



North East  
Derbyshire  
District Council

# Council Plan 2023 - 2027

A summary of progress for a great place that cares for the environment for the period October to December (Q3)





This quarter, 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.

- Communicated recycle week across our channels, highlighting how to recycle, what you can and can't recycle and what happens to your recycling.
- Submission of Expression of Interest to Warm Homes Scheme for 3-5-year programme of between £22-36m to retrofit approximately 4,500 homes. Outcome expected Spring 2025.

• **Clay Cross Low Carbon Challenge Fund** - 23 applications approved this quarter with 25 enterprises supported. Total spend to date £528,197.

• Regarding targets for this fund:

**Targets exceeded:**

- Floor space with improved carbon performance (M2) - Target 6,000 - Achieved 16,351.
- Sites generating electricity from renewable sources - Target 2 - Achieved 10.

**Targets not yet achieved:**

- Enterprises receiving grant support - Target 37 - Achieved 22.
- Enterprises with improved energy consumption - Target 37 - Achieved 22.
- Innovative projects developed - Target 5 - Achieved 1.

- Climate Change communications plan in place. Articles on Halloween and Christmas sustainability and raising awareness of creating hedgehog highways in gardens to help with biodiversity.

- Community Action Grants - 12 now awarded during 2024/25 totalling £4,586.74. During this quarter 2 grants awarded both for £500, one was for tree planting.
- Streetscene taking forward tree planting scheme on key sites until March 25 funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).
- Sustainable construction methods required by conditions on planning permissions e.g. Hanging Banks, Wingerworth. Facilitated changes to original approval for development of solar park at Manor House Farm.

**Continually reduce the Council's own carbon emissions**

- This is currently being reviewed as part of the implementation of the Procurement Act 2023 due to go live on 24 February 2025.

• **Upgrades made at Dronfield Active following £70k funding from Sport England.** Improvements include: - New Pool Covers, VSD (variable speed drives) on pool pumps and triple glazed windows on swimming pool.



## This quarter, the following progress has been made on ***reducing carbon emissions and pollution across the district***

- Dronfield Active decarbonisation is due to complete January 2025 including commissioning of the Air source heat pumps (ASHPs) and removal of Gas boilers (subject to successful commissioning / resilience testing).

### • **Public Sector Decarbonation Scheme Financial Audit for Dronfield Active signed off - Substantial Assurance rating received.**

- Dronfield Active poolside glazing works completed December 2024. Installation of triple glazing will reduce heat loss from the pool hall and subsequently reduce the heating demand.
- Sustainability policy for Leisure Centres produced and published on the Council's website.
- Carbon Disclosure Project (benchmarking project) - NEDDC completed disclosure questionnaire, along with other Derbyshire Borough's and District's. Once results are published, areas for improvement will be analysed.

### • **Secured solar panels on the roof of new community facility approved in Stonebroom.**

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

- Approval of ground mounted solar panels at High Ashes Farm, Ashover.
- Rykneld Homes Ltd continue with the decarbonisation programme: 47 Homes in

progress: 228 completed: 13 to be completed before the end of the year.

## **Develop policies and plans which require and encourage alternatives to car usage**

- Sustainable Travel Plan approved as part of major residential development.

## **Directly and with partners and residents, reduce litter and pollution from waste**

- Ran a dog fouling campaign highlighting the responsibilities of dog owners with the darker nights and how to report littering. Also a sustainable Christmas campaign in December aiming to help residents re-use and recycle at the festive time of year when people are buying more gifts and have more potential recyclable material.
- Undertaken a litter pick with Rykneld Homes Ltd as part of Antisocial Behaviour week in November 2024.
- Article on how to be sustainable during Halloween and Christmas produced for residents.
- Issued EIA (environmental impact assessment) screening opinion to facilitate application for development of a Battery Energy Storage System in Calow.



## 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**

- Held a Heat Hub event at Dronfield Active, communications supported with news release and social media promotion for attendance.
- Article published on website which raised awareness of creating hedgehog highways in gardens to help with biodiversity.
- Call for sites underway inviting the submission of land to be used for biodiversity offsetting.

### **Where appropriate, utilise Council assets to improve biodiversity.**

- Sustainability officer communicated internal blogs called HUGS which were successful and highly read. Communicated the Hedgehog Highway campaign via digital channels highlighting how to help create wildlife corridors for wildlife across the district.
- Wingerworth Lido - Notice to Quit now served on CCDAA to vacate the site on or before 30th June 2025. The plan is to promote the site as a destination in the district as a biodiversity hub.



• **Staff allotment project commenced.** Aim to encourage staff (to be known as the Green Thumbs Group) to use re-purposed beds in the courtyard at Mill Lane to grow vegetables and plants. Anticipated planting to commence in March.

- Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) list provided to Planning and Estates team for possible sites to plant up to offset developments.