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**North East
Derbyshire
District Council**

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Date: Friday, 9 February 2024

To: **Members of the Environment Scrutiny Committee**

Please attend a meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Monday, 19 February 2024 at 3.30 pm in the Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, District Council Offices, 2013 Mill Lane, Chesterfield S42 6NG.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Steuberg".

Assistant Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

Members of the Committee

| <u>Labour Group</u> | <u>Conservative Group</u> | <u>Green</u> |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Councillor Caroline Smith Councillor Graham Baxter MBE Councillor Richard Beech Councillor Tony Lacey Councillor Fran Petersen | Councillor Neil Baker Councillor Lilian Deighton Councillor William Jones | Councillor Frank Adlington-Stringer |

For further information about this meeting please contact: Tom Scott 01246 217045

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or other interests, not already on their register of interests, in any item on the agenda and withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time.

3 Minutes of the Last Meeting (Pages 5 - 7)

To approve as a correct record and the Chair to sign the Minutes of the Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 13 November 2023.

4 Draft Minutes of the Local Plan Review Working Group (Pages 8 - 10)

Following the announcement at full Council the notes of the meeting are being shared with Scrutiny Committees for their information.

5 Performance Management (Pages 11 - 17)

To consider progress made against the Council Plan Targets and Objectives relevant to the Committee and any issues where further progress is required.

Kath Drury, Information, Engagement and Performance Manager and Amar Bashir, Improvement Officer.

6 Residents Survey (Pages 18 - 21)

Committee to discuss the outcomes of the Residents Survey and to determine if they want to look at any areas as part of their Work Programme.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer / Kath Drury, Information, Engagement and Performance Manager and Richard Shaw, Improvement Officer

7 Cabinet Business (Pages 22 - 35)

To inform Committee of recent and forthcoming Cabinet business.

A digest of Cabinet decisions taken since 29 June 2023. This information is published by Cabinet meeting on the Council's website. Cabinet Agendas, Decisions and Minutes can be viewed at: [Cabinet](#)

The Forward Plan of Executive decisions.

[Plans](#)

These plans are updated to include new business.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer

8 Policy Development (Page 36)

To consider the motion submitted by Councillor F Adlington-Stringer on Plant Based Council at Council on 29 January 2024 which Members referred to the Committee for consideration – motion can be found at [Agenda item - To consider any Motions from Members under Procedure Rule No 10 - North East Derbyshire District Council \(ne-derbyshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Leisure Services (Mark Rocca and Cheryl Tooby) will be in attendance to provide an overview of current position and future options

9 Work Programme (Pages 37 - 41)

To consider the Committee's Work Programme.

Joe Hayden, Senior Scrutiny Officer

10 Updates to the Climate Change Strategy - ADDITIONAL ITEM (Pages 42 - 83)

To consider and comment on the Updates to the Climate Change Strategy, prior to its submission to Cabinet for approval.

Tris Burdett, Programmes Manager and Sylvia Moffatt, Sustainability Officer

11 Urgent Items

To consider any other matter which the Chair of the Committee is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 21 May 2024 at 3.30 pm.

The next meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee will be held on Tuesday, 21 May 2024 at 3.30 pm in the District Council Offices, 2013 Mill Lane, Chesterfield S42 6NG.



**North East
Derbyshire**
District Council

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ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2023

Present:

Councillor Caroline Smith (Chair) (in the Chair)
Councillor Frank Adlington-Stringer (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Neil Baker
Councillor Lilian Deighton
Councillor Fran Petersen

Councillor Graham Baxter MBE
Councillor William Jones

Also Present:

| | |
|------------|---|
| D Thompson | Assistant Director of Planning |
| S Lee | Assistant Director - Regeneration and Programmes and SIRO |
| A Bashir | Improvement Officer |
| T Scott | Governance and Scrutiny Officer |
| A Maher | Governance Manager |

ESC/ Apologies for Absence

19/2

3-24 No apologies for absence were received.

ESC/ Declarations of Interest

20/2

3-24 There were no Declarations of Interest.

ESC/ Minutes of the Last Meeting

21/2

3-24 RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 11 September 2023 were agreed.

ESC/ The Performance Management Framework

22/2

3-24 The Improvement Officer presented a report which gave progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective 'A great place that cares for the environment' for the period ending 30 September 2023. Information on what the Council had done for the objective was contained in Appendix 1 to the report and would be presented to the Committee quarterly. This was a new way of reporting progress against the Council Plan, with a wider approach seeking contributions from all departments across the performance framework.

Members referred to the mention of the replacement programme for vehicles (74 new vehicles over this year's programme) and were concerned that this appeared to be a move away from battery powered vehicles and emission reduction. Members asked if the tender with the vehicle company included reference to this step away from electronics. The Assistant Director of Regeneration and

Programmes agreed to investigate these points with the officers responsible and report back to the Committee.

Members discussed the Clay Cross Rail Feasibility Study and enquired if any progress had been made. Members were informed that a preferred station location had been identified by the study, and this location was being consulted on with the Department for Transport.

The references in the Appendix to two posts being advertised (Sustainability Officer and Microsoft Teams Engagement Officer) were considered. Members requested to receive further information on these posts at future meetings.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That progress against the Council Plan ‘A great place that cares for the environment’ objective was noted.
- (2) That officers present the Committee at a future meeting with the requested information on the vehicle tender and the two posts being advertised.

ESC/ The Environment Act and Biodiversity Net Gain Requirement

23/2

3-24

The Assistant Director of Planning presented a report informing Members of the implications of the Environment Act 2021 for the Council, and how the Council would meet the Biodiversity Net Gain requirement.

Members were advised that the Environment Act placed specific requirements on Councils to ensure the delivery of biodiversity net gain. Steps the Council had taken to meet this included:

- 1) Discussions with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust about expanding their remit to include an assessment of the biodiversity value of Council-owned land that would not be suitable for development, but may provide opportunities for ecological enhancement through funding secured from developments where sufficient on-site net gain cannot be achieved.
- 2) Beginning a review of the Asset Management Strategy, which will include joint working between Planning and Streetscene to consider (with the specialist input of DWT) the contribution that Council land can make to the enhancement of biodiversity.
- 3) Officers of the Council and the other Districts/Boroughs in Derbyshire were working with Derbyshire County Council to discharge their Derbyshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy duties.

Members discussed instances of developers removing trees from sites without any controls over what they can do. The Assistant Director of Planning stated that the Council was limited in its powers in these situations unless there was a Tree Preservation Order in place or where the site was within a Conservation Area, but the Planning Enforcement team were able to assess potential breaches of conditions on planning permission which required the retention of trees/hedgerows.

The Committee discussed how proposals for larger new developments would be legally required to demonstrate a biodiversity net gain of 10%. Members asked how meeting this target would be monitored and were informed that Section 106 legal agreements (to which planning permissions were tied) would require schemes to be maintained for 30 years.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

ESC/ **Cabinet Business**

24/2

3-24 The Governance Manager presented a digest of Cabinet decisions taken since 29 June 2023. The digest set out key information for each decision.

Members discussed the possibility of monitoring decisions taken by Cabinet that related to the Local Plan. The Governance Manager advised that the notes of the Local Plan Review Group would be reported periodically to Cabinet and to Scrutiny. These notes would be on the open side of the agenda.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

ESC/ **Work Programme**

25/2

3-24 The Governance Manager reminded the Committee that if a Member had a suggestion to add to the Work Programme, they should liaise with the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Committee.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

ESC/ **Additional Urgent Items**

26/2

3-24 None.

ESC/ **Date of Next Meeting**

27/2

3-24 The next meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee was scheduled to take place on 19 February 2024 at 3.30 pm.

LOCAL PLAN REVIEW WORKING GROUP

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2023

Present:

Councillor Stephen Pickering (Chair) (in the Chair)

Councillor Caroline Smith
Councillor Stephen Clough
Councillor Michael Durrant
Councillor Lee Hartshorne
Councillor Heather Liggett

Councillor Frank Adlington-Stringer
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor David Hancock
Councillor Tony Lacey
Councillor Mick Smith

Also Present:

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| D Thompson | Assistant Director of Planning |
| H Fairfax | Planning Policy & Environment Manager |
| A Maher | Governance Manager |
| A Bond | Governance Officer |

LPR/ Apologies for Absence

1/23-

24

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Suzy Cornwell and Stuart Fawcett.

LPR/ The Purpose of the Review Group

2/23-

24

Members of the Group introduced themselves before viewing a presentation by The Assistant Director Planning and the Planning Policy & Environment Manager. The presentation outlined the Terms of Reference and the purpose of the Local Plan Review Working Group.

Councillor S Pickering explained that the aim had been to ensure that all political groups across the Council had involvement with the Group and would be able to influence the work that it conducted. He stressed that the process would not be rushed and that it would be both constructive and collaborative.

LPR/ Discussions Based on the Attached Papers

3/23-

24

Group were presented with a report which outlined the issues and alternatives relating to a review of the Local Plan, the effectiveness of policies in the Adopted Local Plan and the outcome of a desk top review of the Local Plan.

Members heard that although the Council's Local Plan was adopted two years ago, it had been submitted for examination in May 2018 and had been prepared in line with the provisions of the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Since that time, the NPPF has had numerous changes including the introduction of the national design guide, the standard method for calculating local housing need and an increased emphasis on climate

change.

Officers had undertaken a desk top review of the Local Plan, which utilised the PAS assessment tool to identify if an early update of the Local Plan was likely to be necessary. The review suggested that the local plan was working well overall with the exception of a couple of areas of concern.

Group were also informed that new regulations, policy and guidance necessary for the preparation of the first new style of local plans would be in place by Autumn 2024. Plans would need to be submitted for examination by 30 June 2025. This would leave Council 20 months to secure the relevant evidence, prepare documentation and undertake the necessary consultation.

Members discussed the report at length. They considered the interim findings of the review and the RAG rating associated with each of the monitoring indicators: Green, to indicate that the relevant policies were being implemented effectively. Amber to indicate that there were some issues but these were being managed, and Red to highlight any serious issues.

Working Group discussed whether it would be best to begin work on a new local plan or to focus on a partial update of the current plan.

Councillor H Liggett raised concerns with regard to overloaded sewer systems and Group agreed to consider how best to address this issue as the work of the Group progressed.

Members discussed Neighbourhood Plans and if it would be beneficial for these to be updated at the same time as the Local Plan. They heard that these could be produced at any time and would depend on the needs of each individual Parish.

Group discussed the timeframe of a new Local Plan and heard the current Government proposals were that 'new style Local Plans' should not take more than 30 months to complete.

Group were reminded that the Local Plan must be reviewed every five years, in accordance with current national planning policy.

Members considered that evidence should be gathered so that Group could take an informed decision on how to proceed once there was clarity around the 'new style' plan making system.

LPR/ **Next Steps**

**4/23-
24**

Group discussed the next steps and considered the merits of progressing to a formal review under the current system. Officers advised Members that given the likely scope of the review (including the strategic matters of housing and employment land and the need to reflect the Environment Act 2021 biodiversity requirements), a partial review would likely take a similar length of time to a full review, due to the impact on the strategic policies of the current Local Plan.

Officers advised that, in light of the above discussion, there would not be sufficient time to complete a full review by June 2025 and that there was a risk of abortive work/having to re-do stages of the process if a formal review was commenced before the anticipated changes to the Plan process were introduced later in 2024. This assessment had been corroborated by an experienced planning professional who represented the Planning Officers Society Enterprise, who advise Local Planning Authorities on matters such as Local Plan preparation and reviews.

Officers also advised that the first substantive stage of a formal review would be evidence gathering in any case. The recommendation to progress with updating the evidence that would underpin an updated Plan/future Local Plan would address this requirement. The only difference from a formal Regulation 18 stage would be setting specific timeframes for public consultation.

Members were reminded that the Government consulted on the proposed 30 month system at the end of 2023 and the suggested process (to which officers provided a written response) would introduce a new 'gateway' system with associated consultation periods.

The Working Group heard that rather than duplicate consultation exercises, officers considered it prudent to issue a statement informing members of the public about the evidence gathering process that would be commencing in 2024 and explain the reasons for waiting for certainty on the 'new style' system before undertaking formal consultation.

At the conclusion of the discussion Members agreed –

1. To proceed with evidence gathering in advance of certainty regarding national requirements.
2. To prepare a statement that explains that a formal review is not going to commence until we have that certainty but that we have commenced evidence gathering.

LPR/ Date and Time of Next Meeting

**5/23-
24**

Members agreed that the next meeting of the Local Plan Review Working Group would take place in January 2024.

North East Derbyshire Council

Environment Scrutiny Committee

**Council Plan Objective – A Great Place that Cares for the Environment -
Update October to December 2023**

19th February 2024

Report of the Information, Engagement & Performance Manager

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Kath Drury, Information, Engagement and Performance Manager

Contact Officer: As above

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To report progress on the strategies underpinning the Council Plan objective - “A great place that cares for the environment” for the period ending 31st December 2023.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That progress against the Council Plan “A great place that cares for the environment” objective be noted.
-

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Decision Information | |
| <p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies</p> | No |
| <p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p> | No |
| <p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p> | None |
| <p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p> | Details: Ward Members |

Links to Council Plan priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

- A great place that cares for the Environment council plan objective:
- Reducing carbon emissions and pollution across the district
 - Increasing biodiversity across the district

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

1.1 The Council plan 2023-27 has four objectives:

- A great place to work.
- A great place to access good public services.
- A great place to live well.
- A great place that cares for the environment

Information on progress on what the Council has done for the environment objective is contained at appendix one and will be brought to the committee quarterly.

1.2 Under each objective there are several strategies which prioritise what the Council is setting out to achieve by March 2027. Under each strategy there are specific tactics or commitments that will shape our approach and under those a wrath of activities that in combination will help us to deliver the objectives.

1.3 Under the environment objective there are two strategies - Reduce carbon emissions and pollution across the district and Increase biodiversity across the district. There are five and two tactics under the respective strategies.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

2.1 The appendix lists what has been done and achieved by those service areas with contributions to make for this period. These are noted under each strategy and tactic.

2.3 The report was taken to Senior Management team on 29th January 2024 for consideration and oversight.

2.4 No specific concerns or issues have been raised under this objective for this period.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 This is an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the council plan objective for the environment.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 Not applicable to this report as providing an overview of progress against the council plan objective for the environment.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

| Appendix No | Title |
|---|---|
| 1 | A summary of progress for the Council Plan objective – A great place that cares for the environment – for the period ending December 2023 |
| Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers) | |
| | |

Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31st December 2023

A Great Place that Cares for the Environment

*The following progress has been made on **reducing carbon emissions and pollution across the district**:*

Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions.

Sustainability Officer commenced in post on 27th November 2023 to co-ordinate the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy (Regeneration & Programmes)

Clay Cross Low Carbon Challenge Fund business engagement event held 16th November 2023. 10 Expressions of Interest and 4 full approvals for the commercial scheme received by end of quarter (Regeneration & Programmes).

18 cases of delivering efficiency advice to households for vulnerable people and providing signposting where eligible for assistance (Environmental Health).

The 2023 Annual Status Report, which documents the air quality monitoring data from the calendar year of 2022 has been compiled, submitted, and approved. During 2022 there were no reported exceedances of any Air Quality Objectives, including the annual mean NO₂ objective. This continues the trend of no exceedances over the last 6 years and therefore there remains no requirement to declare a Local Air Quality Management Area. The maximum reported NO₂ concentration in 2022 was 36.6µg/m³ recorded at a new monitoring location (the annual mean objective for NO₂ is 40µg/m³). A decrease in annual mean concentrations from 2021 to 2022 was observed at 14 out of the 16 monitoring sites. The continued decrease in annual mean concentrations could be due to the establishment of a 'new normal' in traffic volumes, with organisations maintaining 'Working From Home' (WFH) patterns, thus reducing the number of vehicles comparative to pre-pandemic periods. Reductions can also be attributed to 'natural' compliance as the development of vehicles is seeing an increase in cleaner vehicles on the roads. (Environmental Health).

A media campaign was run throughout October, highlighting the safe and clean use of wood burners (Environmental Health).

Nox tubes were exchanged monthly at all sites and an order placed with the supplier for tubes for 2024, so the monitoring of Nitrogen Dioxide can continue throughout the year (Environmental Health).

Working with Authorities such as Wakefield Leisure Services to provide support on facility development and sharing best practice through APSE performance networking sessions (Leisure).

Attaching a condition on major planning permissions for major developments mitigating climate change condition e.g., 23/00708/FL (Whiteleas Avenue) – (Planning).

Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions

Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31st December 2023

Sustainability Officer undertaking a light touch review of the Climate Change Strategy to ensure alignment with the new Council Plan (Regeneration & Programmes)

Technical and financial audits underway for Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Round 3 (PSDS3) (Dronfield Leisure Centre), documentation submitted (Regeneration & Programmes)

AD has submitted an Expression of Interest to Town Board for a further 240 solar PV to be located on the pool roof (Clay Cross Active. Awaiting decision (Leisure).

District Council Office- options being looked at for EV charging points and PV panels at Mill Lane. Coney Green Business Centre - Low Carbon Challenge Fund application progressing. Streetscene depot (feasibility currently underway) should be significantly less than the existing facility at Eckington. EV fleet is also a further consideration (Property and Estates).

Meeting room and desk booking software setup and being utilised by Rykneld Homes and NEDDC staff to enable hotdesking and sharing of office spaces. Council Chamber Audio visual equipment project complete, providing large, hybrid meeting space for future meetings which could reduce travel requirements for staff, Members and members of the public (ICT)

30 External Wall Insulation (EWI) measures have been completed on the Council's housing stock in December. The total for Q3 (Year to date) is now 146 (Housing).

The project to replace hardware phones with softphones is continuing. This is an ongoing project; phones are not being taken away but not replaced when they break (Finance).

Most meetings, webinars and training with outside bodies and providers now take place online. This has allowed the finance team to interact on a more frequent basis and attend many more sessions than when travelling to an event but without increasing carbon emissions associated with travelling (Finance).

Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce pollution.

Encourage and condition need for car charging points and renewable energy provision on major development approvals e.g., condition 13 of planning permission ref. 23/00601/FL at Clay Cross – (Planning).

Pollution control team dealt with over 150 service requests including responding to over 100 planning/licensing consultations and over 40 requests for advice on or complaints about industrial or commercial air/noise/odour/light pollution; 4 risk assessments of industrial premises were completed, and 3 check inspections carried out in respect of medium to high-risk premises (Environmental Health).

Parish council visits going well - making useful contacts and discussing Biodiversity Nett Gain (BNG) options (Streetscene)

Develop policies and plans which require and encourage alternatives to car usage.

Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31st December 2023

Economic Development working with Network Rail, DfT and DCC to consider next steps for the feasibility for Clay Cross Railway Station (Regeneration & Programmes)

Working with the Barrow Hill Line Restore Your Railways initiative regarding potential Killamarsh Rail Station (Regeneration & Programmes)

Secured travel plans on major developments in this quarter. Bus station improvements as part of CCTD approval (ref. 23/00601/FL) – (Planning).

Directly and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.

DEFRA initial settlement has been released which was under the amount needed to purchase all the vehicles required. Further meetings programmed to discuss procurement options (Streetscene).

Attach waste management plan conditions on planning permissions for major development e.g., condition 22 of planning permission 23/00708/FL – (Planning)

16 business waste compliance inspections were carried out across the district to ensure commercial waste is disposed of legally and correctly and 9 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued for: littering (3), fly abandoned vehicles (3), Failure to produce (2) and Breach of PSPO (1). High profile social media campaign and press release re renewal of dog control PSPO which will deter dog fouling. Communications on a littering Fixed Penalty Notice and a business waste compliance offence have been issued. (Environmental Health).

Sustainable Christmas campaign on social media and website targeting reducing litter has been undertaken in December (Communications).

*The following progress has been made on **increasing biodiversity across the district**:*

Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.

Engaging with DCC regarding the development of the Heartwood Community Forest following its approval in November. Potential for Community Action Grant support for community-led initiatives and using redundant NEDDC sites (Regeneration & Programmes).

Working with planning colleagues on identifying patches to be used of Biodiversity net gain. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) have submitted draft proposal for nature recovery plan for NEDDC (Streetscene).

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust have produced a draft Nature Recovery Plan and NEDDC's first Biodiversity Report has been drafted (Cabinet to consider before publication in Jan 2024) – (Planning).

Where appropriate, utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity.

Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 31st December 2023

Sustainability Officer engaging with Planning for Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) work to ensure synergy on approach to deliver new legislation (Regeneration & Programmes).

Planning permission ref. 23/00601/FL (Clay Cross Town Deal) to preserve and enhance bat mitigation on existing historic buildings (Planning).

A sum of up to £50k will be invested to improve biodiversity for the Clay Cross Active development. This will include planting of trees, edgeways, etc and will be complete by December 2024 (Leisure).

RESULTS FROM RESIDENTS SURVEY

Environment Scrutiny

The Council undertook a Residents Survey in November 2023 to help further understand resident perceptions of their local area and local services.

A total of 3,269 responses were received.

The results will help the Council improve our services and communications and provide valuable resident insight to help shape priorities for making North East Derbyshire a great place.

The results have been broken down to fit into each Committees remit.

The Committee now need to determine if there are elements from the survey findings that they wish to explore further and include on the Work Programme going forward.

Executive Summary

- Of the 3,269 responses to the survey, 2,732 respondents (83.6%) stated they were satisfied with their local area as a place to live.
- 2,108 respondents (64.5%) felt that they 'belong' to their local neighbourhood, 864 respondents (26.4%) neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 2,251 respondents (68.9%) agreed that people in their local area treat one another with respect, 638 respondents (19.5%) neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 1,953 respondents (59.7%) agreed that people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area, 1,044 respondents (31.9%) neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 3,007 respondents (92.0%) felt safe when outside in their local area during the day, with 2,003 respondents (61.3%) stating they feel safe outside during the evening after dark and a further 595 respondents (18.2%) stating neither safe nor unsafe.
- From the 16 options provided within the survey, the respondents felt that the top 5 most important things in making somewhere a great place to live were 'feeling safe/low crime rate' (69.8%), 'access to nature/open spaces' (62.2%), 'access to health services' (57.3%), 'shops' (36.8%) and 'clean streets' (33.7%).
- From the 16 options provided within the survey, the respondents felt that the top 5 areas where improvement is required are: 'public transport provision' (41.8%), 'activities for older children/teenagers' (40.0%), 'shops' (32.2%), 'access to health services' (31.0%), 'feeling safe low crime rate' (29.4%).

- In respect of public services, most respondents were satisfied with their Local Hospital (62.1%), followed by Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service (61.6%) and GP Service/Family Doctor (54.7%). Respondents were least satisfied with Derbyshire Police (44.2%), Local Bus Services (34.0%) and NHS Dental Services (28.6%).
- 2,135 of 3,050 respondents who expressed an opinion (70.0%), felt either 'very well' or 'fairly well' informed by North East Derbyshire District Council in respect of keeping residents informed about the services and benefits it provides.
- The top 5 methods respondents use to find out about the council's services and benefits provision are Council's 'The News' magazine (47.9%), Council's website (36.2%), Council's email bulletin (20.7%), Council's social media (18.0%) and Local newspaper/magazine (17.3%).
- 1,891 respondents (57.9%) were satisfied with the way North East Derbyshire District Council runs things, with 940 respondents (28.8%) being neutral and 438 respondents (13.4%) being dissatisfied. This would rank the council third in the list of local public service providers.

Findings

The findings from the survey have been extracted to what is potentially relevant to this Committee, and are below.

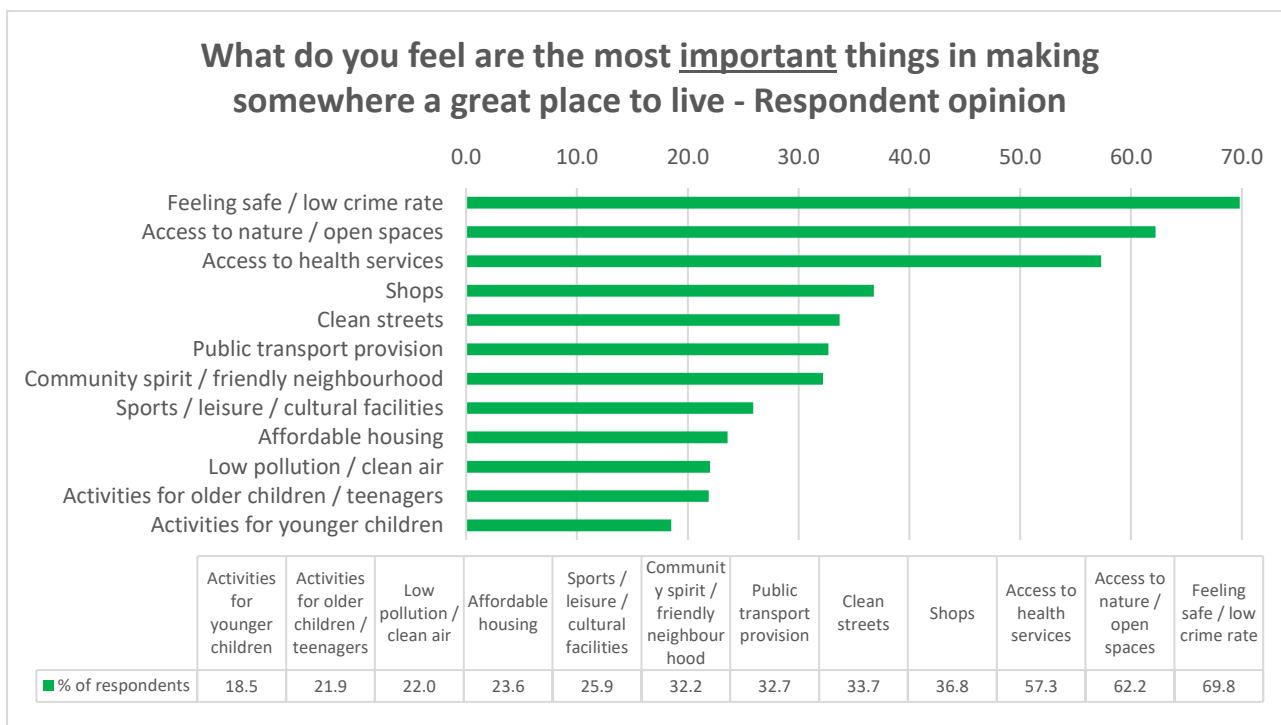
Quality of life

Respondents were given a list of 16 options and asked to select up to five that they felt were the most important in terms of making somewhere a great place to live.

For the purpose of this Committee, one of the top 5 options from the respondents' replies included *access to nature/open spaces*. However, *low pollution/clean air* was also noted but this only fell into the top 10. The table and graph below highlight the top 12 options selected by respondents.

| Quality of Life Options | No. of respondents | % of respondents |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Feeling safe / low crime rate | 2282 | 69.8 |
| Access to nature / open spaces | 2032 | 62.2 |
| Access to health services | 1874 | 57.3 |
| Shops | 1203 | 36.8 |
| Clean streets | 1103 | 33.7 |
| Public transport provision | 1070 | 32.7 |
| Community spirit / friendly neighbourhood | 1052 | 32.2 |
| Sports / leisure / cultural facilities | 846 | 25.9 |
| Affordable housing | 771 | 23.6 |

| | | |
|---|-----|------|
| Low pollution / clean air | 718 | 22.0 |
| Activities for older children / teenagers | 715 | 21.9 |
| Activities for younger children | 606 | 18.5 |

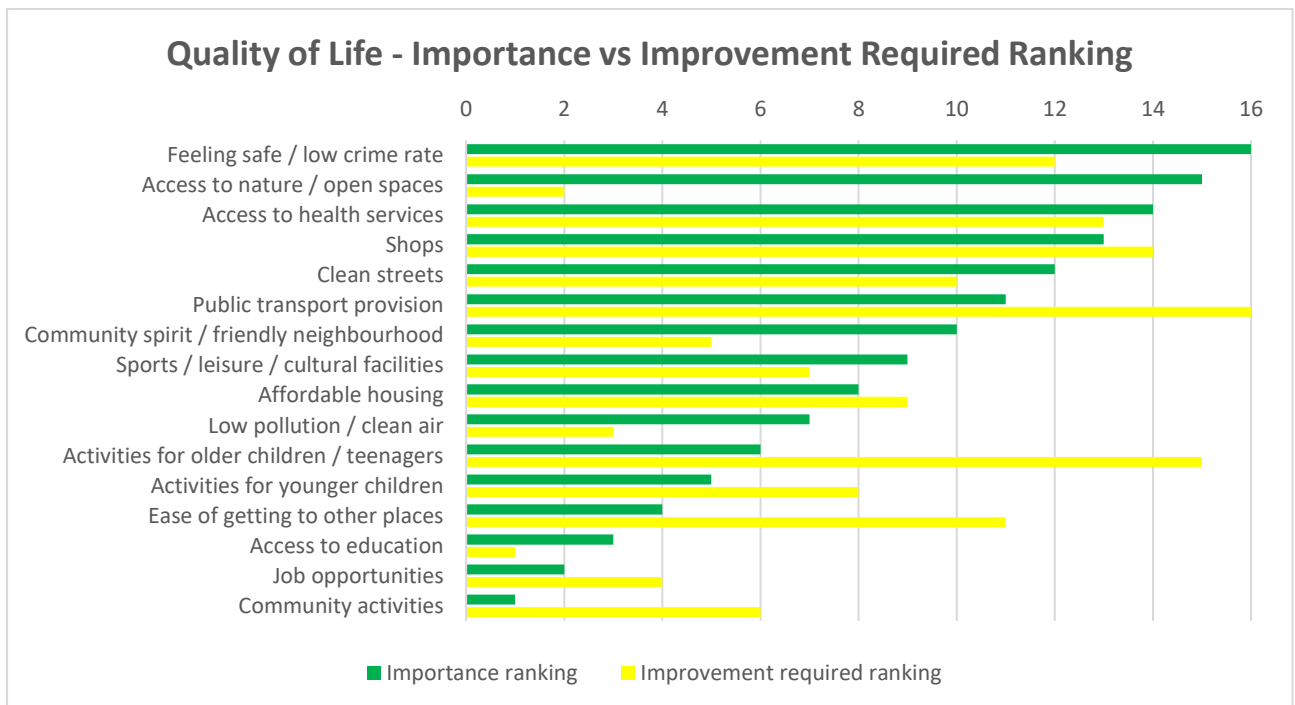


Respondents were also asked to consider which, if any, of the list of 16 options where they felt improvement was required. Neither of the two environmental focused options were raised in the top 12. However, they did fall within the list of 16 options.

The table and graph below give an indication of the difference between the importance placed against the options criteria and the improvement required ranking.

| Options | Importance ranking | Improvement required ranking | Differential |
|---|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Feeling safe / low crime rate | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| Access to nature / open spaces | 2 | 15 | 13 |
| Access to health services | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Shops | 4 | 3 | -1 |
| Clean streets | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| Public transport provision | 6 | 1 | -5 |
| Community spirit / friendly neighbourhood | 7 | 12 | 5 |
| Sports / leisure / cultural facilities | 8 | 10 | 2 |
| Affordable housing | 9 | 8 | -1 |
| Low pollution / clean air | 10 | 14 | 4 |
| Activities for older children / teenagers | 11 | 2 | -9 |
| Activities for younger children | 12 | 9 | -3 |
| Ease of getting to other places | 13 | 6 | -7 |

| | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|
| Access to education | 14 | 16 | 2 |
| Job opportunities | 15 | 13 | -2 |
| Community activities | 16 | 11 | -5 |



Items for Consideration

Given the remit of this Committee, the areas that have been flagged up in the survey as an area of importance were:

- Access to nature/open spaces
- Low pollution/clean air

The Committee need to determine whether they want to actively progress these areas as part of the future Work Programme.

CABINET DECISIONS 2023/24

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|---|---|----------------|--|---|
| 29 June 2023 | Planning/Environmental Enforcement Scrutiny Review | Report of the Previous Administration's Organisation Scrutiny Committee | Non-Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet noted the recommendations of the previous Administration's Organisation Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the review report.</p> <p>That these recommendations be considered as part of the development process for the new Council Plan</p> | To appraise Cabinet of the Scrutiny Committee's review and recommendations. |
| 29 June 2023 | Engagement with Business Scrutiny Review | Report of the Previous Administration's Growth Scrutiny Committee | Non-Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet noted the recommendations of the previous Administration's Growth Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the review report.</p> <p>That these recommendations be considered as part of the development process for the new Council Plan.</p> | To appraise Cabinet of the Scrutiny Committee's review and recommendations. |
| 29 June 2023 | Leisure Provision for Older Residents Scrutiny Review | Report of the Previous Administration's Communities Scrutiny Committee | Non-Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet noted the recommendations of the previous Administration's Communities Scrutiny Committee, as set out in the review report.</p> <p>That these recommendations be considered as part of the development process for the new Council Plan.</p> | To appraise Cabinet of the Scrutiny Committee's review and recommendations |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|--|---|----------------|--|---|
| 29 June 2023 | Adoption of the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) | Councillor S Pickering - Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non-Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet approved the Officer responses to the representations received to the public consultation on the Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), as set out in the Consultation Statement in Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>That Cabinet adopted and brought into effect the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in Appendix 2 to the report to replace the current SCI (2014).</p> | To formalise the Council's response to the comments received during the consultation on the draft SCI, and to enable the document to be formally adopted as the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. |
| 29 June 2023 | Purchase of Property in North Wingfield | Councillor N Barker – Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Key & Exempt | That Cabinet endorsed the purchase of the property in North Wingfield to help reduce hotel costs and to safeguard the property and local community. | By acquiring the property, the Council will be able to significantly reduce the use of hotels by its Homelessness Service and the associated costs, whilst also increasing its emergency housing capacity, at a time when pressures on the Homelessness Service are greater than ever before. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|--|---|------------------|--|---|
| 29 June 2023 | Housing at North Wingfield (Whiteleas) Development | Councillor N Barker – Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance | Non-Key & Exempt | That Cabinet agreed to the proposed change of tenure mix required on the Whiteleas development at North Wingfield. | Developing the vacant Council owned land at Whiteleas supports the delivery of new homes in the District. Changing the mix supports the Council's commitment to the delivery of high-quality affordable housing for rent in the District. |
| 27 July 2023 | The Council Plan 2023 - 2027 | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet recommended to Council to approve the draft Council Plan for 2023 to 2027. | To ensure that the Council's work is carefully planned and structured. |
| 27 July 2023 | Five Year Housing Land Supply - Position Statement | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the annual assessment of the five-year land supply of deliverable sites for Housing. | To ensure Members are aware of the Council's latest position on the Five Year Housing Land Supply, prior to publication of the information on the Council's website. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|--|--|----------------|---|---|
| 27 July 2023 | Council Plan Targets Performance Update, January to March 2023 (Quarter 4) | Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the outturns against the Council Plan 2019-2023 targets. | This was an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the Council Plan targets. This was the last report on performance on the previous Council Plan, and work was ongoing in relation to the new Council Plan performance framework. |
| 27 July 2023 | Medium Term Financial Plan - Financial Outturn 2022/23 | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the outturn position in respect of the 2022/23 financial year. That Cabinet approved the proposed carry forward of capital budgets detailed in Appendix 4 totalling £10.783m. | To appraise Cabinet of the Council's financial management during 2022-23, and to enable specific capital budgets to be carried forward into the current financial year. |
| 27 July 2023 | Funding to Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support Organisations - Summary of Outcomes for 2022/23 | Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the report. | To ensure that the Council maximises efficiencies and outcomes through commissioning voluntary sector organisations to help achieve the Council's Priorities. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|---|--|----------------|---|--|
| 21 Sept 2023 | Medium Term Financial Plan: Budget Monitoring Report April-June 2023 (Q1) | Councillor P R Kerry – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the Quarter One budget monitoring position outlined in the report and detailed in Appendices 1-4 of the report. | The report summarised the financial position of the Council following the first quarter's budget monitoring exercise for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme. |
| 21 Sept 2023 | Establishment of Local Plan Review Working Group | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet recommend to Council at its meeting on 25 September 2023, the establishment of a Local Plan Review Working Group, in accordance with the structure in Option 4 of the report, and the terms of reference detailed in Appendix 1 of the report. | To establish a Local Plan Review Working Group in order to undertake the review of the Local Plan. Based on the benefits and risks assessment of the 4 options, officers were of the view that Option 4 was the most appropriate course of action and struck the best balance. The Member Working Group would provide regular feedback to officers during the Local Plan review process. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|--|---|----------------|--|---|
| 21 Sept 2023 | Decision on the Brampton Parish Neighbourhood Plan | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non-Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet accepted the Examiner’s report and recommended modifications to the Plan as set out in the Decision Statement at Appendix 1 of the report in their entirety, and that the Plan, as amended, be taken forward to a referendum within the Parish as outlined in the report.</p> <p>That following a successful referendum, if more than half of those voting in the referendum vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Managing Director should bring the Neighbourhood Plan into effect ('Made').</p> | The Brampton Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to examination by an independent examiner. The Examiner’s view is that subject to specified modifications the Plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements. It is considered that, subject to the modifications set out in the Decision Statement, the Draft Neighbourhood Plan would meet the legal requirements and Basic Conditions as set out in legislation, and that the Plan should proceed to Referendum. |
| 21 Sept 2023 | North East Derbyshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Update | Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the report. | To note progress of the activity funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund. |
| 21 Sept 2023 | Funding to Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support Organisations - Summary of Outcomes for 2022/23 | Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the report. | To ensure that the Council maximises efficiencies and outcomes through commissioning voluntary sector organisations to help achieve the Council's Priorities. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|--------------|--|---|------------------|---|---|
| 21 Sept 2023 | Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme | Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets | Non-Key & Exempt | <p>That the Council retains legal ownership of the new commercial units and public realm areas that will be developed as part of the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.</p> <p>That the Council adopts the ongoing management responsibilities of the new commercial business units and the public realm area within the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.</p> <p>That the Council secures a Planning Approval and then seek further assurance from Derbyshire County Council in relation to their participation in the Clay Cross Town Centre Regeneration Scheme, and if necessary to report this response to Cabinet for further consideration.</p> | The proposals allowed the Council to retain ownership and management control of the asset to ensure the long-term success of the regeneration project. |
| 26 Oct 2023 | Equality Plan and Objectives 2023 - 2027 | Councillor J Barry – Portfolio Holder for Growth & Assets | Non-Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet approved and adopted the Equality Plan and objectives for 2023-2027.</p> <p>That Cabinet noted the achievements and progress made under the last two years of the previous plan (2019-2023).</p> | To put into place the proposed Equality Plan and objectives 2023-2027, which will provide the framework for implementing the Council's obligations regarding the general and specific equality duties. The proposed Equality Plan and objectives have received broad support. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|-------------|---|--|----------------|---|---|
| 26 Oct 2023 | Safeguarding Policy and Procedures - Protecting Children and Adults at Risk | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Non-Key & Open | That Cabinet approved and adopted the final draft of the Derbyshire-wide policy (Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, Protecting Children and Adults at Risk). | The Derbyshire-wide policy will subsequently replace the current Adult and Child Safeguarding policies. The Policy complies with legislation and provides a framework for Safeguarding. |
| 26 Oct 2023 | Purchase of 3 New Build Homes at Woolley Moor | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Key & Exempt | That Cabinet approved the purchase of 3 new build affordable rent homes, recognising the need for affordable housing in this area. | Purchasing these homes will help to meet the housing need in this area, where there is a limited number of homes for rent at affordable levels. |

Cabinet Decisions since the last cycle of Scrutiny Committee Meetings.

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--|--|------------|--|---|
| 23 Nov 2023 | <p>Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Revised Budgets 2023-24</p> <p>Relevant to all Scrutiny Committees</p> | Councillor P R Kerry – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance | Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet recommend to Council:</p> <p>The budget in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved as the Current Budget for 2023/24.</p> <p>The budget in respect of the HRA as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be approved as the Current Budget for 2023/24.</p> <p>The Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 of the report be approved as the Current Budget for 2023/24</p> | To prepare revised budgets as early as possible within the financial year to provide sufficient time to allow any planned changes to be delivered. The Council has faced financial challenges this year, putting pressure on the ability to set a balanced General Fund budget but careful budget management, use of reserves ringfenced for providing resilience when needed, and the ongoing progression of the transformation agenda has mitigated this. |
|-------------|--|--|------------|--|---|

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|-------------|---|--|----------------|--|--|
| 23 Nov 2023 | <p>Council Plan Objectives - Update April to September 2023</p> <p>Relevant to all Scrutiny Committees</p> | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Non Key & Open | That Cabinet noted progress against the Council Plan 2023-2027 objectives. | This is an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the Council Plan objectives. |
| 23 Nov 2023 | <p>Planning Policy Annual Monitoring Reports for Publication</p> <p>Potentially relevant to Environment Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non Key & Open | That Cabinet noted the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR19) for the period of 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023, and approved its publication on the Council’s website. | This report set out the key findings of the 2023 Authority Monitoring Report, Brownfield Land Register Update and Infrastructure Funding Statement. This enabled the Council to understand the effectiveness of its policies and trends over time. Publication of these documents on the Council’s website would fulfil the Council’s statutory duties to prepare and publish the required annual monitoring datasets. |
| 23 Nov 2023 | <p>South Yorkshire Combined Authority Statement of Common Ground</p> <p>Potentially relevant to Environment Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet endorsed the contents of the South Yorkshire Combined Mayoral Authority Statement of Common Ground.</p> <p>Cabinet authorised the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place to sign the document on behalf of North East Derbyshire District Council.</p> | The Council will be able to demonstrate that it has addressed the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 with regards to the duty to co-operate. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|-------------|--|--|------------------|--|---|
| 23 Nov 2023 | <p>Proposed Social Housing Regeneration Scheme – Stonebroom</p> <p>Potentially relevant to Communities Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Non Key & Exempt | <p>That Cabinet agreed to the proposed redevelopment of non-traditional homes around the Cleveland Road area at Stonebroom.</p> <p>That Cabinet recommended to Council the approval of the necessary borrowing to fund the above the scheme.</p> <p>That Cabinet recommended to Council the inclusion of this scheme in the HRA Capital Programme.</p> | The regeneration scheme at Stonebroom supports the Council’s commitment in its Council Plan to build, acquire and facilitate the delivery of more high-quality social housing for rent in the district. |
| 25 Jan 2024 | <p>Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28</p> <p>Relevant to all Scrutiny Committees</p> | Councillor P R Kerry – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Finance | Key & Open | <p><u>RESOLVED</u></p> <p><u>Council is recommended at its meeting on 29 January 2024</u></p> <p>That the view of the Director of Finance & Resources, that the estimates included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28 are robust and that the level of financial reserves are adequate at this time, be accepted.</p> <p>That officers report back to Cabinet and the Services Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council’s budgets.</p> | To recommend budgets to Council in respect of the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|------|-------|------------------|--------|--|----------------------|
| | | | | <p><u>General Fund</u></p> <p>That a Council Tax increase of £6.11 will be levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).</p> <p>That the Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved as the Current Budget 2023/24, as the Original Budget 2024/25, and as the financial projections in respect of 2025/26 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That the shortfall in the General Fund budget for 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be met from the Resilience Reserve.</p> <p>That the General Fund Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 to the report be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, and as the Approved Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That any under spend in respect of 2023/24 be transferred to the Resilience Reserve to provide increased financial resilience for future years of the plan.</p> | |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|------|-------|------------------|--------|---|----------------------|
| | | | | <p><u>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</u></p> <p>That Council sets its rent levels for 2024/25 in consideration of the Social Housing Rent Standard increasing rents by 6% from 1 April 2024.</p> <p>That the Medium Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, as the Original Budget in respect of 2024/25 and the financial projection in respect of 2025/26 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That the HRA Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, and as the Approved Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28.</p> <p>That the Management Fee for undertaking housing services at £12.05m and the Management Fee for undertaking capital works at £1.1m to Rykneld Homes in respect of 2024/25 be approved</p> | |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|-------------|---|---|----------------|--|---|
| | | | | <p>That Members endorse the section in the financial framework within the Management Agreement which enables the Council to pay temporary cash advances to Rykneld Homes to help meet cash flow requirements of the company should unforeseen circumstances arise in any particular month.</p> <p>That Members note the requirement to provide Rykneld Homes with a 'letter of comfort' to the company's auditors and grant delegated authority to the Council's Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Leader of the Council to agree the contents of that letter.</p> | |
| 25 Jan 2024 | <p>Publication of the first Biodiversity Net Gain report</p> <p>Potentially relevant to the Environment Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non Key & Open | That the first Biodiversity Net Gain report be now published on the Council's website. | To comply with Section 103 of the Environment Act in relation to the publication of annual reports, demonstrating that the Council is meeting its statutory duty. |

| Date | Title | Portfolio Holder | Status | Decision | Reasons for Decision |
|-------------|---|--|----------------|--|--|
| 25 Jan 2024 | <p>Delegating authority to officers to enter into Planning Performance Agreements with Developers</p> <p>Potentially relevant to the Business Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor S Pickering – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Place | Non Key & Open | <p>That Cabinet approved the use of powers delegated to the Assistant Director of Planning to set up a mechanism allowing applicants to enter into Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs); and</p> <p>That Cabinet agreed the publication of a document on the Council’s website explaining the purpose of Planning Performance Agreement to applicants and members of the public, based on the contents of Appendix 1 to the report.</p> | The use of PPAs will allow the Council to recoup a large part of the costs associated with officer time spent on proactively dealing with the large-scale planning applications received by the Council and reduce the cost of the Planning Service to the Council’s General Fund. |
| 25 Jan 2024 | <p>Purchase of 15 units for affordable rent - Oaks Farm, Calow</p> <p>Potentially relevant to the Communities Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Key & Exempt | That Cabinet approved the proposed purchase of the 15 units at Oaks Farm, Calow. | Purchasing these units will help to meet the affordable housing need in this area and the District. |
| 25 Jan 2024 | <p>Implementation of a Council Tax Premium for Empty Homes</p> <p>Potentially relevant to the Services Scrutiny Committee</p> | Councillor N Barker – Leader and Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership & Finance | Key & Exempt | <p>That Cabinet endorsed the implementation of an Empty Homes Premium, as set out in the report.</p> <p>That the implementation of the Empty Homes Premium commences from 1 April 2024.</p> | The introduction of an Empty Homes Premium will help to reduce the number of current empty homes in the District. |

Agenda item

To consider any Motions from Members under Procedure Rule No 10

- [Meeting of Council, Monday, 29th January, 2024 2.00 pm \(Item 11.\)](#)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 10 to consider Motions on notice from Members. Motions must be received in writing or by email to the Monitoring Officer by 12pm (Noon) twelve clear working days before the meeting.

The following motion(s) have been submitted:-

Motion 'C' – Proposed by Councillor F Adlington-Stringer

Plant-Based Council

North East Derbyshire District Council, in line with its Climate Emergency declaration and in reflection of the local emissions reported in its own Climate Change Strategy, commits to:

1. Ensuring food and drink provided at all Council meetings and events is 100% plant-based.
2. Prioritising plant-based menu options wherever the Council has influence, for example in leisure centres.
3. Promoting and encouraging plant-based eating to residents through methods such as public awareness campaigns and the removal of meat and dairy advertising.

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

***MONDAY AT 3.30PM**

CHAIR: CLLR CAROLINE SMITH

VICE CHAIR: CLLR F ADLINGTON-STRINGER

| MEETING DATE | AGENDA ITEM | WHAT IT WILL COVER | WHO IT INVOLVES |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 17 July 2023 | Remit of the Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing on Scrutiny : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting the scene - The terms of reference for the Committee - How the Committee operates, ways of working– Discussion - The Council’s new Council Plan and scrutiny arrangements - discussion | <p>Lee Hickin – Managing Director</p> <p>Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer</p> <p>Sarah Sternberg – Assistant Director of Governance & Monitoring Officer</p> <p>Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer</p> |
| | EXAMPLE – Medium Term Financial Plan | MTFP Financial Outturn 2022/23 | Jayne Dethick – Director of Finance & Resources and S151 Officer |
| | Draft Scrutiny Work Programme | To consider the draft Scrutiny Work Programme | Committee Members/ Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer |
| 11 SEPTEMBER 2023 | Performance Management | Developing the Performance Framework to support the new Council Plan | Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions | To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan | Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader |
| | Policy Development | CONFIDENTIAL - DCC Draft Tree & Woodland Strategy and Community Forest Proposals | Steve Lee – Assistant Director – Regeneration |
| | ‘Horizon Scanning’ | To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example | Lead Officer |
| | Scrutiny Work Programme | To consider the Committees’ work programme | Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer |
| 13 NOVEMBER 2023 | Performance Management | Council Plan Targets Performance Update | Q&A with the Portfolio Holder Relevant Service Managers/Directors Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer |
| | Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions | To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan | Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader |
| | Policy Development | To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council | Lead Officer |
| | ‘Horizon Scanning’ | To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which | Lead Officer |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example | |
| | Scrutiny Work Programme | To consider the Committees' work programme | Damon Stanton – Senior Scrutiny Officer |
| 19 FEBRUARY 2024 | Performance Management | Council Plan Targets Performance Update | Q&A with the Portfolio Holder Relevant Service Managers/Directors Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer |
| | Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions | To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan | Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader |
| | Policy Development | To consider the motion submitted by Councillor F Adlington-Stringer on Plant Based Council at Council on 29 January 2024 which Members referred to the Committee for consideration. Leisure Services to provide details on current provision etc. | Lead Officer Chris Mills – ACCEPTED |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Scrutiny Work Programme | To consider the Committee's Work Programme | Senior Scrutiny Officer |
| | Residents Survey | Committee to discuss the outcomes of the Residents Survey and to determine if they want to look at any areas as part of their Work Programme | Senior Scrutiny Officer |
| *TUESDAY 21 MAY 2024 | Performance Management | Council Plan Targets Performance Update | Q&A with the Portfolio Holder Relevant Service Managers/Directors Kath Drury – Information, Engagement and Performance Manager Amar Bashir – Improvement Officer |
| | Cabinet Reports and the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions | To review recent Cabinet Reports, receive an overview of Cabinet business, and review the Forward Plan | Portfolio Holder Senior Officer Leader/Deputy Leader |
| | Policy Development | To contribute to major Policies being considered by the Council | Lead Officer |
| | 'Horizon Scanning' | To consider and contribute to potential changes in the operating environment which may include legislation, regulation and key projects being undertaken by the Council, for example | Lead Officer |
| | Council Plan Tactics Performance | To review progress made against Council Plan Objectives at year's end | Lee Hickin – Managing Director Leader/Deputy Leader |

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | Scrutiny Work Programme | To consider whether the Committee's Work Programme has been completed | Senior Scrutiny Officer |
|--|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|

NOTES

- Public Sector Decarbonisation Schemes
- Actions taken to achieve Energy Efficient Homes (RHL)

North East Derbyshire District Council

Environment Scrutiny Committee

19 February 2024

Updates to the Climate Change Strategy

Report of Councillor Steve Pickering, Portfolio Holder for Environment and Place

Classification: Public

Report By: Sylvia Moffatt, Sustainability Officer

Contact Officer: Sylvia Moffatt, Sustainability Officer

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To present the overview of the draft updates to the Climate Change Strategy that have been made in order to better align to the Council Plan 2023-2027.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In regards to the updated Climate Change Strategy, Members are asked to comment on the following:
 - 1.1 That the Strategy reflects the current Council Plan's vision and priorities in a concise and clear manner.
 - 1.2 That the updated Strategy title 'Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' better reflects the Council's commitment to sustainable thinking.
- 2.0 To note that the monitoring approach now aligns with Government guidelines to aid transparency and cohesiveness.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Cllr. Steve Pickering

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

There are no current financial implications.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

There are no current legal implications.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

There are no human resource implications as a result of this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

| Decision Information | |
|--|--|
| <p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p> | No |
| <p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p> | No |
| <p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p> | All |
| <p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet / Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p> | Yes Details: Cllr. Steve Pickering and Steve Lee, Assistant Director, Regeneration and Programmes. |

Links to Council Plan (NED) priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

Key Council Plan priority of 'A great place that cares for the environment', increase biodiversity across the District and reduce carbon emissions and pollution across the District. Responding to Climate Emergency declared by the Council in 2019 and delivery of Council's commitment to sustainability, local communities and biodiversity.

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 The original Climate Change Strategy was published in 2019 and revised in 2022. With the approval of the new Council Plan 2023-27, a light touch refresh has taken place in order to align the current Strategy with the new Council Plan.
- 1.2 The draft updates of the Strategy are being presented to Scrutiny as part of the consultation process. Once this process has concluded, the final version of the Strategy will be published.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1. This was a very light-touch refresh, with no fundamental changes to the subject matter and the existing ten themes remain. The refresh ensures consistency of language and thinking with the current Council Plan.
- 2.2 The Strategy title has been slightly modified, with 'Rethink' aspect being moved to the forefront, in order to emphasise the golden thread of the Strategy – the behavioural change needed in the ways we do things, which starts with rethinking current practices and operations.
- 2.3 The figures from SCATTER and Tyndall were updated to include the latest available data. The Council's emissions arising from fossil fuels have been updated to capture years 2021 and 2022, including Killamarsh Active, which was acquired from the Parish Council after the current Strategy had been published.

Killamarsh Active is the only Council commercial property not on 100% renewable electricity tariff, due to the property being tied into current energy provider's contract for further 5 years.
- 2.4 'Monitoring our Progress' section now offers the alignment with the reporting guidance issued by Government to aid transparency and cohesiveness.
- 2.5 The Strategy will be underpinned with an action plan which is currently being drafted with input from Assistant Directors and Service Managers. This will be a working document which will enable delivery of the Strategy.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 To present the Council's approach on tackling climate change and enable the Council to be more sustainable and for Environment Scrutiny Committee's views to be taken into account as part of the review process and for those views to be referred to Cabinet when Cabinet considers the draft for approval.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 No alternative options are considered appropriate as the aim of the refresh was to align the Strategy with the Council Plan 2023-27.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

| Appendix No | Title |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | Climate Change Strategy |
| Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) you must provide copies of the background papers) | |
| n/a | |

Climate Change Strategy

Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



North East
Derbyshire
District Council



2022 - 2030

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Foreword

Understanding climate change as a serious challenge, we officially declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and committed to taking decisive action to reduce our carbon footprint. As climate change is already affecting our ecosystems, communities and infrastructures, the need to mitigate these effects and strengthen our resilience is constantly growing.

We are aware that this requires a systematic behavioural change, however, we have already demonstrated, throughout the recent pandemic, our capability to successfully change and adapt our behaviours to manage a global emergency.

Last year we published our Council Plan 2023 - 2027 which sets out our ambition for the District to be a place that is clean and promotes long, joyful, and healthy lives, focusing on safety and caring for the environment. We want to create an excellent community that describes the District as a great place to live, work and prosper. We recognise, that in order to achieve this aim, balancing economic, social and environmental well-being is crucial. Our first priority was to recruit a dedicated Sustainability Officer, which we have achieved. We have also committed to undertaking a review of our management of natural land assets, which is underway.

As an organisation, the Council is committed to achieving an 80% reduction in our carbon emissions by 2030 and helping the District to achieve Net Zero by 2050.

This strategy sets out how through decisive action and effective collaboration, we can create positive communities that embrace sustainability, resilience and prosperity- a truly great place for us all to share and enjoy.

We believe, that as a Local Authority, we are well-placed to deliver this change, by leading the way, sharing best practices and working together with our partners, residents, businesses, communities and stakeholders, ensuring a collaborative approach throughout our activities.

Our approach emphasises using our resources efficiently, providing cost-effective services, and adopting a lifestyle that helps to reduce our carbon footprint.

To achieve this, we will continue to explore and embrace economically viable solutions and technological advances that allow us to move away from fossil fuels and environmentally harmful operational practices and shift towards cleaner, sustainable alternatives.



Cllr Nigel Barker
Council Leader



Cllr Steve Pickering
Cabinet Member for
Environment and
Place

Our Vision

The Council's 2023-27 vision is simple:

'Putting strong community leadership at the heart of everything we do, we will create a Great Place. A place where people can earn a decent living and have a comfortable home. A place where people can live a long, happy, and healthy life. A place where people feel safe within communities that are full of pride and a place that is conscious of and cares for its environment.'

The vision of this strategy is:

'A greener, cleaner and safer District, with strong, prosperous communities and businesses, that cares for the environment and natural beauty of the District.'



Introduction

The primary driver behind climate change and its negative impacts is the increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which are causing the rise in global average temperatures.

As the global average temperatures are increasing, we are already seeing the effects of climate change, such as melting polar ice caps, coastal erosion, rise of sea levels and changes in vegetation growth. These changes are threatening entire eco-systems of our planet, not only affecting the feeding patterns of many animals, such as birds, mammals, fish and insects, but also our own food supply.

In order to reverse the effects of a climate change, there is a growing global understanding for a need to stop greenhouse gas emissions and countries around the world are setting their own targets to reduce their carbon footprint, which is the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions tied to an individual, organisation or activity.

This challenge of a fundamental shift towards more sustainable approach also presents new opportunities for energy security and creation of green industries and jobs, that in turn, would generate many economic benefits.

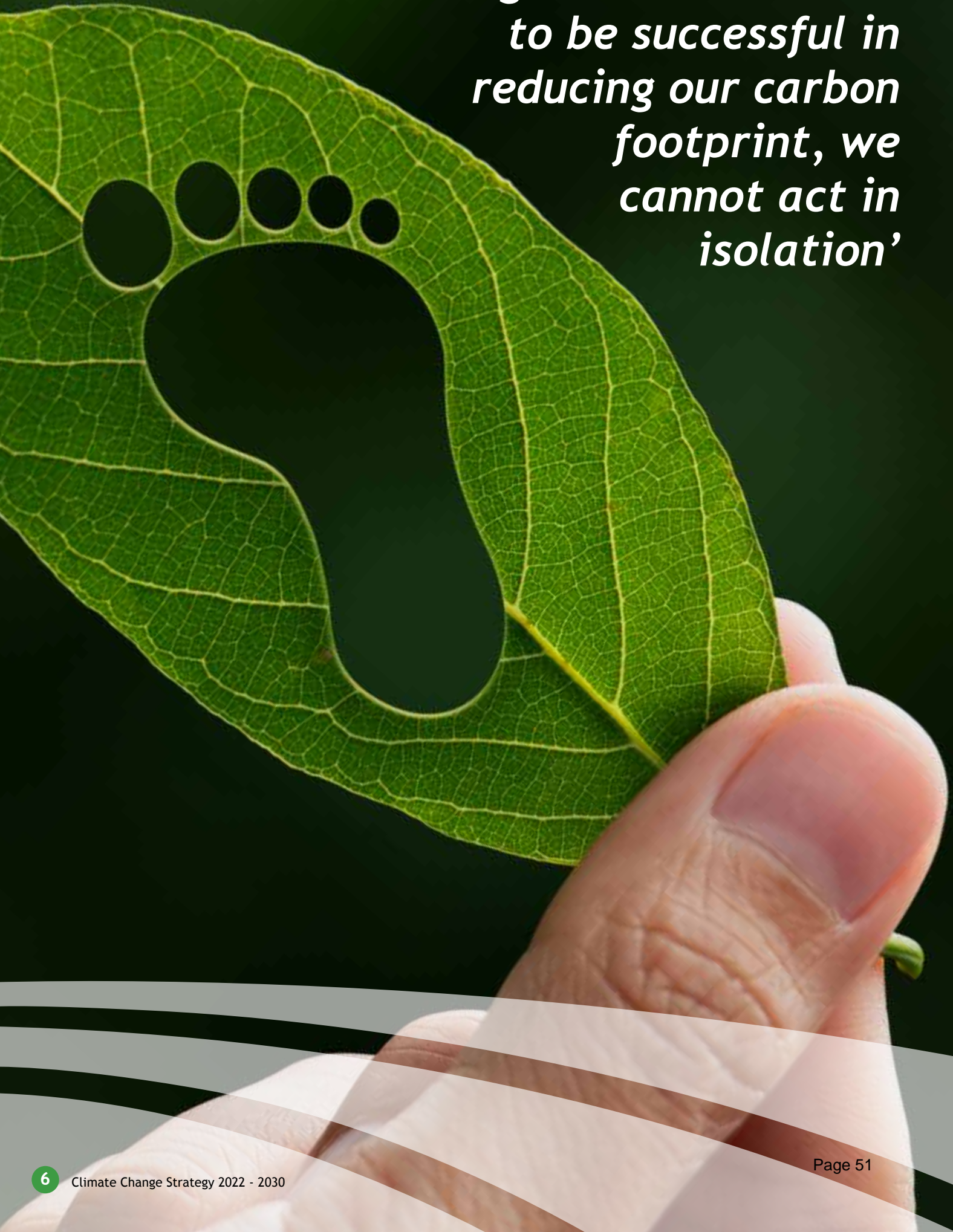
As this cannot be achieved in silos and requires a joint global effort, everyone can play their part in ensuring future prosperity for generations to come and Local Authorities are well placed to influence and inspire change. By working collaboratively, leading by example and raising awareness about sustainable solutions.

In fact, sustainable solutions can emerge in almost every scenario by asking questions and applying the following guiding principles:

- **RETHINK** - can we do something different? Do we need to do it at all?
- **REDUCE** - consumables, energy, travel, waste;
- **REUSE** - renewable energy, materials, products, equipment;
- **RECYCLE** - water, waste, by-products;

As a strategic community leader and a major employer, the Council will apply these principles in regulatory functions, operations and the services we deliver to drive the positive change. This will help to preserve our District and its biodiversity and ensure a clean and safe environment, so that our present and future communities and businesses can thrive.

‘We recognise that in order to be successful in reducing our carbon footprint, we cannot act in isolation’



Policy Drivers

As the recognition for behavioural change needed continues to rise globally, we will reflect on the best practice, guidance, activities and principles identified in other international, national and local policy documents. This strategy and our approach are informed and driven by the following policy drivers:

- **The Kyoto Protocol**
https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol
- **The Paris Agreement**
<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>
- **COP28 UAE - United Nations Climate Change Conference**
<https://www.cop28.com>
- **The Climate Change Act 2008**
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>
- **The Carbon Plan**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-carbon-plan-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions--2>
- **A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment 2018**
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/693158/25-year-environment-plan.pdf
- **The Resources and Waste Strategy 2018**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>
- **The Clean Air Strategy 2019**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-air-strategy-2019>
- **The UK Circular Economy Package Policy July 2020**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-economy-package-policy-statement>
- **The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution 2020**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution>
- **UK Hydrogen Strategy 2021**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-hydrogen-strategy>
- **Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2021-2025: Achieving Net Zero**
<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/climate-change-strategy.pdf>
- **Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework**
<https://data.climateemergency.uk/media/data/plans/derbyshire-county-council-3a14855.pdf>
- **Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022 - 2025**
<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/vision-derbyshire-climate-change-strategy.pdf>
- **North East Derbyshire District Council - Council Plan 2023 - 2027**
<https://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/council-plan-2023-2027>

Current Emissions and Targets

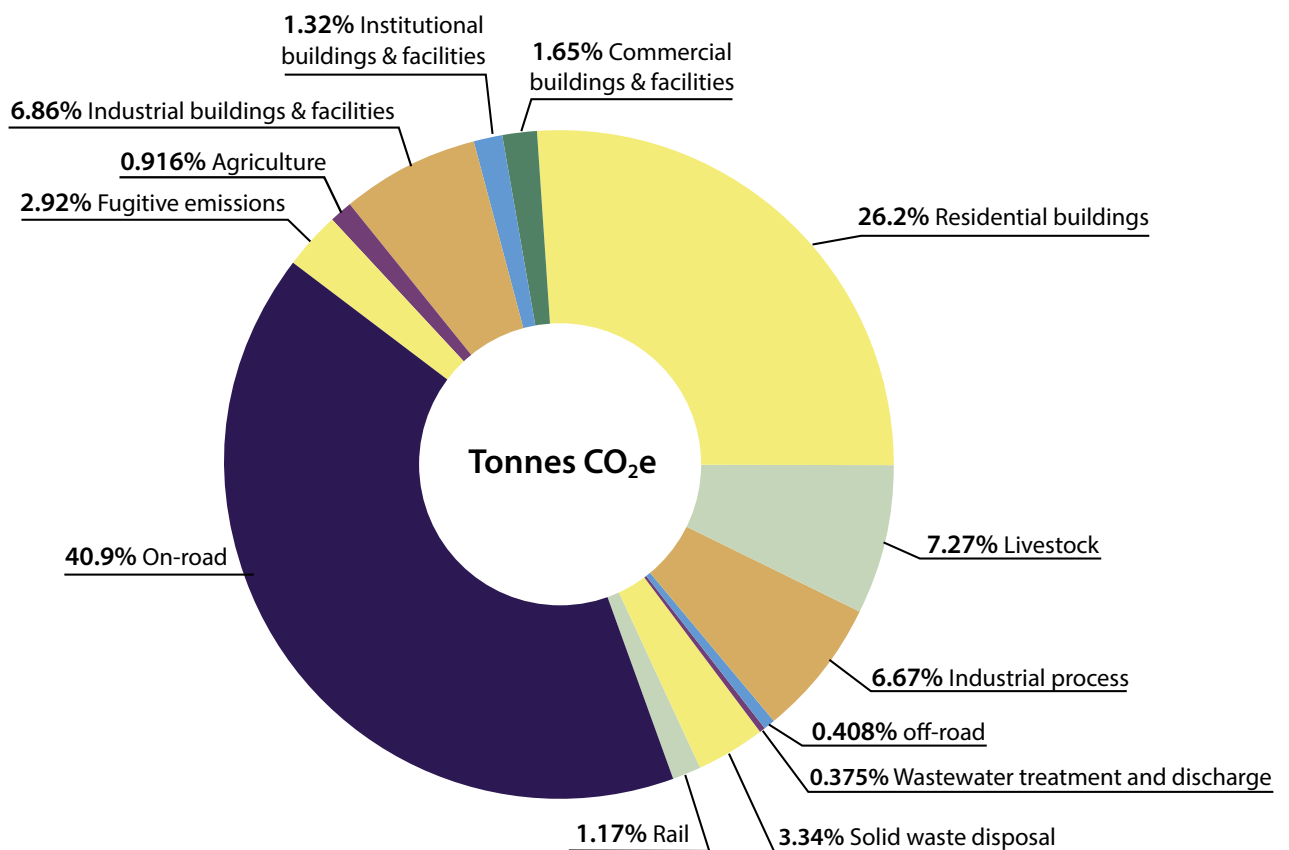
The UK has legal targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels as set out in the sixth carbon budget and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

Greenhouse gas emissions for the District were measured annually by BEIS (up to 2023) whose data shows that 67.1% of the District's CO₂e emissions are generated by

road transport and residential buildings. To stay on track to meet the UK's 2050 net zero greenhouse gas emissions target there is an urgent need to move away from using fossil fuels in our vehicles and homes. The choices we make and the action we take can all have a positive impact on reducing the emissions we generate in our daily lives, which in turn will contribute to bringing down emissions levels across the District.

NED District Emissions Sources

Subsector inventory summary for North East Derbyshire with Scope 1 (Direct) 2019



Source SCATTER

In line with the global carbon budgets set out in the Paris Agreement, under Derbyshire’s decarbonisation plans NED District has its own suggested budget for 2018 - 2100 which reflects the District’s particular profile and ability to make a fair contribution. This has been determined as follows:

Energy only recommended carbon budget (million tonnes CO₂)

| Local Authority Area | 2018 - 2022 | 2023 - 2027 | 2028 - 2032 | 2033 - 2037 | 2038 - 2042 | 2043 - 2047 | 2048 - 2100 | Total 2018 - 2100 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| North East Derbyshire | 2.2 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 4.4 |
| Derbyshire | 27.3 | 12.9 | 5.9 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 51.2 |

1: Source BEIS actual from 2014 to 2019 and Tyndall recommended for 2020 to 2050.

Internal Target

The Council is aiming to achieve an 80% reduction in our carbon emissions by 2030 and is committed to supporting the District to meet the Tyndall Centre’s suggested carbon budgets. We additionally set ourselves an internal target to reduce our own carbon emissions by 750 tonnes by 2023/24 by adopting a fabric first approach.

Through investment in renovation and new technology at Eckington Leisure Centre and working with our housing partner, Rykneld Homes Ltd, to install external wall insulation into more than 400 properties in the District, we have met and exceed this target by permanently removing 892 tonnes of CO₂e from the air in the last year. We will continue to look for opportunities to further reduce emissions as funding schemes become available.

Our Approach

Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan

Understanding the sources of our emissions has allowed us to develop our Climate Change Strategy and its supporting Climate Change Action Plan to identify ways to reduce the carbon footprint of our organisation and the wider District and will underpin this Strategy.

The Climate Change Strategy and Climate Change Action Plan draw together a range of strategic, tactical and operational activities being undertaken by many partners in many different areas of influence in order to collaboratively reduce carbon emissions in the District.

Taking a One Council and One Team approach, considerations of Climate Change mitigation and expectation to monitor and evidence contributions is included in all service plans as part of everyday Council planning, operation and delivery, thereby embedding in the organisation's corporate consciousness and a fundamental element of the Council Plan, in particular the following sections:

Reduce carbon emissions and pollution across the district

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions.

- Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents and businesses to reduce pollution.
- Develop policies and plans which encourage alternatives to car usage.
- Directly, and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.

Increase biodiversity across the district

- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.
- Where appropriate utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity.

We also recognise that with our One Council approach, Climate Change mitigations can also be a driver and recipient to other core tactics across the Council Plan, for example "Assist residents in ensuring their homes are suitable and meet their health needs," "Develop and continually improve the quality and range of housing, providing comfortable homes for residents that meet their needs," being "Financially responsible and efficient" and "Directly assist residents and businesses to access all available public services and support."

To ensure transparency and effectiveness our Cabinet Member for Environment and Place and Environment Scrutiny Committee provide ongoing strategic oversight and governance, whilst our Sustainability Officer co-ordinates the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy and the Climate Change Action Plan.

We will use our influence across a range of issues, including waste collection and disposal, housing, environment and transport. We have a large stock of buildings and workplaces, and we are the custodians of many parks, open spaces and semi-rural land. We are also responsible for the production of Local Development Plans (LDPs) and play a major role in driving economic growth and local regeneration.

By exercising our statutory functions and having influence in these areas in a way that results in reduced emissions, there is the opportunity for a range of economic and social benefits for our organisation and our communities.

Schemes we are already implementing, such as fitting external wall insulation to our housing stock or rebuilding our properties that cannot be effectively improved, will ensure homes are more energy efficient and so contribute to reductions in the wider sense. Other activities we undertake such as clearing and cleaning drains and waterways to prevent flooding and encouraging biodiversity in our green spaces all help to mitigate the effects of changing weather patterns.

We are also working with our partners to inform and promote actions that will enable residents and businesses to contribute to reducing these emissions and, whilst there is always more to be done, we can clearly demonstrate that the Council is reducing its carbon emissions and providing community leadership on the topic.

The Climate Change Strategy sets out 10 thematic areas by which our organisation aims to reduce our own and our District's carbon emissions by 2030:

Theme 1 - Operational Practices and Procurement

Theme 2 - Sustainable Buildings and Workplaces

Theme 3 - Low Carbon Fleet

Theme 4 - Renewable Energy

Theme 5 - Planning

Theme 6 - Biodiversity

Theme 7 - Waste, Recycling and Pollution

Theme 8 - Housing

Theme 9 - Local Economy

Theme 10 - Community Collaboration

Knowledge, awareness, technology, products and regulation across these themes are evolving rapidly, therefore this strategy and the targets within it will be reviewed and updated regularly. It will be a dynamic plan that will change and flex as new opportunities arise which support and potentially further our ambition for carbon reduction.

A woman with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing glasses and a red polo shirt, is sitting at a wooden desk. She is looking at a smartphone held in her left hand while her right hand is on the trackpad of a silver laptop. The desk also has a pair of glasses and a laptop power adapter. In the background, there are white blinds and a window.

***‘We will
continue our
agile working
approach’***

Theme 1 - Operational Practices and Procurement

Context:

We recognise that the Council has a broad role to play across a range of activities to reduce carbon emissions both within the Scopes for this Authority as well as for the wider District area.

Ongoing review and evolution of how we use our resources and assets to deliver our services in a smarter, more efficient way by ensuring carbon reduction is embedded as a core part of decision-making and commissioning. This will help us achieve our net zero aspirations as well as improve our financial sustainability and outcomes for our customers and residents. Whether we are transforming our working practices and behaviours, or influencing our partners and suppliers, we are committed to embed sustainability into everything we do. This Theme is central to our ambition of *Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*.

Priorities:

- It is important to maximise the reductions in emissions with the resource available. We will continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions by adapting the initiatives that provide the best value for money. This way we will ensure that the carbon reduction benefit achieved is reasonable and proportional to the cost of implementation.
- Our Procurement Policy complies with environmental protocols for deliverers of

large commissions and already includes the use of local contractors for goods and services wherever practical. In order to further our commitment to sustainable procurement practices we will also adopt procurement evaluation which considers environmental impact.

- We will continue our agile working approach, increasing the availability of online services, reducing the need for staff and customer related travel to conduct business. Where financially feasible, we will invest in new technology to transform how and where we work to further reduce our carbon emissions and be more sustainable.
- To ensure that carbon management becomes the responsibility of everyone within the organisation, Elected Members and senior management will understand and drive the culture of 'carbon consideration,' recognising it as a key element of prudent financial management which is aligned with the Council's drive for cost reduction, income generation and service re-design.

Challenges:

Resource implications such as cost of new technology, staffing implications resulting from changes to working practices, procured services not being locally available and the practicalities involved in delivering some actions may limit what we are able to achieve at the pace and intensity we wish to deliver.

***‘We are focusing
on reducing
our carbon
emissions’***



Theme 2 - Sustainable Buildings and Workplaces

Context:

The Council's buildings and workplaces account for a significant proportion of our carbon emissions, therefore having a focus on these will be key to our carbon reduction ambition.

Priorities:

- Adopt a fabric first approach to our buildings, seek and bid for available grant funding to insulate our commercial properties and install new technologies to provide a good foundation for future mitigations as they become more affordable.
- Reduce energy and water usage, minimising waste through our operations, using renewable energy and energy efficient technology and practices to gain improved efficiency, reduced operating costs and reduced environmental impact.
- Seek and maximise grant funding to facilitate upgrades on our commercial and operational premises.

Challenges:

The cost of major renovations means that these are largely reliant on the availability of grant funding. Embedding energy saving thinking in the organisation requires buy-in from staff and a consistent message is required to ensure that the necessary behavioural changes happen.



‘Encourage alternatives to car use and promote more sustainable travel’



Theme 3 - Low Carbon Transport

Context:

There are three elements within our remit: service vehicles, grey fleet and travel to work.

Our service fleet - refuse collection vehicles, road sweepers, vans and cars, is an integral part of our operations to deliver services such as waste collection, grounds maintenance, outreach programmes and vehicles used by Rykneld Homes Ltd (RHL).

Our grey fleet includes staff using their own cars for business travel. By reducing the need to travel our fleet management has the potential to contribute significantly towards our overall carbon reduction ambition.

We employ around 500 staff and their commuting represents significant emissions.



Priorities:

- Continue to undertake regular reviews of our fleet to see how advances in low emissions vehicle technology and fuel options could be integrated.
- Continue to carry out regular route optimisation and journey rationalisation exercises to reduce our service delivery related fuel consumption, costs and the impact of our fleet upon the environment.
- Our agile working policies provide digital alternatives to reduce travel requirements. Whilst we continue to

work in a hybrid way, we will also develop policies and plans which encourage alternatives to car use and promote more sustainable travel.

- Continue to look at more sustainable fuel options as production and technology advances.

Challenges:

It is not feasible at this point in time to replace some vehicles with electric vehicles due to the topography of the District and the mileage range of the new vehicles currently available. We also have a large number of new homes being built in the District which will extend refuse collection routes. Operational challenges with charging an electric fleet will also be a consideration.



***‘Installing
Air Source
Heat Pumps
at our leisure
centres’***

Theme 4 - Renewable Energy

Context:

We use gas and electricity to heat and power our buildings and also use petrol and diesel to power our fleet. Although nearly all of the Council's commercial properties use electricity from 100% certified renewable sources since April 2021, due to technical limitations, this was not feasible in a small amount of properties. We need to increase generation of renewable energy, actively seek out new technological solutions and continue to investigate low-carbon alternatives to allow us to power our buildings and fleet sustainably

Priorities:

- Install Air Source Heat Pumps and Solar Photovoltaics at our Leisure Centres and continue to look for more opportunities to have renewable energy sources installed on Council owned properties.
- Support and promote the use of renewable energy in Council's commercial properties, including supporting electric vehicle use for our grey fleet.
- Monitor future developments in power sources.

Challenges:

Rising fuel costs, finding suitable places to site installations and striking a balance with developers to build homes that are above the minimum standard but that also give sufficient financial return to build are major factors.



‘Improving cycle routes and greenways’



Theme 5 - Planning

Context:

The planning process has the potential to make a major contribution by shaping new and existing developments in ways that reduce carbon emissions and tackle the effects of climate change by delivering the right development in the right place, informed by the ambition for sustainable development.

We can direct the siting and types of developments through the planning process and work with developers to achieve the best standards to future proof the District's housing stock.

Priorities:

- Work to develop appropriate guidance, policy, and frameworks to ensure that planning measures for net zero buildings and biodiversity are integrated into the Local Plan and wider planning activities, using Local Design Codes as guidance.
- Review the Local Plan to reflect the increased focus on climate change and reducing carbon emissions.
- Protect and improve the Green Infrastructure Network and other linear recreation routes, cycle routes and greenways.



- Work with the highways authority to influence the local transport plan and expand the greenways network.

Challenges:

Government legislation and Local Plan ambitions can restrict what is realistically achievable.



***‘Encourage
wildflower verges
to improve
biodiversity’***

Theme 6 - Biodiversity

Context:

Our parks, open spaces and green spaces are central to the lives of our communities, providing opportunities for leisure, play, relaxation, exercise, community cohesion, physical and mental health and wellbeing. They are also an opportunity to increase biodiversity, mitigate climate change and support local economic growth.

By taking a holistic approach to managing these spaces, such as our mowing strategy to leave grass clippings in situ, they can become a haven for wildlife as well as a valuable community asset.

Priorities:

- Develop local policies and produce a robust Green Infrastructure Strategy to connect settlements with their surrounding area and nature, increase biodiversity net gain and maximise the eco-system benefits provided by trees in reducing carbon emissions.
- Encourage re-wilding and wildlife corridors for public open spaces and wildflower verges to improve biodiversity using pollinator-friendly plants in planting schemes.
- Where appropriate utilise natural land and other Council assets and review their management to improve biodiversity.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to utilise their assets to improve biodiversity.



- Develop the co-operation with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to provide advice and guidance.
- Support Derbyshire County Council's Tree and Woodland Strategy by contributing to their one million tree target.

Challenges:

The cost implications of major tree and hedge planting schemes may be prohibitive and initiatives such as leaving grass cuttings in situ may not be seen as attractive to everyone, therefore explanations may be necessary to ensure that the reasons and biodiversity benefits are fully understood.

***‘Rethink,
Reduce,
Reuse,
Recycle’***



Theme 7 - Waste, Recycling and Pollution

Context:

We operate a service that provides kerbside waste and recycling collection across the District for a wide range of items, a commercial refuse service for both general waste and recycling, and a clinical waste collection service. This ensures that all collected waste is disposed of in line with legislation and reduces the amount going to landfill and associated contamination as well as helping maintain a safe, clean and attractive environment.

All of our refuse collection vehicles are now featuring 'Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' slogan with an aim to promote and convey our commitment to circular economy and waste reduction.

Priorities:

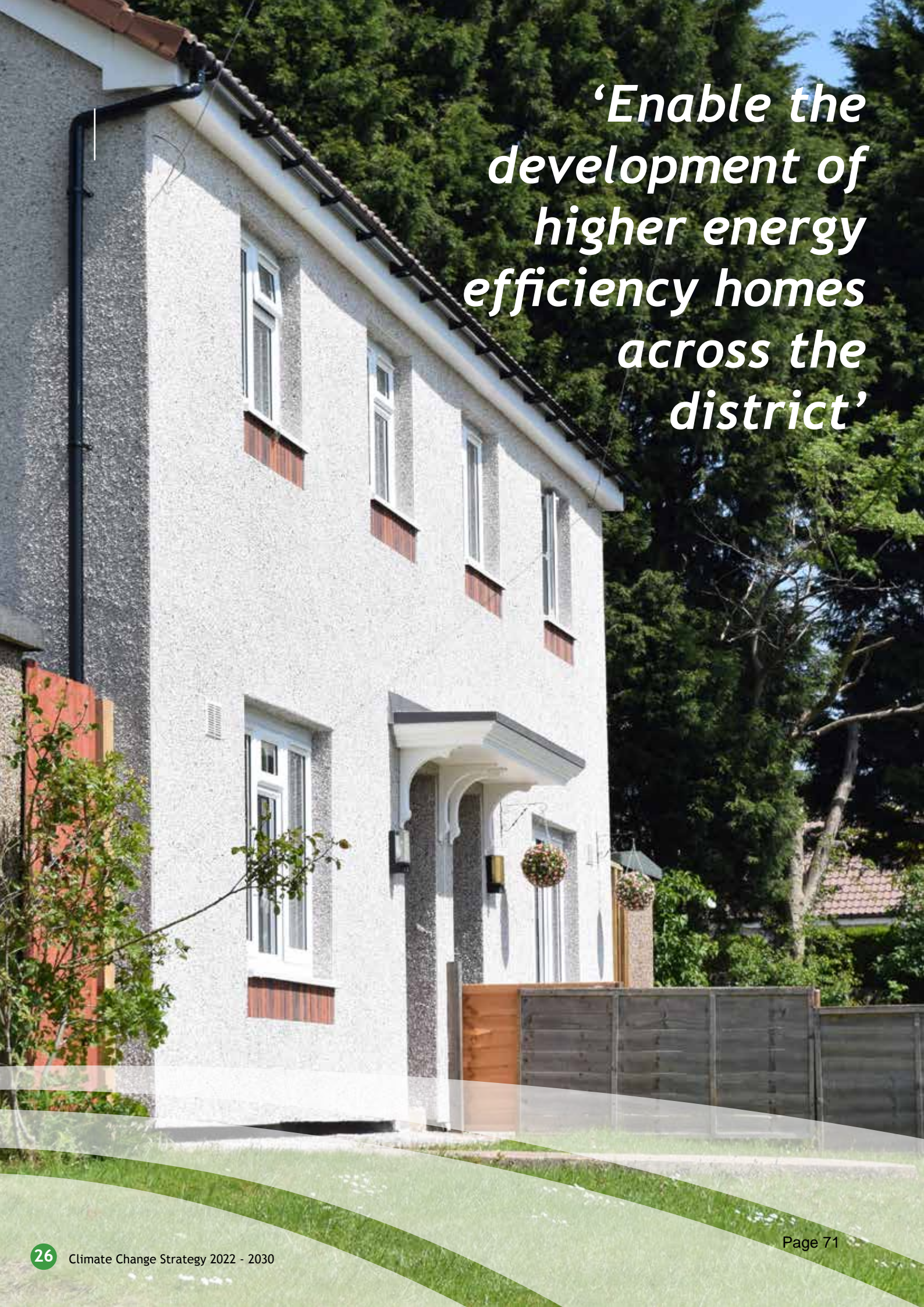
- Increase the levels of recycling by residents and businesses, encourage and promote composting of food waste and garden waste.
- Provide and promote an effective and efficient waste collection service.
- Directly, and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste.
- Support, empower and enable community-led litter picks.
- Use our enforcement powers to investigate and tackle environmental and domestic pollution and fly-tipping.

- Remove fly-tipping deposits in line with targets.
- Investigate new recycling opportunities for our residents.
- Monitor and take action where appropriate to reduce dust, air pollution, odour, noise, light, pests and smoke.
- Assist and influence other public partners, residents, and businesses to reduce pollution.
- Regulate industrial processes.

Challenges:

Some bins are used incorrectly resulting in contamination and the contents having to go to landfill. The cost of dealing with fly tipping is an ongoing concern.





‘Enable the development of higher energy efficiency homes across the district’

Theme 8 - Housing

Context:

The Council is landlord for over 7,500 dwellings. In addition, there are around 41,000 other dwellings in the District. The Council can influence the sustainability of the local housing stock through investment and raising awareness of emerging opportunities. We are continually adding properties (new build and existing) to our housing portfolio and selling others.

Priorities:


- Enable the development of higher energy efficiency homes across the district.
- Asset rationalisation programmes.
- Ongoing delivery programme improving the energy efficiency and appearance of our Council houses in partnership with RHL.
- Explore housing development and regeneration opportunities.
- Act to reduce empty homes.
- Build, acquire, and facilitate delivery of sustainable and affordable homes across the District.
- Continue Home Assistance Co-ordinator visits to residents to assist them in reducing their carbon footprint and energy bills.



- Continue working with our tenants to help them reduce their energy and water usage and carbon footprint.

Challenges:

The cost of renovation schemes means that these are partially reliant on the availability of grant funding. Embedding energy saving thinking amongst residents requires buy-in and a time investment to explain how the best benefits are achieved.

A photograph of a young Black woman with her hair in braids, wearing a white t-shirt and a dark blue apron, smiling warmly as she hands three aluminum trays to a person whose hands and blue shirt are visible in the foreground. The background shows a kitchen environment with various items on a counter, including a red cup, a yellow cup, and a white pitcher. The text 'Encouraging staff and residents to shop locally' is overlaid in the top right corner in a white, italicized font.

*‘Encouraging
staff and
residents to
shop locally’*

Theme 9 - Local Economy

Context:

Our local economy needs to work towards net zero in a timely manner. The District has a wide variety of commercial activities which all present their own challenges. By working with partners as part of the countywide approach, we want to develop our local economy by engaging with and influencing local businesses, education, and public and third sector organisations. Having a wide range of locally provided products and services will reduce travel associated with transporting goods, workers and customers.

Priorities:

- Support a more diverse local economy via the Local Plan and NEDCC Talent Pipeline to identify quality employment and provide volunteering, work placement and workforce development opportunities.
- Further stipulate economic growth by working with local craftspeople to promote local building traditions and materials, encouraging the adoption of the Talent Pipeline withing the local business community and encouraging staff and residents to shop locally.
- Reduce the need to travel by supporting community focussed cultural activity such as “Live and Local” and community touring schemes.
- Promote local leisure centres, activities, and events by providing and facilitating good quality outdoor spaces and public footpath walking routes.



- Seek, access, and utilise external funding to renovate our towns and villages and develop local initiatives.
- Provide information to raise awareness and advice to promote the opportunities and benefits of the local economy.
- Support innovation and growth in our businesses to enable them to reduce their carbon footprint and operate more sustainably

Challenges:

Developing the local economy requires external investment and grants. The success of any scheme is dependent on ‘buy-in’ from its businesses, residents and workers who can choose where to spend their money.

‘Promoting green social prescribing for mental health and wellbeing’



Theme 10 - Community Collaboration

Context:

By working collaboratively with residents and businesses, we can collectively have a significant beneficial impact on our environment.

Priorities:

- Raise awareness about initiatives and projects that enable individuals, groups, families, businesses and organisations to recognise their role in contributing to a more sustainable future, and encourage people of all ages to engage more fully in carbon reduction and sustainable living.
- Work with partners to engage with the local and wider community to help them understand climate change, how it impacts upon them directly and how they can make a difference.
- Lead by example through improving our own operation through campaigns and highlight decarbonisation projects and reduced CO₂ through our media channels.
- Provide accurate information, advice and support to our businesses and residents to help them make informed choices.
- Use the *Thanks a Tonne* initiative to raise awareness and promote behaviour change to demonstrate



how lots of small actions add up to a significant contribution to mitigating climate change.

- Promote green social prescribing for mental health and wellbeing.

Challenges:

The cost of upgrading homes and cars may be prohibitive for many people. Financial investment from the Council will be required to run campaigns and initiatives which can help families embed new behaviours and achieve savings.

Monitoring our Progress

By far the most important goal is to achieve real reductions in carbon emissions. It is important that the decision-making process is strongly based upon the principle of achieving the largest reductions for the money used. Monitoring and assessing the impact of individual interventions, is crucial to making the most effective decisions. The monitoring process will be co-ordinated by the Sustainability Officer whilst our Cabinet Member for Environment and Place and the Environmental Scrutiny Committee will oversee and provide the governance to the process.

There are three strands to our monitoring:

- **Internal Operations** - all aspects of our operations.
- **Indirect Control** - things we are partly responsible for, such as our housing and planning.
- **Influence** - community engagement, education etc.

Internal Operations

With no definitive monitoring and reporting frameworks currently mandatory for Local Authorities, as the best practice solution, for our internal operations, where possible, we will adopt Greening Government Commitments 2021-2025 framework, which sets out the principles and standards underpinning sustainability reporting for use in Central Government.

This will ensure cohesion, efficiency, transparency and alignment with national net zero policy.

We will monitor and report:

- Greenhouse gas emissions

There is a national approach to monitoring some aspects of carbon footprint, referred to as Scopes. These are defined as:

Scope 1 - Direct emissions that result from the Council's day to day activities within our control, including fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers, fleet vehicles and grey fleet business travel.

Scope 2 - Indirect emissions that result from the generation of electricity that the Council purchases.

Scope 3 - All other indirect emissions from sources that result from the Council's operations but are outside its control such as employee travel to work, procurement, consumables, waste disposal and water treatment.

We will monitor and report all our Scope 1 and 2 emissions, as well as those Scope 3 emissions that arise from business travel.

- Waste minimisation and management:
 - total waste arising
 - total waste recycled
 - total waste to landfill
- Paper and Single Use Consumer Plastic use
- Finite resource consumption
- Sustainable procurement

- Nature Recovery and Biodiversity
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Reducing environmental impacts from ICT and Digital
- Sustainable Construction

- Business and retail units
- Specific projects can be hard to directly assess, but a ‘log’ of projects undertaken, and estimated impact, will be maintained.

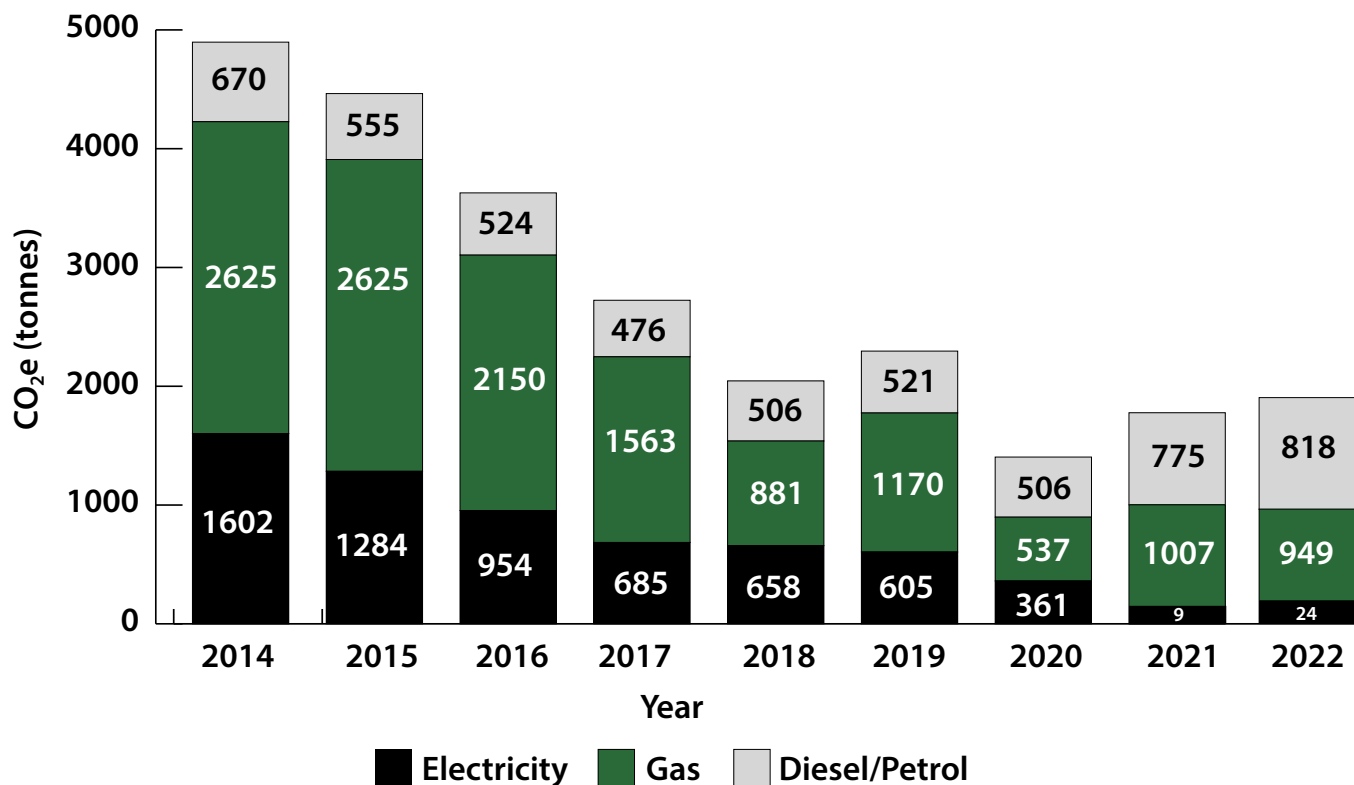
Indirect Control

- Council Housing quality - insulation, energy efficiency etc.
- Planning policy

Influence

- Local economy
- Local communities
- Policy

North East Derbyshire District Council’s Emissions arising from consumption of fossil fuels



Source: NEDDC internal data

Notes: 2020 figures impacted by COVID-19. All commercial building electricity, except for Killamarsh active, is from 100% certified renewable sources since 2021. Gas includes RHL Ltd. Diesel consumption increased in 2021 due to taking recycling in-house

Annex A - Policy Drivers

Kyoto Protocol

The UK is committed to the Kyoto Protocol - an international treaty which considers climate change. The protocol commits countries to adopt an urgent approach to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. The aim of the protocol was to provide countries upholding the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) the option to execute methods of setting targets to control and measure the production of greenhouse gases within the country.

https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol

The Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change and was adopted by almost every nation in 2015 to address climate change and its negative impacts. The agreement aims to substantially reduce global greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to limit the global temperature increase in this century to 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, while pursuing the means to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees.

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

COP28

The COP28 summit brought parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It enabled countries to revisit climate pledges made under the 2015 Paris Agreement and sets

the global agenda on climate change for the next decade with the goal to keep cutting emissions until they reach net zero by 2050.

<https://www.cop28.com>

The Climate Change Act 2008

The Climate Change Act 2008 makes the UK the first country to have a legally binding long-term framework to cut carbon emissions. It also creates a framework for building the UK's ability to adapt to climate change. Initially committing to an 80% reduction in emissions by 2050 set against 1990 levels, in 2019 a more ambitious target was set to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>

The Carbon Plan

In December 2011 the Government developed the Carbon Plan with proposals for achieving reductions and meeting the 2050 target. This Plan is in accordance with the Climate Change Act 2008 and determines the ways in which the emission reduction targets will be achieved through carbon budgets which provide legally binding limits on the amounts of emissions that may be produced in successive 5 year periods.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-carbon-plan-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions--2>

A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment 2018

This document details the Government's comprehensive and long-term approach to protecting and enhancing the natural environment in England. Its goals are cleaner air and water, plants and animals which are thriving and a cleaner, greener country for the next generation.

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5ab3a67840f0b65bb584297e/25-year-environment-plan.pdf>

The Resources and Waste Strategy 2018

This Strategy is linked to the 25 Year Environment Plan and sets out the Government's plan to preserve the country's stock of material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>

The Clean Air Strategy 2019

This Strategy sets out how the Government will tackle all sources of air pollution, making our air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clean-air-strategy-2019>

The UK Circular Economy Package Policy July 2020

The UK is committed to moving towards a more circular economy which will seek to keep resources in use as long as possible, extracting maximum value from them, minimizing waste and promoting resource efficiency. The Circular Economy Package (CEP) introduces a revised legislative framework, identifying steps for the reduction of waste and establishing an ambitious and credible long-term path for waste management and recycling.

The UK's commitment is to recycle 65% of municipal waste and send no more than 10% municipal waste to landfill by 2035.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-economy-package-policy-statement/circular-economy-package-policy-statement>

The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution 2020

This Plan sets out how the Government will mobilise £12 billion of government investment, and potentially three times as much from the private sector, to create and support up to 250,000 green jobs.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fb5513de90e0720978b1a6f/10-POINT_PLAN_BOOKLET.pdf

UK Hydrogen Strategy 2021

The UK Hydrogen Strategy and supporting policy package lay the foundations for a thriving hydrogen economy, one that can support our trajectory to achieving our world leading Sixth Carbon Budget and net zero commitments.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-hydrogen-strategy>

Derbyshire County Council Climate Change Strategy 2021 - 2025: Achieving Net Zero

This document sets out Derbyshire County Council's ambition to be a net zero organisation by 2032 or sooner, and what it will do to help the county to be net zero by 2050.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/climate-change-strategy.pdf>

Derbyshire Environment and Climate Change Framework

The Framework sets out Derbyshire's carbon budgets and trajectories and the key strategies which partners will develop and implement to achieve collective ambitions.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-elements/documents/pdf/environment/climate-change/derbyshire-environment-and-climate-change-framework.pdf>

Vision Derbyshire Climate Change Strategy: 2022 - 2025

The purpose of this Strategy is to present a vision for Derbyshire to thrive and prosper as a net zero county. It has been developed through collaborative working between the county, district and borough councils across Derbyshire under the shared commitment of Vision Derbyshire, which seeks to strategically improve outcomes for people and places, speak with one voice as a county, and coordinate our resources better and more sustainably.

The five key themes of the Strategy are:

- Local Authority Estate, Operations and Services
- Strengthening the Low Carbon Economy
- Decarbonising Derbyshire's Housing
- Sustainable Transport, Travel and Infrastructure
- Waste and Resources.
- Awaiting publication.

North East Derbyshire District Council Plan 2023 - 2027

The Council Plan 2023 - 2027 sets out the ambition and aims of the Council. Key priorities include the protection and enhancement of our environment and tackling the causes and effects of climate change.

<https://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/council-plan-2023-2027>

Annex B - Glossary

Glossary

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| BEIS | Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy |
| CO₂ | Carbon dioxide is a natural, colourless and odourless greenhouse gas that is emitted when fossil fuels (i.e., natural gas, oil, coal, etc.) are burnt. |
| UN | United Nations |
| NED | North East Derbyshire |
| NEDDC | North East Derbyshire District Council |
| ICT | Information and communications technology |

Annex C - Sources

BEIS UK GHG emissions

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-statistics>

Department for Transport - Transport and Environment Statistics 2021

Annual report

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/transport-and-environment-statistics-2021>

GHG reporting conversion factors

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2022>

SCATTER

<https://scattercities.com/>

Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

<https://tyndall.ac.uk/>

Equalities Statement

North East Derbyshire District Council is committed to equalities as an employer and when delivering the services it provides to all sections of the community.

The Council believes that no person should be treated unfairly and is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations between all groups in society.

Access for All statement

You can request this document or information in another format such as large print or language or contact us by:

- Phone: [01246 231111](tel:01246231111)
- Email: connectne@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk
- Text: [07800 00 24 25](tel:07800002425)
- BSL Video [Call](#): a FREE, three way video call with us and a BSL interpreter.
- Call with [Relay UK](#) via textphone or app on [0800 500 888](tel:0800500888). FREE phone service for anyone who has difficulty hearing or speaking.
- Visiting our [offices](#) at Wingerworth: 2013 Mill Lane, [S42 6NG](#).

