.

24 **Climate Change Select Committee Progress Tracker and Future Business**

Councillor C Bayton requested that the inclusion of Biodiversity be included as a future agenda item.

Resolved

That the Climate Change Select Committee Progress Tracker and Future Business, as outlined in the report, be noted.

25 **Public Forum**

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the dangerous pedestrian crossing from Greenfield Avenue Stourbridge and of speeding cars that were causing pollution and impacting the air quality. They also considered that the accessibility to the subways at Stourbridge Ring Road should be reviewed.

In responding Councillor D Borley advised that he was aware of the pedestrian crossing mentioned and the accessibility issues to some subways, however, considered that other subways at the Stourbridge Ring Road were easier to use and advised that there was no easy solution to prevent speeding motorists.

In response to a query from a member of the public concerning cycle lanes impacting the traffic plan and cycle paths, the Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery advised that measures that were being implemented with regard to traffic and cycle lanes this year would be within the key project.

In responding to comments made, Councillor C Barnett agreed that the design of the access to the subways was unsatisfactory, and that it would be the choice of the cyclist to use cycle lanes on busy traffic routes. It was considered that cars were prevalent, and the work undertaken by the Climate Change team should help towards reducing ongoing traffic issues.

Mr T Weller referred to the demolition of the multi-story car park at Pool Road in Halesowen and suggested that it would be preferable to build flats that were energy efficient or houses with Solar Panels.

In response, the Chair clarified that the information had only recently been announced, therefore, this could be looked into further once additional information had been received.

In responding to a question raised by a Member of the Public in relation to the extent of the climate emergency issues considered by the Select Committee, the Chair advised that the Committee was newly established and would be considering the items set out in the Action Plan and taking any actions that were deemed necessary.

Councillor Dr R Clinton also commented that once the Climate Change and Sustainability Board had been established, several issues would be addressed allowing for broader answers to questions going forward.

Questions pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11.8 were raised by Councillor A Tromans. Responses were received as follows and circulated to Members at the meeting of this Committee:

- How many homes within Dudley Council’s housing stock currently have an Energy Performance Certificate rating of C or higher?

“Historically Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council have reported that 75% of homes have an Energy Performance Certificate rating of C or above. However, a full stock condition survey is currently underway and as part of this programme the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) rating is being assessed and a full Energy Performance Certificate is being undertaken and lodged. The Survey Control Services (SCS) surveys will be completed by April 2024, after which the most up to date position will be reported, but initial indications from surveys and Energy Performance Certificate being produced to date indicate that 53% of our homes achieve an Energy Performance Certificate rating of C or above.

Energy Rating Banding	No. of properties within banding	% of surveyed properties in the banding
B	65	1.38%
C	2462	52.32%
D	1982	42.12%
E	175	3.72%
F	16	0.34%
G	6	0.13%
Grand Total	4706	100.00%

Average SAP rating	68.02
---------------------------	--------------

- Is there a plan of works to upgrade homes within Dudley Council’s stock that do not currently have an Energy Performance Certificate rating of C, and if so, how will these be prioritised?

The Standard Assessment Procedure and component data being gathered as part of the full Survey Control Services project are being combined with historical investment data to develop the investment needs across the stock, as the position in relation to the properties sitting in Band C and above has altered since the last investment plan. The properties sitting in Band D which offer the greatest prospects of improvement will be prioritised, with any additional resources from grant funding being used to improve those properties in Band E

- Does the Borough have any plans to apply to the Social Homes Decarbonisation Fund for wave 2.2 or any subsequent rounds of funding?

An application is being prepared for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund based on the findings of the Survey Control Services exercise, the authority has until 19th January, 2024 to make the submission and any successful grants must be spent by 31st March, 2025.

The meeting ended at 7.25pm

CHAIR

Meeting of the Climate Change Select Committee – 24th January 2024

Report of the Acting Service Director – Neighbourhood Delivery

Dudley Council Climate Action Plan

Purpose of report

1. To approve the Dudley Council Climate Action Plan, Phase 1 (2024-2027), as part of the council's response to the climate emergency.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the committee:
 - Approves Dudley Council's Climate Action Plan, Phase 1 (2024-2027) set out in Appendix 1 outlining how the Council will work to reduce carbon emissions from the council's operations and activities and influence carbon reduction boroughwide.
 - Recognises that the rapidly changing international / national / regional / local context will require an annual update of the Action Plan to review the data and evidence, monitor progress and insert new actions to further reduce the council's carbon footprint towards achieving its ambition to reach carbon net zero by 2030.

3. Background

3.1 Climate Change Science

Human activity has already caused irreversible climate change and its impacts are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have increased since pre-industrial times. The past decade has seen record breaking storms, forest fires, droughts, heat waves and floods around the world.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is a United Nations body, founded in 1988, which evaluates climate change science. In 2018, an IPCC special report detailed the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and stated that in order to remain within a 1.5°C temperature increase, national governments would have to drastically cut emissions of greenhouse gases by 2030. This is to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change, such as widespread drought, food scarcity, heat related deaths and significant biodiversity loss.

3.2 Climate Emergency

The Climate Emergency movement was established in response to the IPCC report. To date, over 300 Local Authorities in the UK have declared a Climate Emergency. Most of these councils have committed to becoming carbon net zero for their operations by 2030 in recognition of the need to limit global temperatures to 1.5°C or below, however by comparison, the UK government's net zero target date is 2050.

3.3 Climate Emergency Motion

Dudley Council recognises that climate change is having a significant impact on the environment world-wide, and a direct impact on our local places, communities and wildlife. The climate is already changing with warmer, wetter winters, and hotter, drier summers becoming the norm.

The incidence and severity of extreme weather events is increasing. In the past decade, Dudley has experienced a wide range of extreme weather, including surface water flooding, heatwaves, heavy snow and storms which have impacted the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of residents.

In response, the Council recognises that it has a leadership role to play by:

- Setting a positive example by addressing the climate impact of our own operations and services.
- Providing information and advice to the public and encouraging our staff to take action.
- Engaging with partners, residents, businesses and community stakeholders to tackle climate change across the Borough.

The Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2020. The declaration included the following specific commitments relating to climate change:

- Establish a Council-wide climate change group to develop and monitor the delivery of a carbon reduction plan for the council.

- Encourage partners to declare a Climate Emergency and take steps to achieve a net-zero carbon footprint.
- Explore opportunities for investment in green businesses and support green business growth.

Following the declaration, the Council committed to become a carbon net zero council by 2030 and a net zero borough by 2041.

3.4 Net Zero Council

What we are already doing

Over the past year, the Council has made progress in reducing carbon emissions from its operations and activities, including from the initiatives in the table below:

Action	Potential Carbon Saving (Low / Medium / High / Enabling)
100% green energy purchased for the council estate	High
8 travel plans agreed with developers/existing employers/educational establishments	Enabling
7 new or upgraded pedestrian/cycle phases	Enabling
15 employees have signed up to the staff cycle scheme	Low
5 new puffins/toucans/parallel crossings for pedestrians/cyclists	Enabling
2 new traffic signal junctions include LED lamps and extra low voltage power supply	Enabling
0.96km of new cycle footpaths	Enabling
50 EV charging points to be installed across the borough by April 2024	Enabling

23 fossil fuel-based machinery replaced with electric machinery, such as leaf blowers and hedge cutters	Low
5 electric quad bikes purchased for street scene operations in lieu of petrol quad bikes	Medium
100 public recycling waste bins	Medium
Trialling electric mechanical sweepers	Low
Undertaking a programme to change 30,000 streetlights to LED	High
More than 60 per cent of Dudley borough schools have a 20mph scheme in their locality with many others having traffic calming measures in place	Enabling
416 solar panels installed on the roof of Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, saving 23 tonnes of CO2 a year	Medium
First in the region to secure funding on a Net Zero Neighbourhoods pilot that will see 300 homes be sustainably retrofitted including loft, cavity and solid wall insulation, solar PV schemes, electric vehicle street charging points, community food growing initiatives and nature-based solutions such as green roofs.	Enabling

3.5 Carbon Reduction Baseline

To reach the 2030 net zero target, the Council will have to go further and reduce its emissions by a further 13,209.85 tonnes CO_{2e} which is the amount of carbon generated from our buildings and activities in our baseline year, April 2022 - March 2023.

In order to establish the Council's baseline, emissions have been calculated from each area of council activities, including buildings where we can control usage (this excludes schools and the property investment portfolio) in accordance with the most widely used carbon accounting tool, known as the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol.

There are different scopes referred to in the GHG Protocol which assist in defining the sources of greenhouse gas emissions:

- Scope 1 covers direct emissions from owned or controlled sources.
- Scope 2 covers indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, steam, heating and cooling consumed by the organisation.
- Scope 3 includes all other indirect emissions, for example, those arising from contracted services. There is currently no standard methodology for measuring Scope 3 emissions, hence the Council's net zero target relates to Scopes 1 & 2 only.

3.6 Dudley Council Climate Action Plan

The Dudley Council Climate Action Plan (Appendix 1) sets out actions to be delivered over the next three years. It is published in line with the Council declaration on the climate emergency and demonstrates a commitment to take action on climate change - but it is not set in stone. The actions are based on a range of assumptions and current knowledge, but recognises the role that new technology, changing public attitudes, funding and government policy will have on the plan. It is a living document and will be formally reviewed and updated annually.

The Action Plan is divided into 6 themes as follows:

- Theme 1: Community and Business
- Theme 2: Transport and Active Travel
- Theme 3: Energy
- Theme 4: Waste and Fleet
- Theme 5: Land Use and Biodiversity

- Theme 6: Enabling Actions (these actions support delivery of individual actions, such as communications, fundraising and partnership working)

3.7 Biodiversity & Carbon Offsetting

Biodiversity has been severely impacted by the rise in average global temperatures. Species distributions are changing, along with the timing of migration, breeding and flowering. The Council recognises the need to address the Biodiversity Crisis alongside the Climate Emergency.

Nature-based solutions can play a key role in mitigating against, and adapting to, the impact of a changing climate. Natural solutions and environmentally sustainable land management practices can be used to maximise the ability of wildlife habitats to absorb carbon from the atmosphere through natural processes, known as carbon sequestration.

The Dudley Climate Action Plan states that, only after seeking to reduce carbon emissions to as close to zero as possible, will the Council offset its residual carbon budget through local carbon sequestration projects, such as habitat creation and biodiversity enhancement schemes on nature reserves and local wildlife sites.

As a minimum we are committing to:

- (i) Maintain and undertake wildlife habitat restoration on Dudley's Nature Reserves.
- (ii) Create opportunities on other green spaces for creation and enhancement of priority habitats, including trees and woodlands, grassland and wetlands.

3.8 Net Zero Borough

The Council is leading by example in reducing its own carbon emissions, and by using its planning and regulatory powers to shape and influence climate action in its local area. However, the Council recognises the need to work with partners and stakeholders to tackle climate change across the Borough as a whole. The Council will therefore be facilitating the establishment of a borough-wide climate partnership over the next 6-12 months, where the council will invite local organisations, businesses and community groups to come together to explore and implement ways and means for the borough to become net zero by 2041.

3.9 Engagement and Communications

On 1st November 2023, the Council launched its climate change webpage – Dudley Climate Action – providing information on the climate emergency declaration and the Council’s vision for climate change.

The webpage will continue to evolve to include information on:

- Climate action ideas for community groups and businesses
- Funding and support available for climate action
- Sharing best practice, case studies and toolkits

Finance

4. The action plan is an amalgamation of existing and planned council projects and initiatives funded across key directorates. As such, there is no additional budget required to deliver the plan. Consideration has been given to current cost control processes and extensive consultation carried out with officers to check that actions included have the necessary budgets allocated.

Law

5. There are no legal implications arising from the development of the climate action plan.

Risk Management

6. Implementation of the climate action plan will help mitigate the climate change risks on the council’s strategic risk register.

Equality Impact

7. No equality impacts have been identified. A public consultation exercise, including involvement of children and young people, will be undertaken as part of the development of the borough-wide climate action plan.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

8. Advice and input has been provided by HR and Organisational Development to develop the actions in the plan relating to carbon literacy training and internal communications/behaviour change campaigns for council staff.

Commercial/Procurement

9. There are no commercial or procurement impacts.

Environment/Climate Change

10. This decision will support the Council in delivering a carbon reduction plan for the authority, and to define existing council carbon emissions under Scopes 1 and 2 of the greenhouse gas protocol, in order to set a carbon budget to reach net zero by 2030 for council operations and activities.

Council Priorities and Projects

11. Forging a Future for All

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.

The United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

12. The recommendations from this plan will have a direct and positive impact on air quality, transport and travel emissions, housing energy efficiency, energy security and affordability/cost of living, provision of green skills and jobs and biodiversity.



Nick McGurk

Acting Service Director of Neighbourhood Delivery

Report Author: Fiona Mahon
Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
fiona.mahon@dudley.gov.uk

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Dudley Climate Action Plan Phase 1 (2024 – 2027)

List of Background Documents

Documents available publicly:

IPCC, 2018: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty* [Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, H.-O. Pörtner, D. Roberts, J. Skea, P.R. Shukla, A. Pirani, W. Moufouma-Okia, C. Péan, R. Pidcock, S. Connors, J.B.R. Matthews, Y. Chen, X. Zhou, M.I. Gomis, E. Lonnoy, T. Maycock, M. Tignor, and T. Waterfield (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 3-24, doi:[10.1017/9781009157940.001](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009157940.001).

[https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/#:~:text=This%20report%20focuses%20on%20%27climate,%2Doffs%20\(high%20confidence\).](https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/#:~:text=This%20report%20focuses%20on%20%27climate,%2Doffs%20(high%20confidence).)

Dudley Council Climate Action Plan

Phase 1 - 2024-2027

Contents Page

Foreword by Cllr Dr Clinton	3
Introduction	4
Policy Background	5
Sustainable Development Goals	5
Co-benefits	5
Emissions Data	6
Council actions towards net zero by 2030	10
Offsetting	11
Enabling Climate Action	12
Engagement and Consultation	12
Action Plan	13
Finance and Funding	20
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	21
Governance	21

Foreword

The devastating consequences of climate change can be seen globally from the heatwaves experienced here in Dudley this summer to the devastating wildfires across the world. The urgent need to act on climate change is prevalent like never before.

We have a duty as caretakers of the planet to help tackle this human induced challenge and to put actions in place to help safeguard Dudley's residents, communities, businesses, and the local environment from climate change.

However, the scale of this challenge cannot be underestimated. As such, the Council has set itself an ambitious target to become carbon net zero by 2030 and to work with partners to become a net zero borough by 2041.

To become a net zero Council by 2030, we have developed a comprehensive Dudley Council Climate Action Plan encompassing operations and activities across the Council.

The Dudley Council Climate Action Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis to refine the current actions within the plan and to develop new actions.

Alongside the delivery of the Dudley Council Climate Action Plan, the Council will be supporting borough partners to develop a borough-wide climate change action plan for Dudley.



Cllr Dr Rob Clinton (PhD)
Cabinet Lead Climate Change

Introduction

Human induced climate change, from the burning of fossil fuels has led to average global temperatures rising by at least 1.1°C since 1880. Much of this warming has occurred during the past four decades with the past decade (2013 – 2023) experiencing the highest temperatures since records began.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that global warming should be limited to 1.5°C, to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change.

Rising global temperatures have resulted in more frequent and severe droughts, storms, and heat waves and melting glaciers and warming oceans leading to rising sea levels.

Sustainability West Midlands have used current UK climate change trends to identify the main climate risks for the region. The report [Summary of Climate Change Impacts in West Midlands](#) highlights several direct risks based on UK Climate Projections to 2100. For Dudley these include heatwaves, droughts, and surface water flooding. The impacts arising from these extremes of weather include increased water scarcity, food production issues, effects on health and wellbeing, as well as effects on infrastructure.

The report also highlights several indirect risks, including:

- Coastal flooding causing a potential influx of residents moving to the region.
- Global food scarcity as crop yields falls internationally.
- Potential for increased international conflict because of resource scarcity.

In response, national and local governments, businesses and educational establishments across the globe have called for a Climate Emergency.

Dudley Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2020. As part of the declaration Dudley Council has committed to:

- Encourage partners to acknowledge the Climate Emergency and to ask partners to take steps to achieve a net-zero carbon footprint.
- Exploring opportunities for investment in green businesses and to support green business growth.

Following the declaration, the Council committed to become a carbon net zero council by 2030 and a net zero borough by 2041.

The Dudley Council Climate Action Plan sets out the initial actions for the Council to become carbon net zero by 2030.

Policy Background

The Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change which came into effect in 2016. 195 different countries and states, including the UK have signed up to the treaty.

Its overarching goal is to limit the increase in the global average temperature to 1.5°C and ideally to keep it below 2°C to avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change.

Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019

The Act establishes a legally binding target to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions by 100% by 2050 compared with 1990 levels.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In 2015, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all UN members, including the UK, to mobilise efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. They address a range of needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

The Dudley Council Climate Action Plan seeks to embody the ambition of the SDGs. All actions have been developed considering both their impact on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the wider benefits for Dudley. For more information about the goals visit <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>

Co – benefits

There are many associated economic, social, and environmental benefits to reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change.

Examples of these co-benefits include:

-cleaner air

-the creation of green jobs

-improved public health and wellbeing

-improved and increased biodiversity

-improved and increased green spaces

Case study:

An example of co-benefits in practice is the [Brockmoor Net Zero Neighbourhood project](#) a landmark scheme for the region funded by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to combat climate change and reduce household energy use to help tackle fuel poverty.

The WMCA has awarded Dudley Council £1.65m for the scheme, which will see low energy retrofits take place in 50 homes in Brockmoor, as well as wider improvements to the neighbourhood such as new green spaces and transport links.

Eventually up to 300 homes in the area, a mix of both privately owned and social housing properties, will benefit from the Net Zero Neighbourhood scheme.

Homes will undergo 'deep retrofit' using cutting-edge insulation with options for solar panels and low carbon heating systems. Other measures being considered on a neighbourhood-wide scale will include LED street lighting, new pocket parks, community food growing initiatives, playgrounds, green roofs, electric vehicle street charging points and sustainable drainage systems.

These initiatives will create a low carbon community that will subsequently offer financial benefits through energy savings, green benefits for both people and wildlife, educational and learning opportunities, green skills as well as jobs creation.

Emissions Data

One of the ways that organisations' greenhouse gas emissions are measured and assessed is through three scopes. The scopes are from the Greenhouse Gas Protocol¹, which is a greenhouse gas accounting standard.

¹ <https://ghgprotocol.org/>

Scope 1 emissions are those emissions that the council makes directly.

Scope 1 examples:

- Building onsite energy use (e.g., space heating)
- Building refrigerants
- Council vehicles fuel consumed by owned and leased vehicles.

Scope 2 emissions are those emissions the council makes indirectly, such as buying energy.

Scope 2 examples:

- Purchased electricity, heating & cooling for own use.

Scope 3 emissions are sources of emissions that are external to the council, such as those across the supply chain.

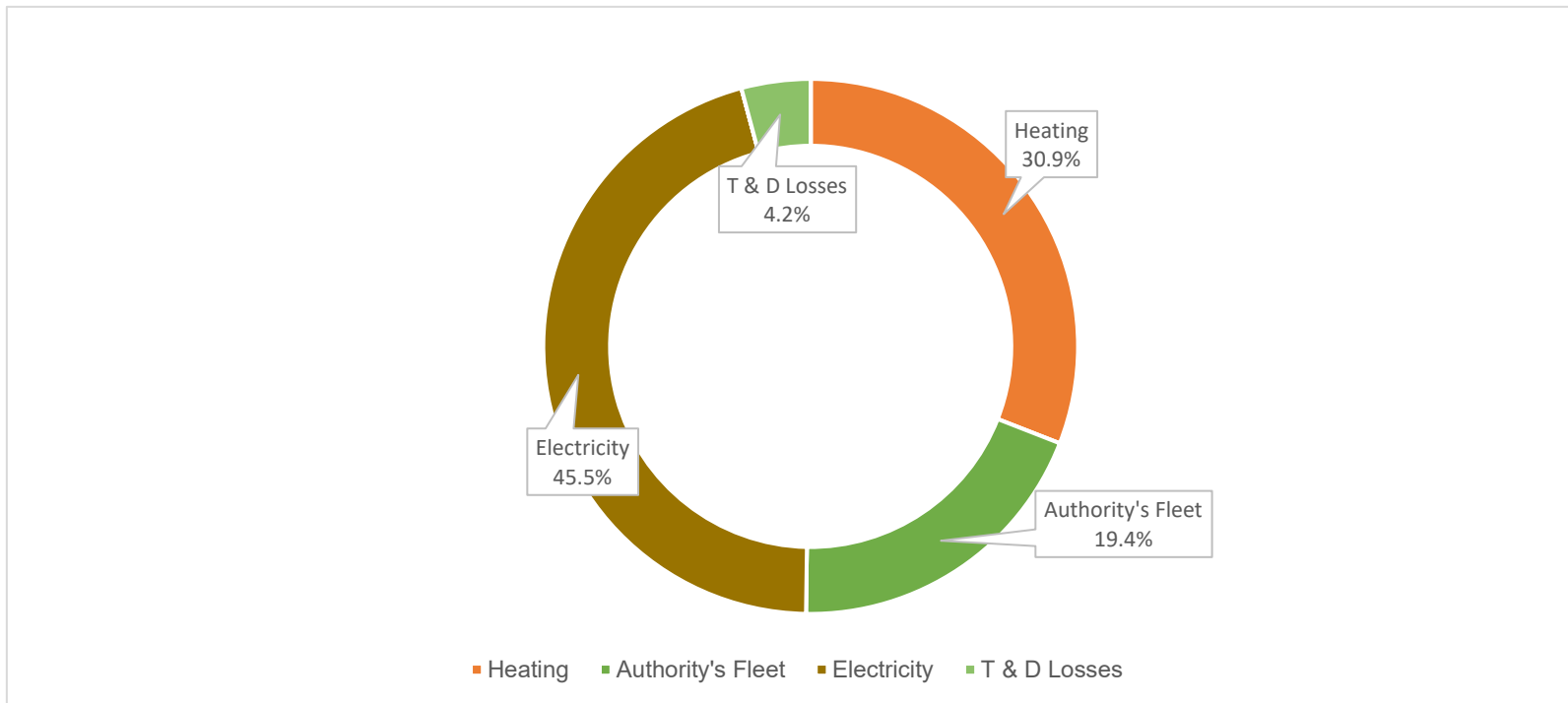
Dudley Council has worked with the Midlands Net Zero Hub to calculate the Council's carbon footprint, which the Council will use as a baseline to report on our organisational emissions from 2024/25.

Scope 3² reporting will be included once methodologies for measurement have been developed. This is because Scope 3 emissions are harder to measure as they are outside the council's direct control. In addition, Scope 3 reporting is relatively new,² and methodologies are still emerging to allow for measurement.

We generated **13,209.85 tonnes of carbon** from our buildings and activities in our baseline year from April 2022 to March 2023.

² Emissions are all other indirect emissions other than electricity.

Scope	Emissions Type	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	Percentage of Total Emissions
Scope 1	Heating	4,081.53	30.9%
	Authority's Fleet	2,561.00	19.4%
Scope 2	Electricity	6,016.90	45.5%
	Transmission and Distribution Losses	550.41	4.2%
Total Emissions		13,209.85	100%



Council actions towards net zero by 2030

We have and will deliver:

- 100% green energy purchased for the council estate
- 50 EV charging points to be installed across the borough by April 2024
- 23 fuel-based machinery replaced with electric machinery, such as leaf blowers and hedge cutters
- Purchased 5 electric quad bikes for street scene operations in lieu of petrol quad bikes
- 100 public recycling waste bins in-situ
- Trialling electric footway mechanical sweepers
- Undertaking a programme to change 30,000 streetlights to LED
- 90% of streets lights at Lister Road Depot are LED
- More than 60 per cent of Dudley borough schools have a 20mph scheme in their locality with many others having traffic calming measures in place
- 416 solar panels installed on the roof of Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, saving 23 tonnes of CO₂ a year
- The council has committed £1million towards an Energy Development Fund³ to invest in renewable energy projects with a pay back of 7.5 years or less
- First council in the region to secure funding for a Net Zero Neighbourhoods pilot that will see 300 homes be sustainably retrofitted including loft, cavity and solid wall insulation, solar PV schemes, electric vehicle street charging points, community food growing initiatives and nature-based solutions such as green roofs
- The following corporate sites retrofitted:

CORPORATE SITES
Himley Hall
Air Source Heat Pump
LED Lighting Upgrade
Solar PV

³ Subject to a 7 ½ year pay back criteria

Battery Storage
Heat Meter
Ward House
Air Source Heat Pump
LED Lighting Upgrade
Heat Meter
Council House
Air Source Heat Pump
Heat Meter
Stourbridge Library
Air Source Heat Pump
LED Lighting Upgrade
Heat Meter

Off-setting

Achieving our net zero 2030 goal will require ambitious action at scale across all council operations and activities. However, to ensure we can maximise our impact, the action plan will aim to prioritise actions that eliminate emissions, followed by those that reduce or substitute emissions. Offsetting will only be used as a last resort where all other reasonable options have been explored.

Dudley Council first wants to understand its baseline carbon footprint and undertake actions to reduce this footprint, including via carbon literacy training, the ‘greening’ of strategies and renewable technologies.

Dudley Council cannot offset its way to net zero without first tackling energy consumption and actioning plans to reduce the Council's carbon baseline before offsetting that which cannot be reduced eg hard to decarbonise sectors like transport/HGVs.

Enabling climate action

Council-wide interviews with officers in key service areas have underpinned the development of the actions in this plan, supporting the objective '*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*' set out in Forging a Future for All – Dudley Borough Vision 2030 <https://www.dudleyboroughvision2030.org.uk/home>.

Engagement and Consultation

The Dudley Council Climate Action Plan has also been informed by the 'Your Borough, Your Future' public consultation, undertaken by the Council between 18 October – 18 November 2022. The consultation sought to understand residents' views on what the council can do and what individuals would be willing to do, to address the challenges of climate change.

Feedback from the survey indicated the following top five priorities for the Council in tackling climate change:

1. Recycling more by improving recycling services
2. Encouraging wildlife in parks and green spaces
3. Dedicating resources to tackle littering and fly tipping in the borough
4. Using low emission or electric bin lorries to improve local air quality
5. Using council buildings for renewable energy generation

Broader feedback reflected the need for the Council to:

- Work with partners to facilitate installation of home insulation to a high standard
- Improve public transport
- Campaigns to help educate and provide examples of ways to help improve our environment

Dudley Council Climate Action Plan

The phase 1 action plan is for three years from 2024 – 2027.

The actions for the plan are under 6 themes of:

- Theme 1: Community and Business
- Theme 2: Transport and Active Travel
- Theme 3: Energy
- Theme 4: Waste and Fleet
- Theme 5: Land Use and Biodiversity
- Theme 6: Enabling Actions (these actions support delivery of individual actions, such as communications, fundraising and partnership working)

Key

The rows in **blue** are actions which enable a borough-wide carbon reduction

The rows in **orange** are actions which enable carbon reduction for council operations

Action	Financial year for Delivery			Carbon Saving Potential Low: <1% reduction in council emissions Medium: 2-5% reduction in council emissions High: 5-10% reduction in council emissions Enabling - borough wide reduction	Council Service Area Delivering Action
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26		
Theme 1: Community and Business					
Establish a Climate Youth Council for the Borough		X		Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change

Work with external stakeholders to develop and set up a Dudley Climate Partnership to bring together the public sector, businesses and community groups to share knowledge, network and collaborate on the development of a borough climate action plan to reach net zero by 2041		X		Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Commission Oxford Innovation Service (OIS) to develop and deliver an information, advice and account management service for Dudley SME's as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund's (SPF) regional business support programme, including providing advice on carbon net zero and engaging with a target of 650 SME's in Dudley over the next 18 months		X		Enabling	Economic Growth and Skills
Theme 2: Transport and Active Travel					
Increase active travel provision around the borough			X	Enabling	Transport and Highway Services
Implement a borough-wide strategy for EV infrastructure			X	Enabling	Transport and Highway Services
Explore options for setting up a public e-bike hire scheme for the Borough			X	Enabling	Transport and Highway Services
Promote the council's e-bike scheme to staff	X			Low	Communications and Public Affairs
Explore options to procure a multi partner electric vehicle framework			X	Enabling	Transport and Highway Services

and deploy across car parks in Dudley					
Explore the development of a salary sacrifice scheme for council employees to purchase/lease EV vehicles			X	Enabling	People and Inclusion
Undertake a review of the Council's commuting and business travel policy and develop a policy on sustainable business travel		X		Medium	People and Inclusion
Set up a car sharing club for council staff			X	Low	People and Inclusion
Theme 3: Energy					
Input to the Combined Authority's Local Area Energy Planning project and seek funds for potential pilot schemes within Dudley Borough		X		Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Explore options to install a private wire from the Energy from Waste Plant to power the council's corporate estate			X	High	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
30,000 streetlights converted to LED bulbs by 2025		X		Medium	Transport and Highway Services
Develop a decarbonisation plan for the corporate estate alongside the office accommodation strategy – to include property decarbonisation, energy efficiency measures and expanding the energy management system		X		High	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Theme 4: Waste and Fleet					
Develop a Waste Strategy to maximise recycling and reduce			X	Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change

waste including the collection and of food waste					
Explore the option to replace existing diesel fuelled bin lorries with Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)			X	Medium	Waste and Fleet Operations
Extend the Textec kerbside offer to include additional items such as sofas		X		Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Explore the possibility of collecting small WEEE and batteries in the kerbside collection			X	Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Textile banks to be made available in various locations across Dudley		X		Enabling	Waste and Fleet Operations
Dudley Council to be a Plastic Free Council by 2030			X	n/a	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Cut the Council's paper waste by going paperless in addition to reducing the number of photocopiers provided in office buildings		X		Low / Medium	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change /Technology Systems and Services
Theme 5: Land Use and Biodiversity					
Plan and deliver biodiversity enhancements on council owned land – (i) maintain and undertake restoration on Dudley Nature Reserves (ii) create opportunities on other green spaces for creation and enhancement of priority habitats including trees and woodlands, grassland and wetlands	X	X	X	Medium / High	Street, Green Care and Amenity Services

Finalise production of a Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan to support delivery of the Council's carbon net zero ambition		X		Enabling	Economic Growth and Skills
Develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy		X		Enabling	Street, Green Care and Amenity Services
Produce a tree and woodland strategy for Dudley Borough to ensure tree coverage on council-owned land is maintained and increased		X		Medium / High	Street, Green Care and Amenity Services
Develop and deliver a Council Climate Adaptation Plan			X	n/a	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Produce new planning policy to support retrofitting of energy efficiency measures in heritage buildings as part of the draft Local Plan process		X		Enabling	Planning
Through the development of the new Draft Local Plan, develop policy that supports the need to adapt to the impacts of climate change and promotes opportunities to maximise carbon sequestration		X		Enabling	Planning
Request developers to undertake a Sustainability Checklist as part of the planning application process		X		Enabling	Planning
Produce a set of local planning policies that ensure that all new development, both residential		X		Enabling	Planning

and non-residential, follow the principles of the energy hierarchy and minimise energy demand through fabric energy efficiency measures and then meet all residual energy demand via renewable energy technologies					
Theme 6: Enabling Actions (including communications and funding)					
Investigate green finance options for a Community Municipal Investment Scheme			X	Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change and Finance
Develop and deliver an external and internal corporate communications and engagement plan for the climate emergency	X			Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Develop a long-term fundraising strategy to support investment in delivery of the council's net zero ambitions			X	Medium - High	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change and Finance
Develop and maintain a funding tracker to provide management information about current funding opportunities to support delivery of projects in the action plan	X			Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Roll out carbon literacy training to council employees starting with senior decision makers to achieve Bronze accreditation for the Council from the Carbon Literacy Trust, this is to ensure any carbon reduction measures can be understood and fully implemented by staff.	X			Low - Medium	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change

Alongside carbon literacy training for senior officers and members, develop in-house online climate change training suitable for all council staff		X		Low - Medium	People and Inclusion and Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Undertake a carbon footprint analysis for the council to develop a carbon budget and milestones to reach carbon net zero by 2030.	X			Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Provide guidance on carbon reduction measures for council service areas to decarbonise their service delivery via sustainable service/business planning processes		X		Medium - High	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Adopt a council Environment Policy to reflect the Council's climate and environment aims	X			n/a	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Develop a guidance note on incorporating the UN SDGs into Cabinet reports	X			n/a	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Produce a sustainable events policy that emphasises minimisation of waste and encouragement of more sustainable options. This will be supported with guidance on sustainability best practice, options and suggestions for events that are held across the borough	X			Medium	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Develop Sustainable Procurement Guidance and set a 10% minimum	X			High	Procurement and Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change

social value percentage into the procurement process for new contracts					
Lobby West Midlands Pension Fund to reduce the carbon footprint of pension funds investments over time	X			Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change
Produce guidance and advice for staff to reduce their carbon footprint whilst homeworking	X			Enabling	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change/People and Inclusion
Develop a series of priority lobbying actions to influence national Government policy and funding in support of delivery of the Council's climate action plan		X		High	Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change

Finance and funding

The full costs of achieving net zero emissions across Council operations and activities by 2030 are currently unknown.

Further information on the costs associated with specific actions will need to be developed over the plan lifecycle. However, significant additional resource will need to be identified and secured to support our immediate, medium, and long-term climate response.

Funding Sources identified and/or allocated by the Council	Source
£1 million funding for an Energy Development Fund to invest in renewable energy projects	Dudley MBC budget
Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)	Government funding
Ongoing review of new and innovative funding sources (e.g. green bonds, crowdfunding etc)	Private investment / public funds
Lobbying for external funding and support	Central government

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

We will undertake an annual monitoring process to evaluate the progress of the Dudley Council Climate Action Plan. Actions will be reviewed, and new ones added as part of this process. An annual report will be produced which will be published on the climate page of the Council's website to ensure transparency.

The plan is intended to be a live document and will develop as we continue to increase our understanding of emission sources and the most effective ways to reduce them.

The Dudley Council Climate Action Plan will be fully reviewed after three years.

Governance

The delivery of the action plan will be overseen by the council's Climate and Sustainability Board at Director/Heads of Service level and internal officer groups.

Future Business – Climate Change Select Committee

Date of Meeting	Work Programme	Responsible Officer/Area	Notes
14th March 2024	Anaerobic Digestion and Food Waste Collection Planning policies in relation to renewable energy/Presentation on Planning and Developers response to Climate Change	Head of Energy, Sustainability and Climate Change/Waste Strategy Disposal Manager Director of Regeneration and Enterprise/Head of Planning	
TBC	Cycle and Travel Card Scheme	Assistant Director People and Inclusion	
TBC	Grant Register	Responsible Officers	
TBC	Biodiversity	Responsible Officers	

**To Be Considered
Next Municipal Year**

Update on the Use of Pesticides and
maintaining the Boroughs Green
Spaces

Acting Director –
Neighbourhood
Services/Head of Waste
and Fleet Operations

