

Council Plan 2023-2027 – A summary of progress by objective for the period ending 30th September 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.

Advertised the post of Sustainability Officer to co-ordinate the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy in September 2023 (Regeneration & Programmes).

Establishment of the Clay Cross Low Carbon Challenge Fund for businesses and public sector agencies. There have been 9 Expressions of Interests received, 3x £10k projects approved to date. (Regeneration & Programmes)

Completion of the Clay Cross Local Energy Network Strategy/Local Area Energy Plan. and the Clay Cross Rail Feasibility Study. Engaging with Department for Transport and partners to identify opportunities for developing this and access via the proposed Barrow Hill line. (Regeneration & Programmes)

Participated in Clean Air Day to promote and raise awareness of air pollution as part of a national campaign delivered across the UK. In collaboration with Communications, 6 social media posts were made to promote awareness and each post generated between 163 to 359 views which in turn were re-shared multiple times by public promoting the message. Engagement success has led to considering a campaign to tackle specific types of air pollution - Winter wood burners/coal campaign to educate/raise awareness of the impacts on using open fires/wood burners and re-iterate the coal ban in the UK. (Environmental Health)

Energy efficiency advice provided to 21 cases concerning vulnerable households. One case resulted in the installation of a new heating system at nil cost to the vulnerable resident via the Health Homes project. (Environmental Health)

Work has started on arranging branding design to highlight commitment to carbon reduction across our facilities. (Leisure)

Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions

Replacement programme for vehicles is ongoing - 74 new vehicles over this year's programme. Also, consultations conducted for 70 new Rykneld Homes vehicles. Currently out to tender for procurement for HGV sweeper and Gully Tanker, one Transit van delivered. Rykneld Homes Fleet potential delays due to availability from vehicle manufacturers in launching new Hybrid/EV models. (Streetscene)

Estates are currently looking at several options to reduce carbon emissions and pollution including EV charging points and Solar Panels at Mill Lane and Coney Green Business Centre. Also, the new Streetscene depot (feasibility currently underway) should be significantly less than the existing facility at Eckington. (Property and estates)

Configured hardware to use energy efficient settings. Continued rollout of Microsoft teams is changing the way we can work collaboratively without the need to be in the

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same space. Looking to recruit a Microsoft Teams Engagement Officer to drive this forward. (ICT)

Clear desk policy awareness undertaken and encouraged across all services to encourage paperless working. (ICT)

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

Approved planning permission for a battery energy storage system in Calow. (Planning)

Pollution Control Team dealt with just short of 400 service requests, including over 200 planning consultations on which they gave advice and 15 licensing conditions requests. Dealt with 55 non domestic accumulations, 31 non domestic noise complaints, 11 commercial bonfires and 11 odour complaints. Three Notices were served under the Prevent of Damage by Pest Act 1949 legislation to clear or prevent harbourage from rats and mice, and 5 business premises were inspected to ensure they were in compliance with the IPPC (Integrated Pollution Prevention & Control) regime for their permitted industrial processes. (Environmental Health)

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

Secure travel plans through conditions on planning permissions for major development e.g., planning permission approved under ref. 22/01071/FL for development at the Coal Yard, Grassmoor. (Planning)

Add conditions to approved schemes seeking climate change mitigation to be included in the final design. (Planning) e.g., compliance with energy reduction measures secured by condition under planning permission ref. 22/00418/FL at Park Lane, Shirland. (Planning)

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

Initial meeting held with Derbyshire partners to discuss joint waste strategy. Collaborative working across all districts. Started series of meetings with Parish and Town Councils to understand pressures/opportunities. (Streetscene)

Attach waste management plan conditions on planning permission for major development e.g., refuse storage control secured by condition on planning permission approved under ref. 22/01071/FL for development at the Coal Yard, Grassmoor. (Planning)

34 business waste compliance inspections were carried out across the district to ensure commercial waste is disposed of legally and correctly. Two media campaigns concerning littering have been carried out, including press releases and social media. Also, a high-profile press release on enforcement action taken at West Handley. Two Household Duty of Care Fixed Penalty Notices issued. (Environmental Health)

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*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 on the development of the County Tree Strategy and Community Forest Application (Regeneration & Programmes).

Provided formal response to partners about national woodland strategy. (Streetscene)

Including biodiversity enhancements on planning permissions for new development e.g., Land Between 6 & 8 Gables Close, Holmewood. (Planning)

Where appropriate, utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity.

Regarding utilising council assets to improve biodiversity the selection of sites for this purpose will be delivered through the property review process through Asset Management Officer Group / Asset Management Board (AMOG/AMB). Initial meeting already held with colleagues in the Local Planning Authority regarding the Council's obligations for bio-diversity net gain and how we comply. Some council sites are already utilised for this purpose. (Property and estates, Streetscene, Planning)

Work with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to explore sites with potential for offsite biodiversity net gain (Planning)

As part of the Clay Cross Active-Biodiversity Plan the spoil heap located in front of the new development has been shaped and seeded to create a grassed area which will likely incorporate trees and wild planting later in the project. (Leisure)