



Strategic Planning & Environment

Overview & Scrutiny

Agenda

TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM

Council Chamber

The Councillors listed below are requested to attend the above meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Membership

Councillor Beauchamp
Councillor Birnie (Chairman)
Councillor England
Councillor Harden
Councillor P Hearn
Councillor McDowell
Councillor Rogers

Councillor Silwal (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Stevens
Councillor Taylor
Councillor Timmis
Councillor Wilkie
Councillor C Wyatt-Lowe

For further information, please contact Corporate and Democratic Support or 01442 228209

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To agree the minutes of the previous meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5. ACTION POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Page 3)

**6. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE IN
RELATION TO CALL-IN**

7. **Q2 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT** (Pages 4 - 10)
8. **Q2 PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION PERFORMANCE**
Covering report to follow
9. **Q2 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT** (Pages 11 - 16)
10. **Q2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION PERFORMANCE REPORT**
(Pages 17 - 21)
11. **CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN** (Pages 22 - 84)
12. **APPENDIX TO PERFORMANCE REPORTS** (Pages 85 - 90)
13. **WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 91 - 98)

Strategic Planning and Environment OSC Action Points

Date of meeting	Action point	Responsible officer	Date action completed	Response

Agenda Item 7



Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	2nd November 2021
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Budget Monitoring Quarter 2 2021/22
Contact:	Cllr Graeme Elliot, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources Nigel Howcutt, Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) Fiona Jump, Group Manager – Financial Services
Purpose of report:	To provide details of the financial outturn position for the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund • Capital Programme
Recommendations	That Committee note the financial position for the Council for 2021/22 as at Quarter 2.
Corporate objectives:	Delivering an efficient and modern council.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> This report outlines the financial position for the Council for 2021/22 and so summarises the financial implications for service decisions for the financial year. <u>Value for Money</u> Regular budget monitoring and reporting supports the effective use of the financial resources available to the Council.
Risk Implications	This reports outlines the financial position for the Council for 2021/22 and in so doing quantifies the financial risk associated with service decisions for the financial year.
Community Impact Assessment	The content of this report does not require a Community Impact Assessment to be undertaken.
Health And Safety Implications	There are no Health and Safety implications arising from this report.
Consultees	The position reported within this report has been reviewed and discussed with relevant Council Officers.

Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	GF – General Fund HRA – Housing Revenue Account HCC – Herts County Council AFM – Alternative Financial Model
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1. Executive Summary

1.1 General Fund revenue outturn – General Fund revenue budgets are forecasting a deficit of c. £1m. This pressure is consistent with the Quarter 1 forecast, and is a combination of £0.7m that is attributable to the ongoing effects of Covid-19, and £0.3m which is non-Covid related. The Covid pressures of £0.7m can be funded from the Economic Recovery Reserve which was specifically set up for this purpose.

1.2 Strategic Planning and Environment Capital budgets are forecasting slippage of £1.7m at Quarter 2.

2. Introduction

2.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Council's forecast outturn for 2021/22 as at 30th September 2021. The report covers the following budgets with associated appendices:

- General Fund - Appendix A. A pressure against budget of c. £1m is forecast.
- Capital Programme - Appendix B. £1.7m of slippage is forecast.

3. General Fund Revenue Account

3.1 The General Fund revenue account records the income and expenditure associated with all Council functions, except the management of the Council's own housing stock, which is accounted for within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

3.2 Appendix A provides an overview of the General Fund forecast outturn position.

3.3 The table below provides an overview by Scrutiny area of the current forecast outturn for controllable budgets within the General Fund.

Table 1	Current Budget £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Variance	
			£000	%
Finance & Resources	7,457	7,368	(89)	(1.2%)
Strategic Planning and Environment	10,871	11,556	685	6.3%
Housing & Community	1,779	2,087	308	17.3%
Total Operating Cost	20,107	21,011	904	4.5%
Core Funding	(20,107)	(20,052)	55	(0.3%)
Contribution (to)/ from General Fund Working Balance	0	959	959	

3.4 Core Funding - £55k pressure against budget

Government grant income has been received as follows:

- £325k of additional government grant income has been received as follows:

£250k of support relating to the administration of Covid-19.

£75k of new burdens funding to meet new Local Authority statutory requirements.

- Pressure of £250k in Investment Income. A pressure on the budget is anticipated, as interest rates remain very low following Bank of England base-rate reduction in March 2020.
- Pressure of £130k in additional costs incurred from the costs of repairs to void Temporary Accommodation properties. The higher than budgeted cost reflects the current high usage of properties for Temporary Accommodation. A revised schedule and scope of works is being undertaken given the current demand levels.

3.5 The following sections provide an analysis of the projected outturn and major budget variances shown by Scrutiny area.

4. Strategic Planning and Environment

Table 2 - Strategic Planning & Environment	Current Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance	
	£0	£0	£0	%
Neighbourhood Delivery	9,954	10,572	618	6.2%
Planning, Development and Regeneration	899	957	58	6.5%
Finance & Resources	18	27	9	50.0%
Total	10,871	11,556	685	6.3%

4.1 Neighbourhood Delivery - £618k pressure against budget

- A pressure of £360k relates to Waste services employees' costs and vehicle hire costs. This is due to ongoing access issues from residents continuing to work from home and staffing challenges.
- A supplementary budget will be requested in the report to Cabinet of 23rd November to seek formal approval for a budget of £200k to fund a salary supplement to Waste and Clean, Safe and Green drivers, to recognise the nationwide shortage of HGV drivers at the present time and ensure staff retention in order to maintain delivery of the services.
- A pressure of £120k relates to income from the Alternative Financial Model (AFM). No income is expected from the AFM due to high levels of residual waste (loss of £260k income). This is partially offset by additional income from

recycling credits which is expected to over-achieve budget by £140k from increased tonnage.

- A pressure of £50k related to the Commercial Waste service where income has not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- A pressure of 40k relates to the cost of fly-tipping clearances. This carries a high cost, particularly when asbestos disposal is required.

4.2 Planning, Development and Regeneration - £58k pressure against budget

- This pressure relates to legal costs arising from the planning appeals process and staffing budgets due to agency requirement for specialist posts.

5. Capital Programme

5.1 Appendix B shows the projected capital outturn in detail by scheme.

The table below summarises the overall capital outturn position by Scrutiny committee area.

The current budget is the original budget approved by Cabinet in February 2021, plus approved amendments.

The 'rephasing' column refers to projects where expenditure is still expected to be incurred, but will now be in 2022/23 rather than 2021/22 ('slippage'), or conversely, where expenditure planned initially for 2022/23 has been incurred in 2021/22 ('accelerated spend').

The 'Variance' column refers to projects which are expected to come in under or over budget and projects which are no longer required.

Table 3	Current Budget	Rephasing	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
Strategic Planning and Environment	4,665	(1,700)	2,965	2,972	7	0.1%

5.2 General Fund Major Variances

General Fund capital budgets are reporting slippage of £1.7m. This includes:

- Line 151: Slippage of £1.5m on Fleet Replacement Programme. This slippage is predominantly due to the delays in the supply of orders. The service is experiencing delays of approximately 9-12 months between order and supply. These delays are due to a shortage of raw materials which is impacting production. An element of the slippage (circa £0.25m) is related to planned purchases of fleet being slipped to future years to ensure the vehicles purchased fully meet the requirements of the service going forward.

- Line 156: Slippage of £134k on Durrants Lakes. This project has not progressed to date as further studies on the existing structures and ecological area are being undertaken.

6. Conclusions and recommendations

- 6.1** As at Quarter 2 2021/22, there is a forecast pressure of c. £1m against General Fund budgets.
- 6.2** As at Quarter 2 2021/22, Strategic Planning and Environment capital budgets are reporting £1.7m of slippage.
- 6.3** Members are asked to note the financial position for the Council for 2021/22 as at Quarter 2.



Dacorum Borough Council

Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for September 2021 (Cost of Services Analysis By Scrutiny Committee)

	<i>Full Year</i>		
	Budget £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Variance £000
Cost of Services			
Finance and Resources	7,457	7,368	(89)
Housing and Community	1,779	2,087	308
Strategic Planning and Environment	10,871	11,556	685
Net Cost of Services	20,107	21,011	904
Other Items			
Investment Income	(425)	(175)	250
Interest Payments and MRP	1,037	1,037	0
Parish Precept Payments	1,000	1,000	0
Government Grants	(1,968)	(2,293)	(325)
Revenue Contribution to Capital	350	350	0
Taxation (Council Tax and Business Rates)	(15,494)	(15,494)	0
Surplus / Deficit on Provision of Services	(15,500)	(15,575)	(75)
Transfers between Reserves / Funds			
Net Recharge to the HRA	(4,607)	(4,477)	130
Net Movement on General Fund Working Balance	0	959	959

CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Scheme	Budget Holder	Original Budget	Prior Year Slippage	In-Year Adjustments	Current Budget	YTD Spend	Projected Outturn	Forecast Slippage	Projected Over / (Under)
General Fund									
Strategic Planning and Environment									
Development Management and Planning									
141 3D Modelling Software for Planning	Sara Whelan	0	60,000	0	60,000	0	60,000	0	0
142 Tablets for Planning	Sara Whelan	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	0	0
		0	80,000	0	80,000	0	80,000	0	0
Environmental Services									
146 Wheeled Bins & Boxes for New Properties	Craig Thorpe	100,000	0	0	100,000	138,036	106,673	0	6,673
147 Waste & Recycling Service Improvements	Craig Thorpe	25,000	0	0	25,000	11,648	25,000	0	0
149 Resurfacing Works and Building Improvement to Depot	Craig Thorpe	0	60,000	0	60,000	0	60,000	0	0
150 Chipperfield Common Car Park Resurfacing	Craig Thorpe	200,000	0	0	200,000	0	200,000	0	0
151 Fleet Replacement Programme	Craig Thorpe	3,111,905	901,345	0	4,013,250	1,968,543	2,500,000	(1,513,250)	0
		3,436,905	961,345	0	4,398,250	2,118,227	2,891,673	(1,513,250)	6,673
Strategic Planning and Regeneration									
152 Urban Park/Education Centre (Durrants Lakes)	Chris Taylor	0	134,015	0	134,015	0	0	(134,015)	0
153 The Bury - Conversion into Museum and Gallery	Chris Taylor	0	53,150	0	53,150	7,800	0	(53,150)	0
		0	187,165	0	187,165	7,800	0	(187,165)	0
Totals: Strategic Planning and Environment		3,436,905	1,228,510	0	4,665,415	2,126,027	2,971,673	(1,700,415)	6,673

Report for:	SPAE Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	20 October 2021
PART:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Quarter 2 Performance 2020/21
Contact:	Councillor Graham Barrett, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services Craig Thorpe, Group Manager, Environmental Services
Purpose of report:	1.To report on Quarter 1 performance
Recommendations	1.That the report be noted
Corporate objectives:	To provide a clean, safe and green environment and to increase recycling rates in the borough.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> None as a result of this report
'Value For Money Implications'	<u>Value for Money</u> None as a result of this report.
Risk Implications	None as result of this report
Equalities Implications	N/A
Health and Safety Implications	None as a result of this report
Consultees:	Officers within Environmental Services
Background papers:	Corvu Performance Report – Appendix 1
Historical background <i>(please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in</i>	This report has been produced to provide an update on service related issues during quarter 2

<i>the right context).</i>	
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	CSG – Clean, Safe and Green T's and W's – Trees and Woodlands

Environmental Services Overview and Scrutiny Quarter 1 – Performance Review

Introduction

Environmental Services consists of the following:

Refuse and Recycling – Domestic and Commercial Waste Collections.

- Providing scheduled collections of waste and recycling materials from over 65,000 domestic properties and 800 commercial waste customers
- Collection of over 1000 “paid for” bulky collections per annum upon request
- Collection of cess waste from private dwellings

Waste Transfer Site – ISO 14001 compliant

- Storage and bulking of over 24,000 tonnes of recycling materials for onward processing
- Separation, storage and disposal of hazardous waste including asbestos, dead animals, paints, light bulbs, electrical equipment and other flammables.

Clean, Safe and Green (CSG)

- Scheduled grass cutting on behalf of Herts County, Housing Landlord and on Dacorum owned land
- Maintenance of hedges, shrub beds and some roundabouts
- Maintenance of parks and open spaces including play equipment
- Maintenance of sports pitches
- Weed spraying
- Clearance of fly tips
- Removal of graffiti
- Removal and disposal of road kill
- Management of Trees on behalf of Herts County, Housing, Dacorum owned land, parks and open spaces and woodlands
- Management of Rights of Way and Countryside access

- Initiate environmental and / or seasonal campaigns to promote the waste hierarchy through events, online challenges, social media, website etc.
- Plan and implement new service additions, such as recycling and food waste.
- Monitoring Waste Services, Clean, Safe & Green and social media data, including tonnages, contamination and fly tipping, and collating into reports.
- Supporting the waste hierarchy in schools through presentations, quarterly e-newsletters and projects.
- Organise anti-littering campaigns with local residents and businesses.
- Produce all artwork and literature for press releases, corporate articles, collection calendars and designs for vehicles
- Represent Dacorum Borough Council as a partnering member of the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership.

Fleet Management (Vehicle Repair Shop)

- Servicing and maintenance of all the Councils fleet of vehicles to ensure legal compliance with Road Transport Law and effective running of front line services.

Resources

- Record and produce key performance data such as waste tonnages
- Check and allocate all customer service requests including the bulky item service
- Deal with resident and Customer Service Unit enquiries
- Manage the weighbridge service
- General administration of services including the cesspool emptying requests, sharps box collections and the additional garden waste service.

Service Updates

Waste Services Operations

- Successful visit from Environment Agency for compliance to Waste Site.
- Four loaders successfully trained as LGV 2 drivers.
- Carried out repairs to roadway by weighbridge.
- Agreed Christmas collection schedule.
- Carried out property survey with insurers.
- Continued to successfully collect all waste as scheduled.

Clean, Safe and Green

- Continued recruitment within CSG.
- Completed three temp to Perm Positions.
- Grass, hedges, sweeping and litter picking of A414 completed.
- Two operatives booked in for chainsaw course CS30, CS31.
- Three staff passed chemical licence Pa1/Pa6.
- Completed preparations for start of football season.
- 82 completed name plates were installed.
- Area team completed 5/6 cuts on their summer grass cutting schedule.

Parks, Open Spaces, Trees and Woodlands

- Trees & Woodlands team are progressing matters with our Legal team regarding the transfer of the Dundale public open space to the Borough Council. The positions of site boundaries need to be agreed by all parties prior to the legal transfer of the site to DBC.
- T&W met with HCC on a site in Berkhamsted to view the potential impact of Ash Dieback disease on the use of the public highway. A HCC wooded verge located along a main road heading into the town centre contains many Ash trees, some of which are displaying signs of Ash Dieback disease. HCC are assessing the scale of tree removal and the impact of a full road closure, and whether both affected and unaffected trees should be removed.
- T&W met with HCC about our existing Highway tree maintenance term contract. The costs of tree work and equipment associated with traffic management controls have risen significantly in recent years, and so aren't reflected in our current contract arrangement. HCC and DBC will liaise further about revising the existing contract or agreeing a new contract.
- Progressed Dundale public open space transfer boundary issues with our Legal team. Agreeing boundary positions to allow legal transfer of site to DBC.
- Met with HCC in Berkhamsted to view the potential impact of Ash Dieback disease on the use of the public highway.
- Shakespeare play held in Tring Memorial garden.
- Canal Fields new footpath built and bridge re-furbished.
- The tender for the Canal Fields Play Area is for the upgrade and installation of new equipment. The tender evaluation has now been completed and works are planned to commence this year and should be completed before next spring 2022.

Educational Awareness

- Attended a community day at Figtree Hill, encouraging residents to think outside the skip, giving ideas for ways to donate, sell or reuse items as well as being on hand to answer any recycling and refuse questions.
- Delivered 43 extra recycling bins to 40 flats to increase recycling capacity.

- Presented at two virtual events for Plastic Free July with Waste Aware, Plastic Free Periods and Plastic in our Bins.
- In August we delivered classroom food caddies to all primary schools, along with monster feature stickers for our Monsters on a Mission scheme. Launched the scheme in September with the class mission statement; Feed the teacher's pet to help save the planet. Classes can decorate their caddies with the monster features to make their "Teacher's Pet" monster and can submit photos to enter the competition. We sent a presentation to all schools to introduce the scheme along with other recycling resources.
- Zero Waste Week event. Had a stall in Hemel town centre with zero waste ideas and info on our campaigns. Worked with a local tailor to offer discounts on repairs and adjustments.
- Held a social media takeover for Recycle Week.
 - Instagram: +285% content interactions compared to previous day.
 - Facebook posts: 12927 reach, 13060 impressions, 70 total engagement.
 - Twitter posts: 36267 reach, 2196 impressions, 21 total engagement.
- Also held three stalls for Recycle Week, one in Hemel town centre, one in Berkhamsted town centre and one at Tesco, Hemel. The first two stalls were joint with the Climate Emergency team for the Great Big Green Week which took place during the same week.
- Joanna completed three recycling presentations at all school assemblies.
- We had 125 new Street Champions registrations. Total now 424 registered, with 211 active (have collected their kit).
- Facilitated 15 group litter picks (total of 99 refuse bags and 53 recycling bags reported).

Fleet Services

- We have had very few vehicle or plant replacements over the summer with COVID, Brexit etc all effecting manufacturer supply chains.
- the local Vauxhall dealer has pulled out of fleet business so will be moving to Ford product as and no other local Vauxhall dealers have with the appetite to supply.
- Supply dates on products have extended from 6-9 months to 12-24 lead times, some cannot give dates at all, which will be challenging.
- Workforce still not to full strength and endeavouring to recruit an additional technician, however even with reduced team, we have maintained essential front line service.

Resources & Administration:

- Total Waste Services service requests = 9360, this includes;
 - 562 bulky item service requests
 - 340 fly tips reports collected by CSG.

- Total Clean, Safe & Green service requests = 1483, this includes;
 - 359 for Trees & Woodlands (transferred to Ezytreev).

Requests for sharps box collections = 1383 and requests for 601 boxes to be delivered.

Administration staff manually weighed 1068 vehicles (e.g. outgoing food waste, garden waste and comingled recycling plus public weighs), others transactions are completed at the driver operated console.

End



**Agenda item: Q2- Performance Report
for Environmental and Community
Protection**

Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	2nd November 2021
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Q2- Performance Report for Environmental and Community Protection
Contact:	Julie Banks, Portfolio Holder for Community and Regulatory Services Author/Responsible Officer Emma Walker, Group Manager (Environmental and Community Protection) Bill Buckley, Interim Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery) Richard LeBrun Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Delivery)
Purpose of report:	To provide Members with the performance report for quarter 2 in relation to Environmental and Community Protection.
Recommendations	For Information only.
Corporate objectives:	Resources and Value For Money; Optimise Resources and Implement Best Practice.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> None.
'Value for money' implications	<u>Value for money</u> Monitoring Performance supports the Council in achieving Value for Money for its citizens.
Risk implications	Risk Assessment completed for each service area as part of Service planning and reviewed quarterly. Key risks are recorded on the Council's Risk Register which has been Updated recently. The key risks relate to not achieving statutory targets and failing to protect the public/businesses from Environmental Health Risks : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If statutory targets are not achieved the service can be Taken over and managed by the Government.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially the public & businesses put at risk • Legal action taken against the Council • Reputational damage to Council
Equality Impact Assessment	
Health and safety Implications	None
Consultees:	
Background papers:	Quarterly Performance Report – Quarter 2 to follow.
Historical background <i>(please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context).</i>	
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	

1. Background

1.1 For the purpose of this report, 'Environmental and Community Protection' includes the following services:

- Environmental Health Team (Covid 19 Outbreak Control, Food Safety, Health and Safety, Statutory Nuisances, Contaminated Land, Drainage, Private Water Supplies, Infectious Diseases, Air Quality Management, High Hedges)
- Operations Team (Public Health, Pest Control, Dog Warden Services, Environmental Enforcement, Covid Advisors)
- Corporate Health, Safety and Resilience Team (Internal Health and Safety Advice, Technical Support, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity).

2. Environmental and Community Protection – Q2 Performance Indicators

2.1 ECP09 (Number of High Risk Inspections due in the quarter achieved) is currently sat at 46% (39/84). As discussed last Quarter, this is behind with a significant backlog from last year due to the effects of Covid. There is a report coming to Overview and Scrutiny SPAE later this month to look at the food service plan with a food recovery plan to discuss how the service plans to catch up. This links in with ECP 02 the Number of registered food premises that have

a 4 or 5 rating. The higher risk premises are being prioritised and these are more likely to have a lower rating 74% (1364/1834).

2.2 ECP01 remains that the majority of noise cases are closed within 60 days at 88% (85/97).

2.3 ECP continues to respond to the majority of service requests within 3 working days, at 96% (1526/1596).

2.4 ECP has visited 87% (629/719) fly-tips within three days to check for evidence.

2.5 ECP continues to respond to all consultations from Development control within the deadline.

2.6 57 Accidents relating to the workplace were reported to the Corporate Health, Safety and Resilience Team.

3. Environmental Health Team

3.1 Covid- 19 Continues to have a significant impact on resources.

- Test and Trace, Environmental Health Officers and Covid Advisors have been working on the Test and Trace Service, numbers greatly increased in Q2 (1105) some days the demand was 400% the number of cases the model was designed for. This meant that other staff brought in to support the demand.
- A Red Quarantine Hotel was set up in Dacorum. Local Resilience Forum set up a Tactical Co-ordinating Group attended by Emma Walker and Claire Hamilton. EH Team were working with the hotel to ensure Infection Control measures and risk assessments were in place.
- EH Team assisted with the Bridging hotel to ensure safe methods of work were in place.
- Recruitment took place for the third Test and Trace Officer. Tanya Percy has been in post since September.
- Health Protection Board are seeking clarification from the Department for Health and Social Care as to whether the 'Contain Outbreak Management Funding' can be extended past the end of the financial year, currently approximately 12 FTE posts are being funded through this stream.

3.2 Health and Safety Prohibition Notice and several food safety Improvement Notices were served on a premises in Bell Gate, Hemel Hempstead.

3.3 The Team has concluded a 4 year prosecution into Health and Safety Offences relating to the collapse of an external wooden staircase at Holiday Inn Premises on Breakspear Way, Hemel Hempstead. HICP were fined £80K and £30K Costs, Interstate were fined £19.6k and £30K costs.

3.4 Paul O'Day has contributed to the new Home Officer National Enforcement Powers Guide on behalf of Local Authorities. Paul has now resigned his post. The Team Leader role is currently out to advert.

4. Corporate, Health, Safety and Resilience Team

- 4.1 Team are continuing to support the departments with changes in Covid 19 guidance and legislation. Continued reporting to Local Resilience Forum on Event Safety, they have continued to oversee the Safety Advisory Group and provide advice to departments on events.
- 4.2 Provided CCG Health and Safety support and advice on implementing a Health and Safety Management System. They have also provided managers training for a fee to the CCG.
- 4.3 Health and safety Committee met and updated policies include, Work at Height, Noise at Work and Violence and Aggression Policies. The Team provided an update to Senior Leadership Team on the Committees activities.
- 4.4 Advice provided by the team on the New Ways of Working Work stream, which looks at how the Forum will be used as a workspace in the future by officers.
- 4.5 Information has been gathered from the Incident Management Team to feedback into the Business Continuity Plan on how to manage during an emergency situation.

5. Operations Team

- 5.1 The Littering and Public Space Protection Order pilot has been awarded to District Enforcement LTD. Mobilisation of the contract has been undertaken and liaison with Police Colleagues, Communications, IT Support, Legal Services and Environmental Projects Team has been carried out. The pilot will be launching with a series of educational days in late October. The enforcement activities will be starting on the 1st November. A communications campaign is underway. This is a trial of this method of enforcement for a year, the contract will be closely monitored by Environmental and Community Protection Department, with feedback to Overview and Scrutiny in the Quarterly performance reports.
- 5.2 Mr Stephen FLITTON, Ms Suzi TOWERS & Miss Leanne RICHARDSON of Gade Valley Cottages, pleaded guilty to 4 counts of allowing an animal to suffering unnecessarily and 4 counts of failing to meet the needs of an animal, relating to 4 dogs that were removed from their home in December 2020. Mr FLITTON was ordered to a 12 month community order, 100 hours of unpaid work, £300 costs and a £95 victim surcharge. Mrs TOWERS was ordered to a 12 month community order, 30 RAR (rehabilitation activity requirement) days, £120 fine, £300 costs and a £95 victim surcharge. Miss RICHARDSON was ordered to a 12 month community order, 30 RAR (rehabilitation activity requirement) days, £120 fine, £300 costs and a £95 victim surcharge. All three were disqualified from keeping and owning all animals for life.

- 5.3 24 Stray dogs were seized this quarter, 19 reunited with owners, 3 were sent for rehoming, One was passed to another Local Authority, the remaining animal is in DBC care pending investigation due to the poor condition.
- 5.4 Fly tipping prosecution for residential waste duty of care offence – DBC v Jenkins 29/9/21. Guilty plea entered. Ordered to pay Fine: £200, Victim Surcharge: £44, Costs: £566.48
- 5.5 6 Abandoned vehicles have been removed and destroyed. 8 Fixed Penalty notices have been served for fly-tipping offences. 2 Fixed Penalty Notice for duty of care offences and 1 fixed penalty notices for littering offences.
- 5.6 Town centre - Rezone prosecution for cycling in town centre - Defendant did not attend and proved in absence on 1/9/21. Band A fine £220.00, VS £34.00 & costs £200. Contribution collection order made
- 5.7 The Environmental Enforcement team have 6 cases currently pending court action. The delays with the court system due to the pandemic has effected this team more than other teams in the department.
- 5.8 The Covid Advisors Team have been supporting businesses, the test and trace service and the vaccinations programme. They have been well received by the public, staff and members and the service have received compliments on their performance.

Agenda Item 11



Report for:	Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting:	2 November 2021
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and High Level Action Plan
Contact:	Councillor Andrew Williams, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Contracted Services Author/Responsible Officer – Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration
Purpose of report:	The report sets out the proposed Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and High Level Action Plan which, if approved, will be a public facing document setting out the Council's rationale for declaring the Emergency and the High Level actions that it will take in order to meet its pledge agreed in the summer of 2019. It will also provide the basis of measuring progress against the interventions which are required to deliver the pledge. To allow the Committee to consider the strategy and report and make observations to Cabinet which will consider the report at its meeting on 23 November.
Recommendations	1. That the Committee consider the report and make any observations it wishes to the Cabinet meeting of 23 November.
Period for post policy/project review	The Climate and Ecological Strategy and High Level Action Plan will ultimately be reviewed in 2030 but it has already been agreed by Cabinet that there will be an annual report made to Cabinet and Council. This will set out the progress made in the previous 12 months, measure and monitor against the Council's baseline carbon emissions and outline the specific targets and actions for the forthcoming year. In addition there will be periodic reporting to both Cabinet and the Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

<p>Corporate objectives:</p>	<p>The Council’s Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and Action Plan will support all 6 corporate objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safe and clean environment:</i> e.g. contains actions relating to the quality of existing environments and design and layout of new development that promote security and safe access; • <i>Community Capacity:</i> e.g. provide a framework for local communities to be better informed and involved in climate emergency mitigation; • <i>New and Affordable housing:</i> through both direct delivery and setting improved sustainability requirements in new homes would help to reduce both the cost of energy and water and the carbon emissions the homes would produce; • <i>Dacorum delivers:</i> fulfilling the zero carbon pledge will make a huge contribution to local sustainability and assist in the national target to reach zero carbon as a nation by 2050; • <i>Regeneration:</i> the strategy and action plan will provide improvements to air quality, biodiversity, and opportunities for cycling and walking as well as major economic potential for ‘green’ businesses. • <i>Climate and Ecological Emergency:</i> the strategy and action plan is focused on meeting the Council’s pledge to be zero carbon on its own emissions by 2030 for Scopes 1 and 2, and 2050 for Scope 3
<p>Implications:</p>	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>To date all expenditure on tackling the Climate and Ecological Emergency budget or from existing service budgets. The financial implications of achieving the Strategy are not as yet fully costed but will be factored in to the Medium Term Financial Strategy and subsequent budgeting. It is clear that a number of the actions will be additional to existing budgets, and in some cases – in particular the retrofitting of Housing Revenue Account and General Fund Buildings to reach net zero carbon, the decarbonisation of the Council’s fleet and machinery, and any Offsetting arrangements required – the cost will be substantial.</p> <p>These are set out in more detail in Appendix 2. The level of the costs – if not mitigated by central government support – may have a significant impact on the Council’s capital spend over the next eight and a half years.</p> <p>There will be additional costs for 2022/23 which will need to be considered in this year’s budget setting process and these are set out in the report (see Appendix 2 below).</p> <p><u>Value for money</u></p>

<p>Value for money implications</p>	<p>The aim of the Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan is to reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's activities and whilst in procurement the Council will seek value for money through intelligent procurement and tendering a critical part of the value for money assessment must be the degree to which the expenditure acts to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Accessing grant support, either direct from government or via obligations placed on utility providers, and working with the private sector as it too works towards moving to net zero carbon will be essential to reduce the overall expenditure the Council will face. This will require some additional capacity where the processes are complex and, given that government grant funding often requires 'shovel ready' schemes, off the shelf developed projects.</p>
<p>Risk implications</p>	<p>A Risk Assessment will be completed and added to the Council's Strategic Risk Register though this will be in conjunction with the completion of the Strategy. The larger individual projects will incorporate risk factor assessment in the project management delivery plan. It is proposed that inclusion of the Climate and Ecological Emergency be incorporated into the Corporate Strategic Risk Register.</p>
<p>Community Impact Assessment</p>	<p>As a whole the work on the Climate and Ecological Emergency is very demonstrably aimed at protecting the future of all residents. It is proposed to incorporate a full community consultation process once the Strategy and Action plan is approved.</p> <p>A Community Impact Assessment will be required for any significant actions which impact on service delivery arising from the service specific changes which will emerge.</p>
<p>Health and safety Implications</p>	<p>Failure to act on the climate and ecological emergency would be damaging to the health and safety of all who work and live in the Borough. Action is required to mitigate the impact of our changing climate and day to day weather – flooding, drought, excessive temperatures and so on. There would also be severe impacts on air quality, ecological well-being and overall quality of life.</p>
<p>Monitoring Officer/ S.151 Officer Comments</p>	
<p>Consultees:</p>	<p>Strategic Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 November 2021</p> <p>Corporate Climate and Ecological Officer Board Strategic Leadership Team</p>

Background papers:	Cabinet Report Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action plan 19/5/20, and 23/6/20, 20/10/20, 20/4/21
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	CO2 Carbon Dioxide APSE Association for Public Service Excellence HRA Housing Revenue Account CSG Clean Safe and Green CEE Climate and Ecological Emergency MTFS Medium Term Financial Strategy EPC Energy Performance Certificate PV Solar Photovoltaics BREEAM Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method PSH Private Sector Housing PRS Private Rented Sector HMO House in Multiple Occupation CAVAT Capital Asset Valuation of Amenity Trees AQAP Air Quality Action Plan AQMA Air Quality Management Area LDS Local Development Scheme (Local Plan) LGA Local Government Association DCN District Council Network HCCSP Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The approach to the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and High Level Action Plan is not greatly different from the initial plan set out in May 2020. Much of the work that has been carried out has involved working with technical specialists to gather evidence, to analyse this and using these reports to form the key areas of intervention and investment.
- 1.2 The Strategy (attached as a separate document as Appendix One) and High Level Action Plan sets out:
- A foreword which explains why the Council has declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency and the pledge to reach net zero by 2030 for its direct greenhouse gas emissions, and by 2050 for its scope 3 emissions where the Council does not control the energy use of the buildings that it rents or leases.
 - A very clear explanation regarding the reality of the emergency, the science behind it and consequences of failing to take action for future generations. This will confirm that the United Nations and the whole of the G20 nations and practically every sovereign state fully accept the reality of the emergency and the need to act.
 - The Council's own 'carbon footprint' and the main areas which cause the emissions involved and the areas where the focus of work needs to be.

- The Borough and National position to assist in ensuring that the Council can support work by government, other public sector bodies, the private sector and our residents to secure a Borough and National position of net zero carbon by 2050.
- The High Level actions the Council needs to take. This is set out in two parts. The internal work regarding the Council's services and assets required to meet the 2030 deadline, and for Council Housing and General Fund leased buildings by 2050. The external work sets out how and where the Council can assist, through its existing services and with community engagement and partnership, with reaching the 2050 target. Whilst the detailed costs cannot be calculated at this point the likely scale of expenditure is estimated. This will be reduced by any government support offered over the lifetime of the plan. These are set out in Appendix 2.

2. The High Level Internal Actions to achieve the Council's Climate and Emergency pledge are:

- Retrofitting the Council's Housing Revenue Account homes to reach net zero carbon by 2030 (may require some off setting)
- Retrofitting the Council's General Fund buildings used for Council service delivery to reach net zero carbon by 2030 (may require some offsetting)
- Retrofitting the Council's General Fund building assets leased to other organisations to reach net zero carbon by 2050 (may require some offsetting)
- Decarbonisation of the Council's fleet and machinery by 2030
- New Build Council Housing – raising delivery to ensure all homes built are as close to net zero as possible
- Biodiversity Action to protect the quality of our environment
- Development and delivery of an offsetting policy, plan and investment
- Procurement of contracts for services to require reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to reach as close to net zero carbon by 2030
- Increasing the Council's recycling performance to 63% by 2025

3 The High Level External Actions – to assist the Borough's residents, businesses and other public sector providers in meeting the national target of net zero carbon by 2050 are:

- Maximising the impact that local residents and groups can have in achieving 'bottom up' action in reducing carbon emissions through community outreach and provision of accurate and up to date information and support to access government and energy company finance.
- Ensuring the Local Plan requires and delivers the highest sustainability targets for all new development.

- Achieving a Sustainable Transport Policy and a clear plan, together with HCC as the transport authority, to meet requirements cycling, walking, sustainable public transport. It will also facilitate the delivery of sufficient public and private EV charge points to include rapid charging garages.
 - Supporting owner occupiers, businesses and private landlords to take advantage of all and any government and energy company support available to retrofit homes and premises
 - Ensuring that the Council's Economic Development and Regeneration work seeks to attract 'green' and high tech business and sustainability investment
- 3.1 The Strategy and High Level Action Plan continues by outlining how the interventions will be delivered and key areas of evidence that have been used – see Appendix Two. Each of the workstream areas are working on more detailed operational plans to ensure delivery within the expected timescales. As these will change over time they are not be included in the Strategy Document.
- 4 At the time of submitting this report, the UK government released several key documents which build on the Prime Minister's previous 10 point plan to reach net-zero. We will process these, and other significant reports which have been released in the run up to COP26.**
- 4.1 The '[Net Zero Strategy](#)' which sets out how the UK government intends to deliver on its commitment to reach net zero emissions by 2050.
- 4.2 The '[Heat and Building Strategy](#)', which sets out the government's plan to significantly cut carbon emissions from the UK's 30 million homes and workplaces.
- 4.3 Once COP26 has concluded and commitments have been made by world leaders and the UK government, we will reflect on these reports and commitments and identify what changes may need to be made to our action plans. These changes will be reflected in a future action plan.

2. Recommendations

- 4.1 That the Climate Emergency Strategy and High Level Action Plan, set out as Appendix One and Two of this report be approved.
- 4.2 That this be set out, following layout and presentation support from Communications, on the Council's website with final approval to be delegated to the Corporate Director Housing and Regeneration in conjunction with the Leader of the Council.
- 4.3 That the High Level Actions set out in the report be incorporated into Service and Budget Planning for 2022/23 onwards.

Appendix Two

High Level Action Plan

Climate and Ecological Emergency: Financing the Strategy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The importance of the world taking collective and decisive action has been heightened by the latest IPCC report which indicates that unless radical steps are taken by Sovereign States and the Business Sector to curb and eliminate greenhouse gas emissions the target of world temperature rise of 1.5C will be breached with catastrophic outcomes.
- 1.2 Work is underway to cost the likely financial impact on the Council, which will be considerable, but will in some cases only be broad estimates at this point because of a range of unknown factors. These include: the actions that government may take and the funding it will make available which are currently unclear; the degree to which the fossil fuel industry loses public subsidy and is restricted; the move away from petrol and diesel vehicles; and, very importantly, the development of a range of viable and affordable zero carbon technologies to allow life to continue in a way that doesn't damage the environment.
- 1.3 Progress on the work has been regularly reported to Cabinet and considerable work is, and has been, taking place. There is an argument that the emergency needs to be tackled quickly but most of the interventions proposed are 'quick wins' which may look good but are not dealing with the fundamentals of what is a complex set of issues. To tackle the emergency requires good base information and a well-researched approach to actions which will span 10 – 30 years. This is what the Corporate Climate and Ecological Emergency Board have been doing. In practice many of the interventions will be progressive and delivered in phases. The best example is on retrofitting homes – there is no point adding Solar PV to a property, for example, if it is not properly insulated. Consequently a 'fabric first' approach is taken to improve the sustainability of homes before on the interventions are put in place

2 Factors to take into account in the Council's financial approach to the emergency.

- 2.1 Whichever way the Council decides to tackle to emergency the potential cost will be considerable, particularly if it has to meet all of the costs itself. This is unlikely to be the case given indications from government but even with support the amount of expenditure required will be considerable and will restrict, to one degree or another, expenditure on the other priorities the Council has identified (particularly capital schemes). Table One, set out below, indicates that the possible cost to the General Fund could be around £40-50M between now and 2050, and £170-200M on the HRA, without extensive government funding. This would be a worst case scenario however.
- 2.2 There are a range of issues which make the long term costing estimation very difficult to be accurate at this point:

- Competing solutions at different stages of development. Perhaps the best example is whether the future of transport, in particular cars and lorries. Will it be electric or hydrogen powered in the long term? Even within the Electric Vehicle (EV) sector there are regular improvements to battery technology and changes to the charging infrastructure which have an impact on which current solutions to back.
 - The capacity of the relevant sectors to be able to meet the demand required to meet the overall needs within the UK. The government wants to see 600,000 Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) installed each year. Currently the capacity is between 50-60K per year and the cost of installation is very high.
 - Uncertainty regarding the government's approach to supporting households, businesses, and the public sector to fund the required action.
- 2.3 The approach the Council has taken is to collect and analyse the starting point (already achieved) and to acquire evidence to support the actions we will need to take (insofar as these are clear at this point). On our buildings a logically sequenced approach is being followed – improve the sustainability of the fabric, in particular the improvement of its insulation, and to ensure that the structures are 'future-proofed' both from the climate and environmental challenges which emerge and the ability to adopt the most effective technology for heating and powering the buildings sustainably.
- 2.4 The Council will need to be nimble and flexible regarding seizing the funding opportunities that may arise. An example is the government's decarbonisation of public building funding which requires the preparation of 'shovel ready' schemes in order to be successful in what is a competitive process (this work is underway). Services across the Council will need support to be able to access the funding that is made available to their areas of operation.
- 2.5 Although not included in the Council's CEE pledge the national aim is that the UK be net zero carbon by 2050. This means, as a community leader, the Council must play a major part in providing up to date accurate information as to what local people can do to play their part in this transformation – and there is considerable enthusiasm within our communities to do this. This points to the need for an excellent website and social media presence on providing advice and signposting for residents to take action, and on providing direct support for many of our more vulnerable residents to access the funding and organisation of the works required. This will be particularly the case in private housing retrofitting. Working with local groups, businesses, the voluntary sector, Parish and Town Councils and public sector colleagues will be vital.
- 2.6 Finally, insofar as is possible, the action the Council can take early in the period to 2030 will progressively reduce the targets it has to meet though this will be in the context as set out above.

High Level Action Plan

Climate and Ecological Emergency Internal High Level Actions

High level actions the Council will take to ensure it achieves net zero for Scopes 1 and 2 (emissions directly under our control) by 2030 and for Scope 3 (where the Council owns the buildings but doesn't control the use of energy) by 2050 at the latest.

3 Buildings owned and used by the Council to deliver services.

- 3.1 The Council will carry out the surveying work, initially on our main buildings (The Forum, Berkhamsted Civic Centre, Victoria Hall, Cupid Green Depot, Adventure Playgrounds, the two Leisure Centres, the Old Town Hall and Maylands Business Centre) to determine the initial work required to make them as energy efficient as possible. This is in progress. Following this a programme will be drawn up regarding the works required. Initially, this will be largely improvements to insulation plus installation of solar panels where possible. Achieving net-zero will require non-fossil fuelled efficient and economic heating systems which currently are not yet sufficiently developed but should be in the next few years as we move away from gas.

Costing

- 3.2 The initial cost for the surveying work is c. £25K, in budget, and has commenced. This will give an indication of the overall costs of the initial 'fabric first' improvements on insulation and where possible solar on roofs. It is impossible in advance of the survey work to give an estimate but it is almost certainly to be in excess of £10M (a previous costing on Cupid Green indicated a £2.5M cost). This may be reduced by accessing public sector building decarbonisation grants but in order to receive this costed 'shovel ready' plans must be in place in order to bid successfully which this work will provide. There will need to be a consideration whether all of these buildings will be kept in council ownership given such costs.
- 3.3 There is an issue regarding Cupid Green and the associated target of replacing the Council's fleet with non-fossil fuel alternatives. The current space may make it very difficult to have EV charging points for the 24 freighters – currently they can park efficiently close together in rows. This may not be possible with EV charging and may point to a need for hydrogen powered vehicles. The alternative would be to move to a larger purpose-built depot. The replacement would not be until 2028 and affordable and efficient non-fossil fuel replacements should be available in 2028.
- 3.4 The deadline for Scope 3 building emissions – where we lease the properties commercially – is 2050. Surveying work will be required to cost a programme but given the scale of operations the ultimate bill will be significant, almost certainly in or over a range of £15-20M.

4. Converting the Council's vehicle fleet and machinery from fossil fuel powered to green.

- 4.1 This will start by replacing petrol/diesel vehicles as they end their useful life. Initially this will focus on the smaller vehicles. Our refuse freighters are only a couple of years old and have a lifespan of 7-8 years – as electric alternatives are not as efficient and are currently considerably more expensive. Replacing this part of the fleet is likely to start closer to the 2030 target date. Currently green freighters are c. £100-200K dearer than diesel though this is set to fall though it is likely that this would cost c.3- £3.5M over the diesel cost. If this was for hydrogen then the cost of charging points would not be required.
- 4.2 The cost of shifting vans and other smaller vehicles is likely to be largely in the costs of installing the EV charging points as the cost of electric alternatives continues to fall relative to petrol/diesel. See above for comments on the freighters and the continued suitability of Cupid Green Depot.

5. New build Council Housing

- 5.1 The Council's programme of building new Council homes will achieve at least EPC B and will progressively move as close to net zero carbon as possible. This will require a credible and affordable alternative to gas heating. The cost of achieving genuinely zero carbon rises significantly above the achievement of BREEAM excellent standard. It is estimated from sector examples that cost could increase by 10% from our current costs. At 100 completions per year and build costs of c. £250K per property the additional cost would be £2.5M per year.

6. Introducing an effective offsetting programme

- 6.1 Offsetting is taking action that produces a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and will be an important part in any carbon reduction plan. Examples are installing green energy such as solar farms and wind turbines, tree planting and other biodiversity work. It may take the form of investment in green projects run by the private or public sector. The Council will need some offsetting and will introduce an investment programme to deliver this.
- 6.2 A study carried out by iTree for the Council has indicated that the existing Council owned trees sequester 1000 tonnes of CO2 per year, which reduces our overall carbon footprint. Additional tree planting is a long term approach and still hugely important – but takes 30-40 years to reach sufficient maturity to have maximum impact.

Costing

- 6.3 Initial costs to advise on our approach will cost around £25K for consultancy advice - this would be a one –off in 2022/23 and can be incorporated into the work on commercialisation. Any significant investment initiatives will almost certainly require further technical advice to establish a suitable business case. Clearly an intervention to make a significant offset will be substantial, for example a solar farm or wind power investment, but would aim to be a long term net income generator.

7. Retrofitting our 10,250 Council homes to achieve net zero carbon by 2050

- 7.1 As 87% of the Council's emissions come from our council homes this is by far the largest investment that will be needed to achieve net zero carbon. The approach will be 'fabric first' where the energy efficiency improvements like insulation and Solar are done before heating systems are changed. Currently there is no alternative to gas that is affordable to run for many tenants. Air and ground source heat pumps are part of the solution for homes not on the gas grid though they often require a secondary heating supplement to achieve acceptable temperatures. The Council will aim to have delivered the energy efficiency works to 90% of the stock by 2030. Introduction of non-fossil fuel heating will probably commence after 2030 as soon as credible and affordable alternatives have become generally available.
- 7.2 The industry estimates for the full costs of retrofitting depend very much on the approach taken. A whole house approach by Energiesprong, for example, will typically cost £30,000 per home. A more gradual approach – awaiting a truly affordable and effective alternative non-fossil fuel heating system – is likely to be around £17,000 - £20,000 per home. Based on the technical work done so far the cost for the whole stock would be in the order of £170 -200M though government grants would reduce this significantly. A full stock condition survey will add further clarity to what is required.

8. Revising the Council's approach to procurement of contracts for services to maximise sustainability in delivery

- 8.1 This will involve reviewing contracts coming up for renewal or re-tender and for completely new contracts. Procurement Services will work with Services to build in the appropriate requirements.

Costing

- 8.2 We don't currently have data on what increase in costs would apply, and this would depend on what we were requiring. It is prudent to assume an increase of between 5-10% depending on the contract type and our requirements.

9. Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

- 9.1 The Council is already working on developing a Biodiversity Action Plan and this will guide the way in which we build in more measures to improve biodiversity on Council owned land. This will also assist a wide range of voluntary and other organisations to move their land management in the same direction. Involvement of the community will be vital in helping achieve a biodiversity uplift throughout Dacorum.
- 9.2 The work is underway and currently but will require additional funding depending on the number of trees planted, Many measures could be community led with little funding required but others would have both an initial and an ongoing maintenance costs. The level of direct investment by the Council will require an agreed long-term programme the cost of which will emerge over the next few months
- 9.3 It should be noted that the new Local Plan will require all developers and their schemes to deliver 'biodiversity net gain' either within their development and if

this is not possible paying into a Council operated Biodiversity Fund. This action is likely to exceed the extent to which the council itself can deliver.

10 Increasing the Council's Recycling Rate.

10.1 The Council will continue to work to increase the recycling rate in the Borough progressively with a recognition that early progress will assist the decarbonisation of the Borough. The Council's target is to achieve a 63% recycling rate by 2025. Until the government issues its final report on waste collection services (promised by January 2022) it is a high risk to take action in advance of the outcome as part of the proposals were to require waste collection authorities to operate on a similar basis which given the current disparity of approach between authorities may require changes to vehicles, residents collection equipment and collection timescales.

Costings - To be determined in 2022/3 for the reasons set out above.

Climate and Ecological Emergency External High Level Actions

High level actions the Council will take to assist the Borough and its businesses and residents achieve net zero carbon by 2050.

According to a report by the Tyndall Centre – one of the UK's top climate change centres, as a borough, Dacorum must reduce its emissions at a rapid speed in order to remain within its designated carbon budget as per the Paris Agreement. Dacorum's overall borough emissions need to drop by approximately 57% by 2025 compared to 2019 levels.

The Council accounts for less than 5% of the borough's emissions. For this reason, a large focus of the Council's work must be on supporting external action.

11 Ensure that the new Local Plan will result in the highest level of sustainable new development that the Planning regulations allow.

11.1 The developing local plan already includes requirements to deliver new development to at least the highest standards within government guidance and to promote net zero carbon development. It also has very strong protection for biodiversity and the environment requiring developers to ensure a biodiversity uplift. Where they can't they will have to pay the equivalent into a 'Biodiversity Offset Fund' which will help local sustainability action.

11.2 Another key requirement for larger developments will be for them to demonstrate how they can deliver a sustainable place with a focus on accessible open space, facilities that are in walking distance and making it easier to walk and cycle.

11.3 The Local Development Framework budget and reserve can cover the costs of the Local Plan and the Supplementary Planning Document.

12. Develop and implement a sustainable transport plan

- 12.1 This aims to encourage a move away from cars to walking, cycling and use of public transport together with a strategy to ensure we can engage with the private sector to install Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points and rapid charging centres in the Borough and that we have EV charging points in our Council car parks.
- 12.2 This element of work will form part of the Local Plan and all new developments and will be in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council, which is the Transport Authority. The Council will continue to work with HCC on its Local Transport Plan covering the Borough. Some improvements will require government action and funding particularly in the move away from fossil-fuelled vehicles.
- 12.3 We have already carried out a study to predict electric vehicle requirements to 2030. As part of this work, it has been estimated that the number of electric vehicles in the borough will increase to 30,000 by 2030 (currently 1000). As over a third of our residents will be unable to charge their cars at home, in order to meet these demands we are likely to need around 700 charge points in the borough. Working with private sector providers this will form an ongoing and dedicated project to ensure these growing needs are met.
- 12.4 The Council is already taking action to install additional charging points in our own car parks and work on this will start in the next few months. The level of additional progress required, however, cannot be made without the conclusions of the government and HCC's EV strategy.
- 12.5 The Council has already arranged for the installation of EV charging points in those car parks that are open for 24 hours at a cost of £100K covered entirely by grant (though any additional power requirements may have to be met by the council). It is possible that the Council would consider direct investment in conjunction with HCC but this cannot be costed at the moment.

13 The Council will work with home owners and the Private Rented Sector

- 13.1 A very large part of the CO2 emissions occur through the energy and heating requirements of the owner occupiers and Private Landlord's properties. The government has pledged to ensure that rapid progress is made in achieving net zero carbon in the nations' homes by 2050. The Council will play a key role in providing up to date information and advice to residents who want to improve their homes energy efficiency. Knowing where and how to access grant funding will be crucial and the Council will help in this.
- 13.2 We will also work directly with Private Landlords to make sure that they take advantage of grant support that will improve energy efficiency, making their properties better insulated and in due course as close to net zero carbon as possible and also add value to their properties in doing so.
- 13.3 This is dependent on the government introducing a replacement for the failed Green Homes Grant Scheme which it is understood will be announced in November this year. The costs to the Council will be limited but it is likely that additional staff capacity will be required to assist our residents navigating the process. This is likely to be a cost of c.£50K for the first two years of the

schemes operation (assuming to be 2022/23 and 2023/24) after which it may not be needed as the public become more informed and prepared.

14 Economic Development Regeneration strategy

- 14.1 The Council are developing an Economic Development Regeneration strategy to ensure that sectors championing delivery of products and services which reduce carbon emissions are supported and encouraged to locate in the Borough.
- 14.2 We are already working with the Enterprise Zone – Herts IQ – at Maylands where 8000 jobs will be delivered in the next 15 years or so with a focus on both getting High Tech and Companies focusing on sustainability. This would include getting off-site construction manufacturers located locally to have a more local input into the new homes for the Borough. Maylands overall has received a £2M decarbonisation grant to assist businesses to become more energy efficient and sustainable.
- 14.3 We will also work with local businesses to help them decarbonise their current operations and to take advantage of the huge amount of work that will take place in bringing the homes in Dacorum up to fully sustainable standard. It is felt that no additional cost will be required on top of resources already in place or earmarked.

15. Community action

- 15.1 Working with our residents and communities will be one of the most important areas that will make a real difference to the Borough overall. Our aim is to provide an easy to access, up to date and informative communications strategy for our residents and businesses to help them play their part on reaching net zero carbon by 2050. Whether encouraging residents to cycle more or turn their thermostats down, behavioural change will be vital to reducing the borough's emissions and increasing biodiversity. Working alongside the community to engage, enable and educate will be critical in order to achieve net-zero by 2050.
- 15.2 The Council will use its 'spheres of influence' to encourage as much change as possible through a wide programme of frequent campaigns and initiatives, utilising local, national and global action. To support with this, Dacorum's Climate Action Network (Dacorum CAN) has been established and will work to deliver this programme, as well as encourage volunteer activities and partnership working and host events. The network will encourage residents to "think global and act local" and will work to bring together local groups and individuals. This will help to drive progress forward, amplify campaign messages, and support local initiatives and projects to get off the ground. A range of sub-groups will be created to focus on specific demographics, such as for schools - Dacorum's Young Climate Action Network (You-CAN), businesses, and Parish and Town Councils, etc. Campaigns and projects run via the Climate Action Network for the community will carry a fluctuating cost which is likely to come from the existing budget.
- 15.3 In order to help encourage action from local groups we have launched an annual Green Community Grant scheme, which has already given away £10,000 to local projects.

- 15.4 To keep the community informed and engaged, it is proposed that we will host an annual Climate and Ecological Emergency conference and networking event. This will update on and celebrate progress within the borough, as well as provide an update on the work that needs to be done in order to meet our environmental targets. Alongside this we will also publish annual Climate and Ecological Emergency progress reports on our website, as well as annual emissions reports for the wider borough.
- 15.5 The initial priority is to completely update the Climate and Ecological Emergency presence on the Council's website and social media platforms. This will be a one off investment of to improve the website plus some funding for future publicity, events and campaigns etc. which will require c. £50K in total. The improvement to the website and on-line presence can establish the Council as the 'go-to' place for information on how to get involved, how to make changes which help the environment, and how to access government and energy provider funding for improvement in insulation and energy efficiency in our homes.
- 15.6 The Council has recently partnered with the Energy Saving Trust to deliver an energy efficiency app for householders. In order to maximise the impact of this, this initiative is being rolled out through HCCSP. DBC has taken the lead on this and will be the first local authority to be rolling this out in the UK. This has a one-off set-up cost of less than £600 and an ongoing cost of 0.15p per user – which is expected to cost under £1000 a year.
- 15.7 The Council is now funding two posts and has provided a budget of £100K per year from reserves. Given the likely upsurge in community interest and government action resulting from COP26 it is felt that this needs to rise to £150K for 2022/23. The additional £50K would be focused on outreach work with the local community on events and initiatives (some requiring small funding to get off the ground) to help encourage interest and behaviour change.

Estimated cost of Climate and Ecological Emergency

Table One = Summary of initial costing

Action Area	£2022/23	£2023 onwards	Comments
General Fund Buildings Scopes 1&2	£2.5M@	£10 -15 M +@	Choices may have to be made to determine if some buildings would be retained if cost exceeds useful purpose
General Fund Buildings Scope 3	£1.5M@	£20-25M+@	Initial cost required for GF residential premises to meet EPC requirements. On the rest of the portfolio choices may have to be made to determine if some buildings would be retained if cost exceeds likely return
Council House new build (HRA)	£2,5M	£2.5M per annum	Assumes additional cost of £20K per unit on 100 homes delivered a year. This may reduce over time as industry gears up to required scale.
Decarbonisation of Fleet		£3-3.5M TBA	Essentially this is the replacement of the vehicles and machinery for refuse, cleansing and grounds maintenance. There would be costs over and above replacing like for like where the products were dearer and, in the case of electric vehicles, the cost of installation of charging units and any additional power requirements.
Offsetting	£25K	£25K consultancy Investment TBA	Initial consultancy work will be carried out in 21/22, Thereafter schemes selected to be funded would procure the appropriate technical advice for the business plan and the delivery. The aim wherever possible would be to fund projects with a real return and payback for investment.
HRA housing retrofitting (HRA)	TBA	£150-180M@	This will be phased with energy efficiency improvements first followed by non-fossil fuel energy solutions for heating.
Contracts		Likely 5-10% uplift TBA	By requiring contractors/suppliers to deliver services and products in a more sustainable way there will most likely be an increase in costs. This will not be apparent until contracts are retendered.
Biodiversity improvements		Strategy funded Future action to follow the completed strategy	The biodiversity strategy is being worked on and will have an impact in particular on Clean Green and Safe. Residents will be expecting the Council to lead on improving biodiversity and this will have some increase in revenue costs. This will be for the Council to determine in due course
Recycling rate increase		Dependent on outcome of government review of waste collection TBA	The target is to reach a 63% recycling rate by 2025. This will require some changes in operations to achieve and must be done in conjunction with the Waste Partnership and conform to the outcome of the government review due in January 2022. Early indications were that a more consistent approach across councils would be mandated. Once these are

Action Area	£2022/23	£2023 onwards	Comments
			clear a plan can be put in place
Local Plan		N/A	Already covered by Local Plan budget
Sustainable Transport		TBA	This will be funded by a combination of developer contributions, government grants and the private sector identifying market opportunities. The detail of the government's strategy and funding arrangements will be crucial
Private dwelling retrofitting @		£50K for first two years of funded government scheme(s)	This will only be possible when the government is clear on the approach to greening private homes and the level of financial and industry support it is prepared to give. On the assumption that there will be a more effective Green Homes programme the Council's role would be to ensure that it was making up to date information available and provided a degree of support on navigating the system to those households unable to do it on their own. The proposal is that a post be funded for the first two years of any programme.
Economic Development		N/A	Already funded
Community action and information		£50K Increase central budget to £150K a year (£50k Increase)	To meet requirements of providing the best possible information to our residents to achieve the behaviour changes they are seeking with respect of the emergency. Supporting local groups and individuals on community based projects. Increasing Council profile with events, school links and working with businesses. This may require increased staffing capacity in future years.

@ : indicates that grant funding likely to available

Sources of technical support and evidence

Emissions Data

- **APSE Energy** – Dacorum's Carbon Emissions Report
 - *The Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) has a sub-division called APSE Energy which is specifically responsible for supporting local authorities with actions related to the climate emergency. DBC commissioned APSE Energy to collate our emissions information and generate our organisational carbon footprint.*
- **BEIS** - [UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2018 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
 - *BEIS have been pulling together local authority carbon dioxide emissions since 2005 – these are the official government figures.*

- **Tyndall Centre** - [Local and Regional Implications of the United Nations Paris Agreement on Climate Change \(manchester.ac.uk\)](https://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/tyndall-centre/)
 - *The Tyndall Centre is one of the leading climate research centres in the UK and is a trusted expert resource. They have created reports and carbon budgets for each local authority area.*
- **SCATTER** - [SCATTER \(scattercities.com\)](https://scattercities.com/)
 - *SCATTER is a local authority focussed emissions tool, built to help create low-carbon local authorities. The tool and data provides local authorities and city regions with the opportunity to standardise their greenhouse gas reporting and align to international frameworks, including the setting of targets in line with the Paris Climate Agreement.*

Transport

- **Field Dynamics** - 'Jumpstart' report and data.
 - *Field Dynamics are a sustainability consultancy that specialise in electric vehicles and have prior experience working with local authorities. We were one of the first local authorities to work with them on their 'jumpstart' report. This required several hours of workshops with officers to tailor a report that was specifically for DBC. The outcome was a report and data for officers to use in future.*
- **Electric Vehicle Residents Survey**
 - *The Council have been running an EV residents survey since February 2020. The survey is ongoing and available on the Council website. It is a useful method of capturing residents interest and comments regarding EV charging. Reports can be pulled off at any time.*

Homes

- **Energy Saving Trust** – Home Analytics Data and Report
 - *The Energy Saving Trust is a large independent organisation working to address the climate emergency. Often used by the government for rolling out initiatives to householders. They also work with businesses and local authorities. They have a package that they offer to LAs called 'Home Analytics Report' which provides information regarding the actual and accurately forecasted EPC rating of all homes within the borough, as well as information on what actions could be taken to improve home energy efficiency, what these actions would cost, the costs saved on energy bills, the carbon emission savings, etc. The outcome was the report as well as data provided to us which officers can use moving forward.*

Biodiversity

- **Treeconomics - iTree reports**
 - *i-Tree is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban and rural forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools. The i-Tree tools can help strengthen forest management and advocacy efforts by quantifying forest structure and the environmental benefits that trees provide.*
 - **Eco Inventory Report** – *this provides information about all of the trees growing on council-owned land and the eco-system services that they provide – e.g. flood mitigation, carbon sequestration and associated costs and values of these trees and their management.*
 - **Tree Planting Strategy** – *expert information suggesting where trees could be planted on our own land which we can use in future to create our own tree planting strategies.*
- **Hertfordshire State of Nature Report – Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust**
 - *A report created by HMWT which highlights the decline of local wildlife populations and the need for action.*

If you would like to access any of these reports, please email Members Support.



Dacorum Borough Council's

CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL

EMERGENCY STRATEGY

DRAFT

Dacorum Borough Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy

Contents

- Foreword
- Introduction
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- Planning for Action
 - Climate and Ecological Action Plan
 - Spheres of Influence
 - Partnership working
 - High Level Actions
- Transport
- Energy Use in Buildings
- Biodiversity
- Sustainable Communities
- Additional Information and Appendices

DECLARING A

CLIMATE & ECOLOGICAL

EMERGENCY

We are facing a climate and ecological emergency

Dacorum and the Climate and Ecological Emergency

Dacorum Borough Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 following the release of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report which announced that we have until 2030 to limit warming to 1.5C or face catastrophic circumstances. Over 75% of other local authorities in the UK have now also made this declaration.

The original IPCC warning has been further cemented by an additional report released in 2021, which gave a 'code red' for humanity and confirmed that human activity is unequivocally to blame for climate change and that we have a very small window of time to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change.

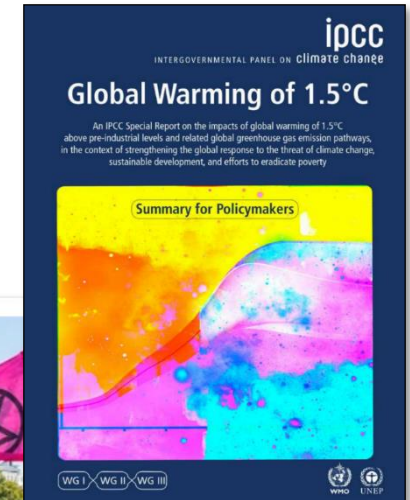
A similarly alarming 'Living Planet Report' was released in 2020, confirming that in the past 50 years global wildlife populations have plummeted by a shocking 68%. Climate change and biodiversity loss are intrinsically linked and it is impossible to talk about the causes and effects of one, without the other. In light of this, we will be working to address both of these environmental issues locally under the term 'Climate and Ecological Emergency'.

As part of our commitment to this work, we have made the Climate and Ecological Emergency one of our key priorities in our Corporate Plan.

This strategy outlines how we will be planning to tackle these environmental issues locally over the next few years and is based on three fundamental facts:

1. We are in a Climate and Ecological Emergency.
2. This has been caused by human actions.
3. This can be solved by human actions, and it is everyone's responsibility.

This strategy is a call to action. We call on you, as people who live, work, visit and invest in Dacorum, to join with us on this ambitious journey.



Dacorum's Key Objectives:

The challenge of addressing the Climate and Ecological Emergency cannot be underestimated. It requires rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society. As part of our Climate Emergency Declaration and Statement of Intent (*appendix*), a number of commitments were made. Alongside consultancy with APSE Energy and discussion internally, these can be summarised in our three key objectives:

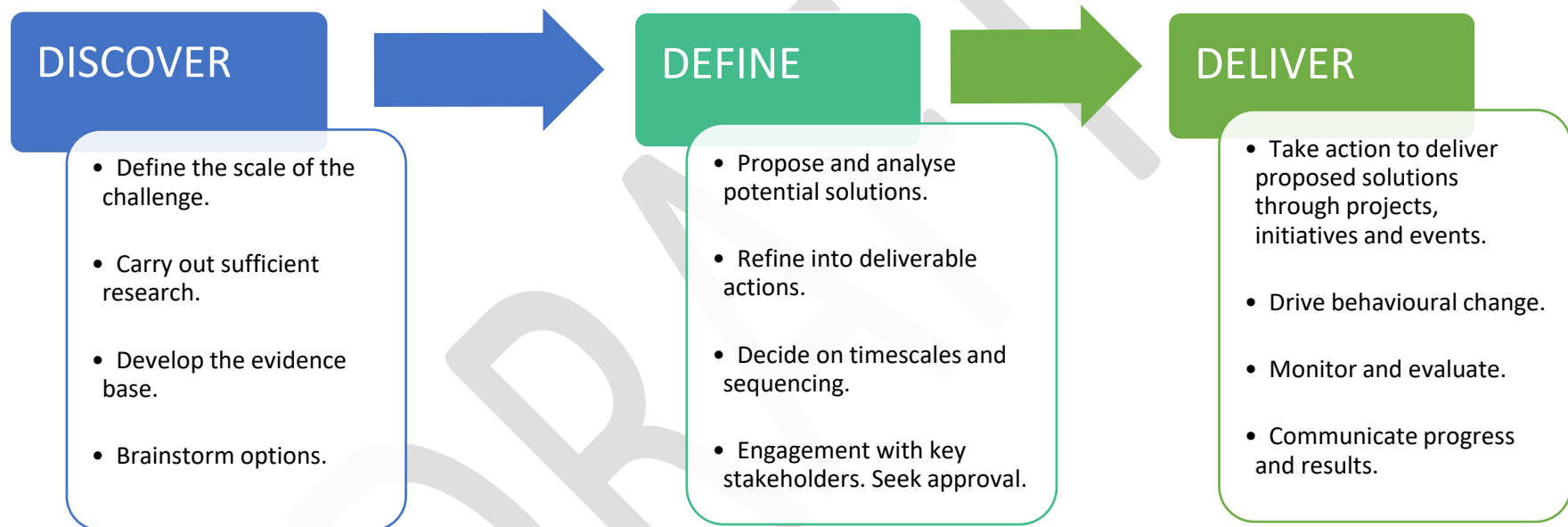
- 1. Reach net-zero emissions as an organisation by 2030**
- 2. Reach net-zero emissions for our Council housing stock as quickly as possible, by 2050 at the latest.**
- 3. Support the borough in reducing its emissions and reaching net-zero as quickly as possible, by 2050 at the latest.**
- 4. Support the borough in improving biodiversity**
- 5. Support the borough in creating more sustainable communities.**

Discover, define, deliver...

One of the original pledges when making the Carbon Emergency declaration was to “*evaluate all practical means to reduce the impact of council services on the environment as soon as possible*”. This has been a key part of our progress so far.

In order to implement solutions, it is important that we first ensure that we are taking the right actions. To do this we must carry out research to ensure that the steps we take are evidence-based and will be suitably impactful.

The phases we have been and will continue to be applying throughout this strategy can be broken down into three key stages:



These phases are not always simple and linear, and work streams can be at different stages depending on various factors, such as resources and finances.

As part of our 'Discovery' phase, we have been gathering information from a range of sources.

- Obtaining and processing emissions data
- Using expert consultants for particular projects
- Carrying out resident surveys, such as 'Learning from Lockdown'.
- Working in partnership with other organisations to share research, information and best practice.
- Attending various webinars and conferences
- Keeping abreast of topics via reports and news articles
- Becoming members of environmental groups
- Training our staff

Carbon Literate Organisation

Dacorum has become the first borough council in the UK to achieve a Silver level 'Carbon Literate Organisation' accreditation.

The Carbon Literacy Training course was recognised by the United Nations at the Paris Climate Conference, where it was chosen as one of 100 worldwide Transformative Action Programs. Following from our Climate Emergency declaration, we wanted to prepare staff for our net-zero journey by equipping them with sufficient knowledge on climate change. We worked with APSE Energy to deliver Carbon Literacy Training to 60 key members of staff, including our CEO, making her the second ever CEO of a council in the UK to achieve this.

Staff learned about the science and causes of climate change, the effect it is already having and the predicted future impact, before then exploring the solutions we can take as individuals, as well as a council.

By completing this training, Dacorum is now accredited as a Silver level Carbon Literate Organisation (CLO) as we have demonstrated that we have made a substantial commitment to Carbon Literacy.



UNDERSTANDING OUR EMISSIONS

UK's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

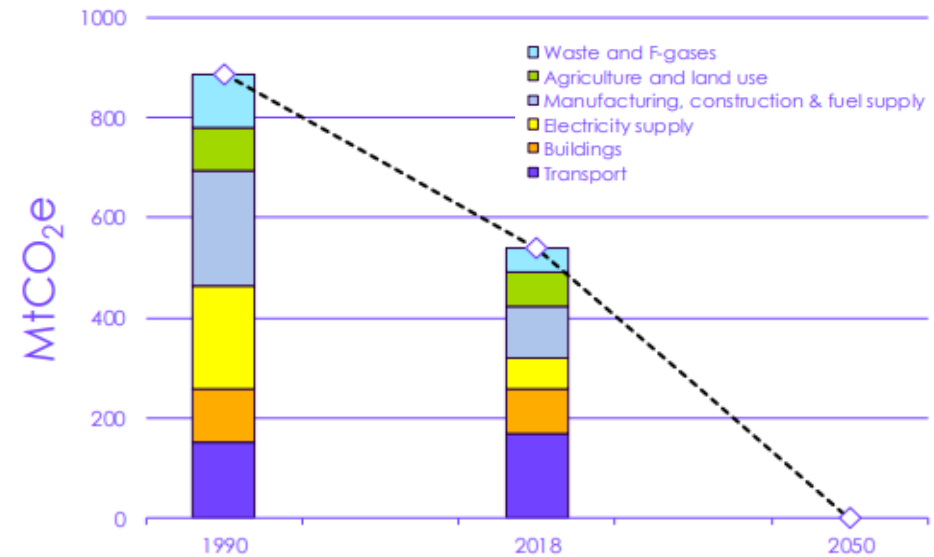
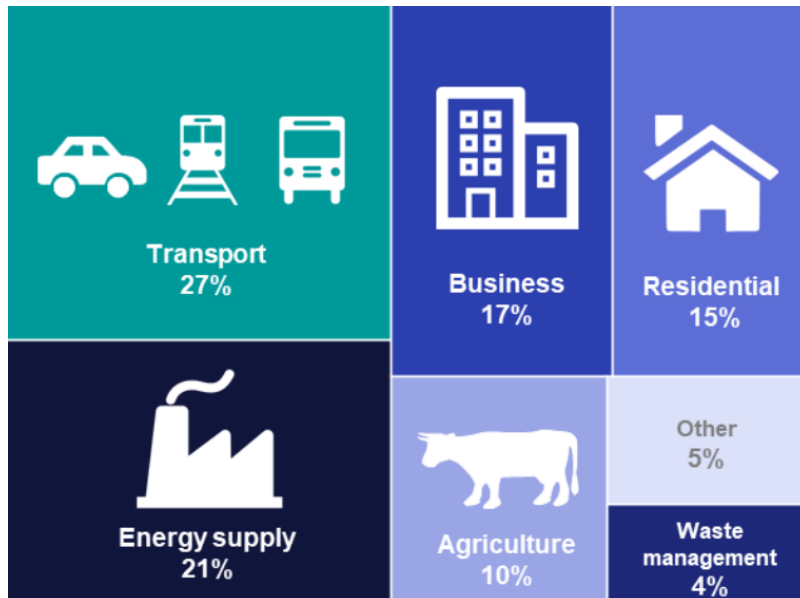
In 2019, the UK was responsible for 455 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

- This was a decrease of 3% compared to 2018 emissions, and 44% lower than 1990 emission levels.
- Emissions from energy supply are now 65% lower than they were in 1990.
- Transport remains the largest emitting sector, responsible for 27% of all greenhouse gas emissions in the UK.

The below infographic shows the UK greenhouse gas emissions breakdown by sector.

Current government targets are for the UK to become net-zero by 2050, however, the speed of emission reductions and the 'journey' taken to reach this target also has a great deal of importance. The government recently set a target of reducing emissions by 78% by 2035 based on 1990 levels. To meet net-zero in the UK, emissions must fall in all sectors and at a faster rate than the last 30 years.

More information about UK emissions is available in 'additional information'.



Dacorum's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Comparing Emissions Data Sources

It is important when looking at emissions data to be clear on what scopes you are including, what year the data is based on and what greenhouse gases are being measured.

Due to the complexity of calculating emissions, there are a variety of ways to do so and even the most current information is typically over two years old.

For emissions at a local authority level, there are two different key data sources – as each of these are slightly different, but both useful, we will be providing both and explaining their key differences.

BEIS

The Government Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) annually publish local authority level emissions data – known as their National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory. This data only accounts for carbon emissions (CO2) under scopes 1 and 2.

BEIS have published this data from 2005 - 2019.

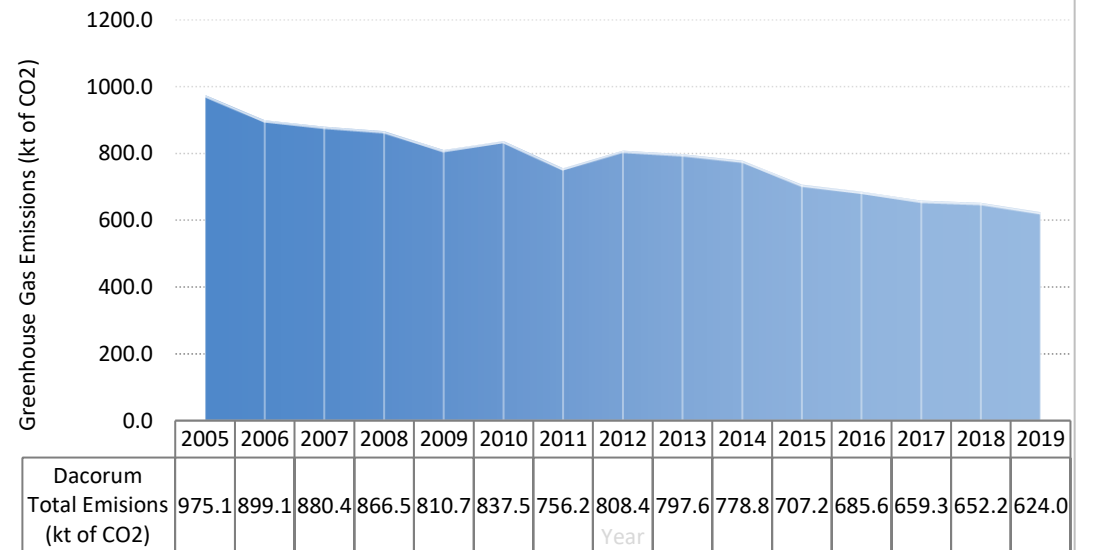
BEIS 2019 carbon emissions data for Dacorum = 624,000 tonnes (tCO2)

There was a decrease of 4.3% compared to 2018 emissions, and a 36% reduction on 2005 emission levels.

The boroughs emissions represent less than 0.2% of UK emissions. The main cause of this reduction has been the changes in the way our electricity from the National Grid is produced, with a reduction in coal fired power stations and an increase in renewables and nuclear power plants.



Dacorum Carbon Emissions - 2005 - 2019



SCATTER

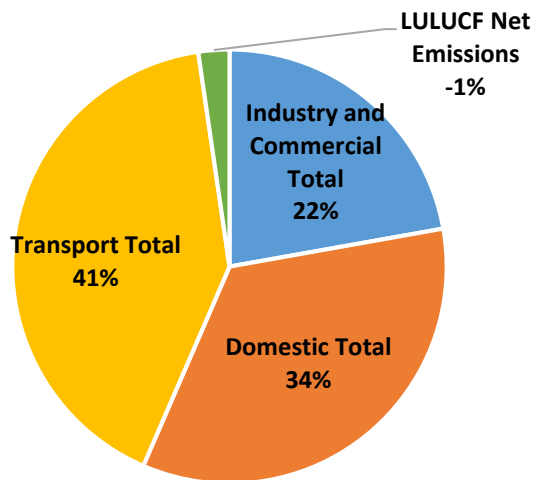
The Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emissions Reduction (SCATTER) tool is a local authority focussed emissions resource which accounts for all greenhouse gas emissions and all scopes 1-3. SCATTER is a relatively new tool and has emissions data available for 2017 and 2018 only.

SCATTER 2018 greenhouse gas emissions data for Dacorum = 933,400 tonnes (tCO₂e)

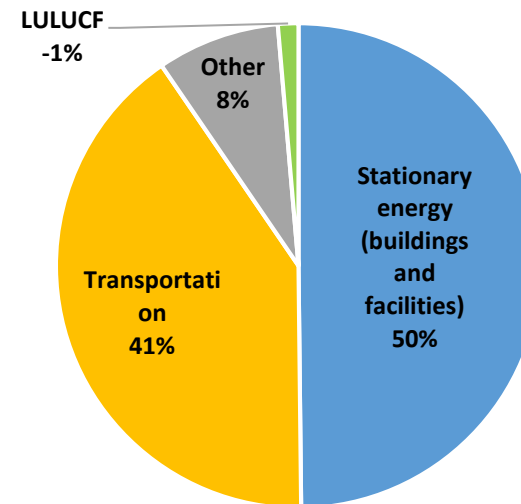
- The SCATTER CO₂e emissions data for scopes 1 and 2 is 739kt CO₂e – BEIS CO₂ emissions data symbolises 88% of this.
- The SCATTER CO₂e emissions for all scopes 1-3 is 933kt CO₂e - BEIS data symbolises 70% of this

The below charts show that although the difference between the two data sources is fairly high, the key breakdown information remains the same that transport and energy in buildings are the biggest emitters.

Dacorum CO₂ Emissions - 2019
Scopes 1-2 BEIS



Dacorum Greenhouse Gas Emissions - 2018
Scopes 1 - 3 - SCATTER



SCATTER

SCATTER also has a Pathways tool allowing us to model different scenarios based on different sectors, such as domestic or transport and comparing the differences in future emissions between 'high ambition scenarios' and 'low ambition scenarios'. As an example, we are able to predict that by 2050, in order to reach net-zero in our domestic sector as a whole borough, we will need to be offsetting in the region of 400,000 – 1,315,000 tonnes of CO₂e.

More information about the borough's historical emissions, breakdowns of emissions data and SCATTER pathways is available in 'additional information'.



Dacorum Borough Council's organisational emissions

To reach our organisation's net-zero emissions targets and plan the necessary actions, we needed to first calculate our current organisational emissions. To do this we worked with APSE (Association for Public Service Excellence). The calculations were undertaken in accordance with best practise guidance by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and carbon conversion factors published by BEIS.

Dacorum Borough Council was responsible for 39,000 tonnes of CO2e as an organisation in 2019 for scopes 1-3.

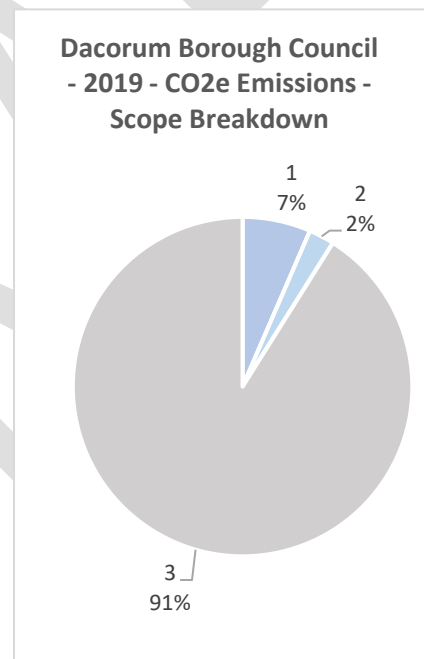
As an organisation, our emissions represent:

- 6.25% of the borough's total greenhouse gas emissions, if we include all scopes (which includes the housing stock)
- 0.5% of the boroughs' total greenhouse gas emissions, if we include just scopes 1 and 2
- Less than 0.01% of the UKs emissions

Emissions included within Scope 1 and 2 essentially cover assets where the Council are responsible for paying the fuel bills. The Council owned housing stock of 10,500 homes makes up the majority of the organisations emissions – these fall under Scope 3 as the Council own the buildings but do not occupy them or pay the energy bills.

Many net-zero declarations from other local authorities, especially the ones with targets of 2030 or similar, exclude Scope 3 emissions and focus on Scopes 1 and 2 only.

Due to the scale of emissions that come from the Council housing stock and the amount of work that would need to be carried out, it would be unfeasible to make these homes net-zero by 2030. However, to ensure this crucial element is still addressed, this is why we have set a separate objective specifically to achieve net-zero for our housing stock by 2050.



Emissions Source	Scope	Tonnes CO2e	% Split
Gas	1	2,123	5.4%
Council Vehicles	1	398	1%
Electricity	2	950	2.4%
Housing	3	33,978	87.1%
Leased Assets	3	1,381	3.5%
Transmission & Distribution	3	68	0.2%
Employee Vehicle	3	65	0.2%
Water Supply and Wastewater	3	39	0.1%
Total	-	39,002	100%

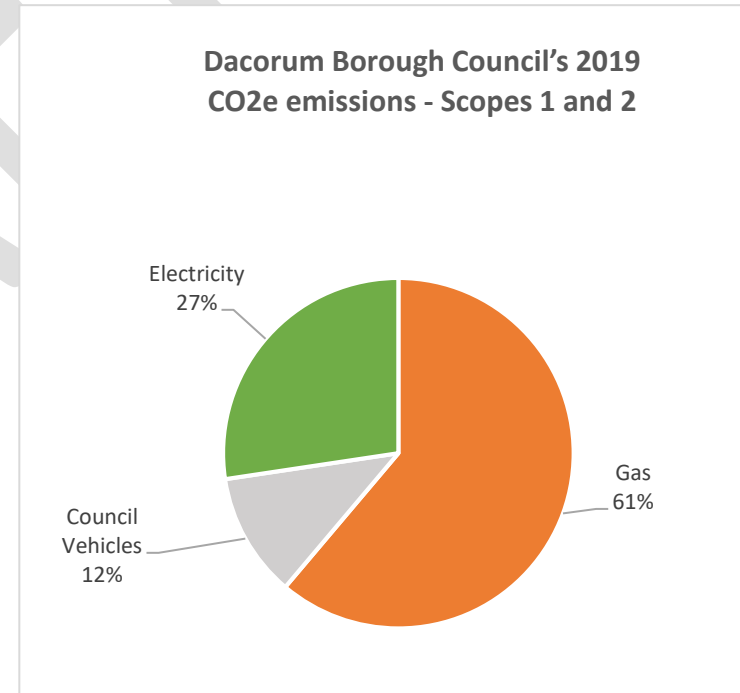
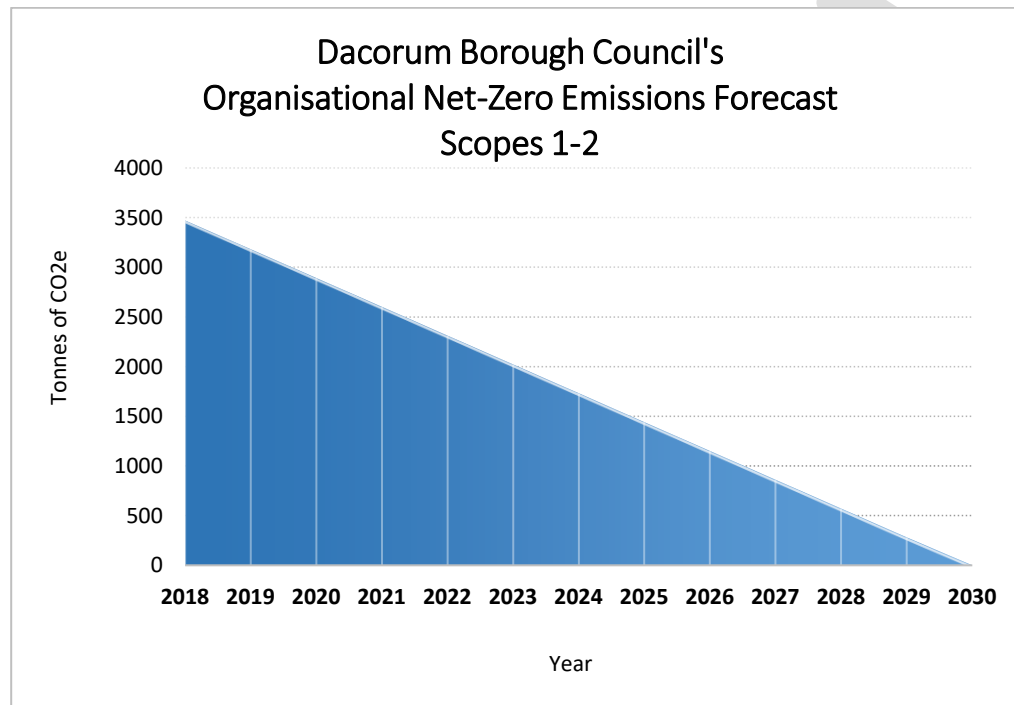
Reaching Net-Zero Emissions

Objective 1:

Being net-zero as an organisation by 2030

Our objective for reaching net-zero as an organisation by 2030 will be for Scopes 1 and 2 only. The majority of emissions come from gas (61%), then electricity (27%) and finally council vehicles (12%).

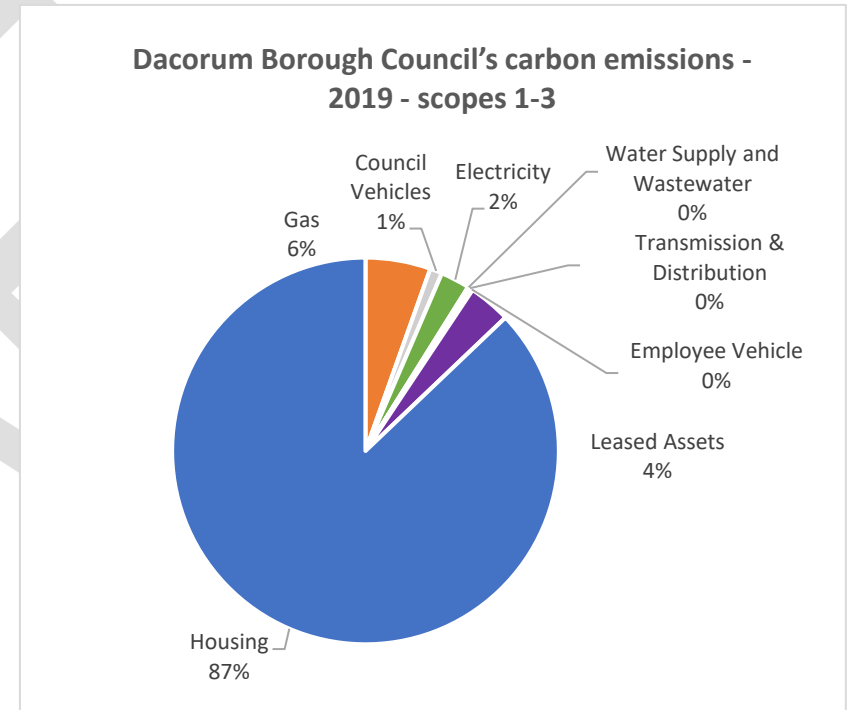
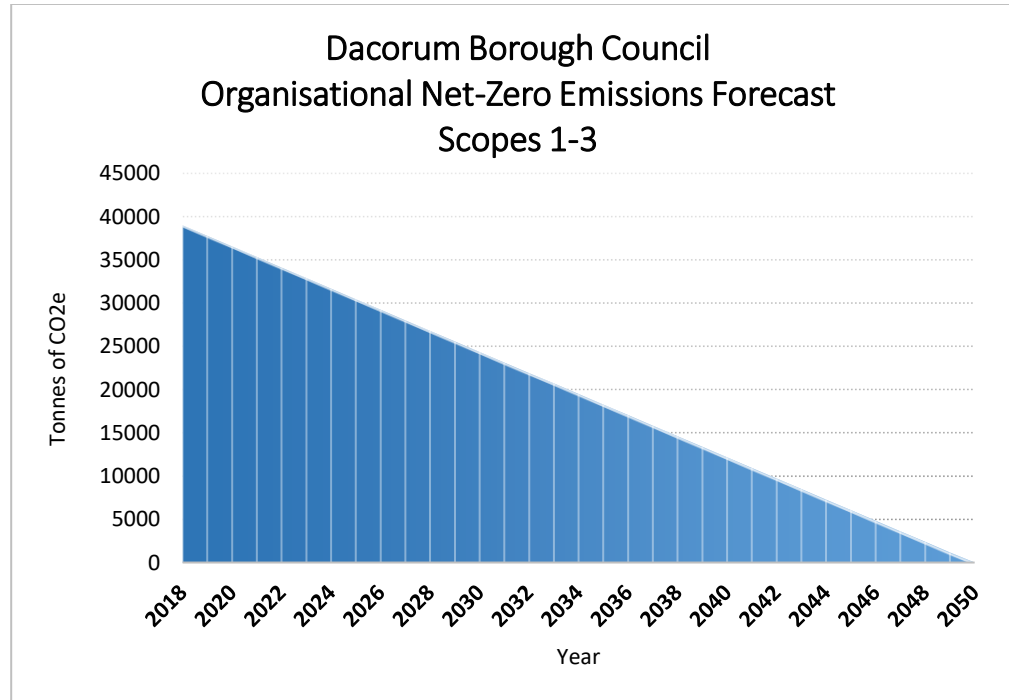
Measuring progress: By 2025, the organisational emissions should have dropped below 1440 tonnes of CO₂e for us to be on track for reaching net-zero by 2030.



Objective 2:

Having a net-zero housing stock by 2050.

Measuring progress: By 2025, the organisational emissions should have dropped below 30,500 tonnes of CO₂, and to below 34,500 by 2030, for us to be on track for reaching net-zero by 2050.



Objective 3:

Supporting the borough to become net-zero as quickly as practicably possible, by 2050 at the latest.

Measuring progress: By 2025, the borough's emissions should have dropped below 500,000 tonnes of CO₂, and to below 400,000 by 2030, for us to be on track for reaching net-zero by 2050.

Cumulative emissions

Once carbon dioxide reaches the atmosphere it can take between 300-1000 years to breakdown.

For this reason, it is crucial to take steps to lower emissions as quickly as possible in order to lower the cumulative amount of emissions.

The Tyndall Centre have outlined an emission reduction curve based on a carbon budget that has been specifically shaped for Dacorum and allows for cumulative emissions of 4,050,000 tonnes of carbon. This is based on the commitments made in the United Nations Paris Agreement. Read more about the [Tyndall report](#).

Forecast lines have been added onto the graph to demonstrate linear reductions for reaching net-zero by 2030, 2040 and 2050. The cumulative emissions would be as follows:

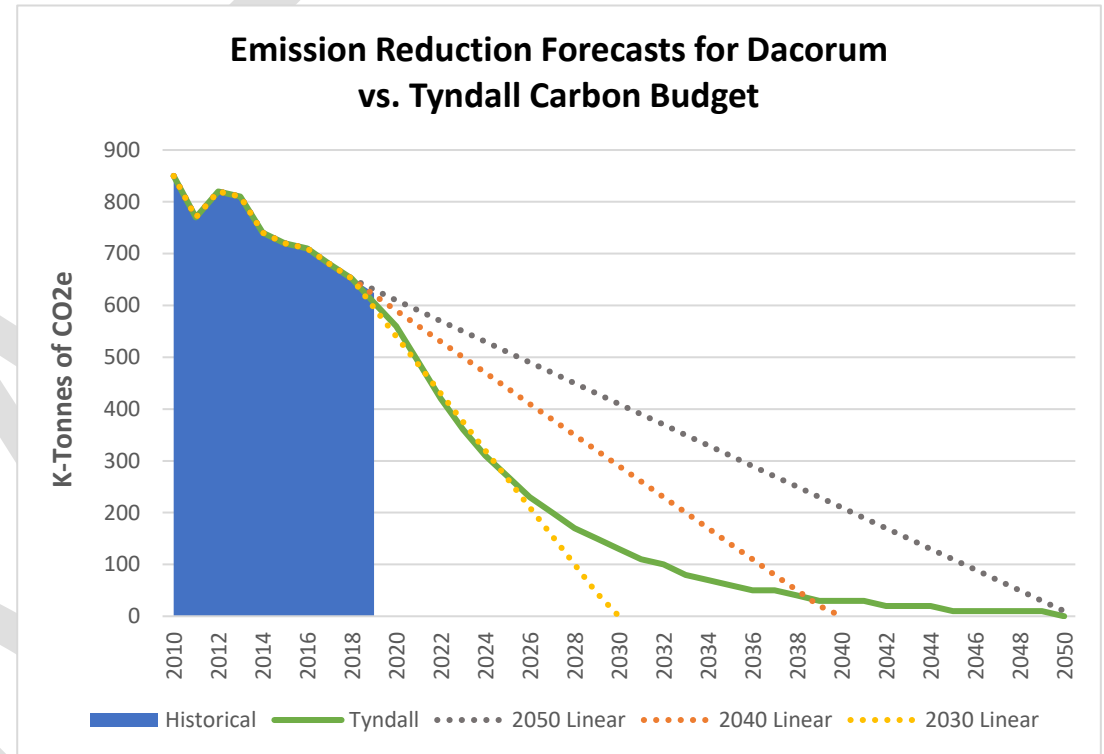
- **2,925,000** tonnes of CO₂ if net-zero by 2030
- **6,100,000** tonnes of CO₂ if net-zero by 2040
- **9,610,000** tonnes of CO₂ if net-zero by 2050

The cumulative emissions which will be in the atmosphere by the time we reach net-zero if we follow a linear route is more than double our carbon budget set by the Tyndall Centre. This demonstrates that we need to move as quickly as possible to help reduce the borough's emissions as significantly as we can.

Offsetting

In order to reach our net-zero targets there will be a need for 'offsetting' any emissions that we cannot avoid or reduce. This can be done through initiatives such as increasing the amount of renewable energy produced in the borough and capturing carbon naturally – such as with additional tree-planting. We will be developing a Carbon and Biodiversity Offset Fund to help pay for environmental projects

These schemes will be included in our CEE Action Plan and are highlighted throughout this strategy.



PLANNING FOR ACTION

Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan

We have broken down the areas that we will be focusing on to achieve our objectives into four key areas:

1. Sustainable Transport
2. Energy Use in Buildings
3. Improving Biodiversity
4. Sustainable Communities

As shown by the emissions data, transport and energy used in buildings are the two largest emitting sectors. However, as the Council itself is responsible for less than 4% of the borough's emissions, a large focus of our work will be supporting change from the wider community.

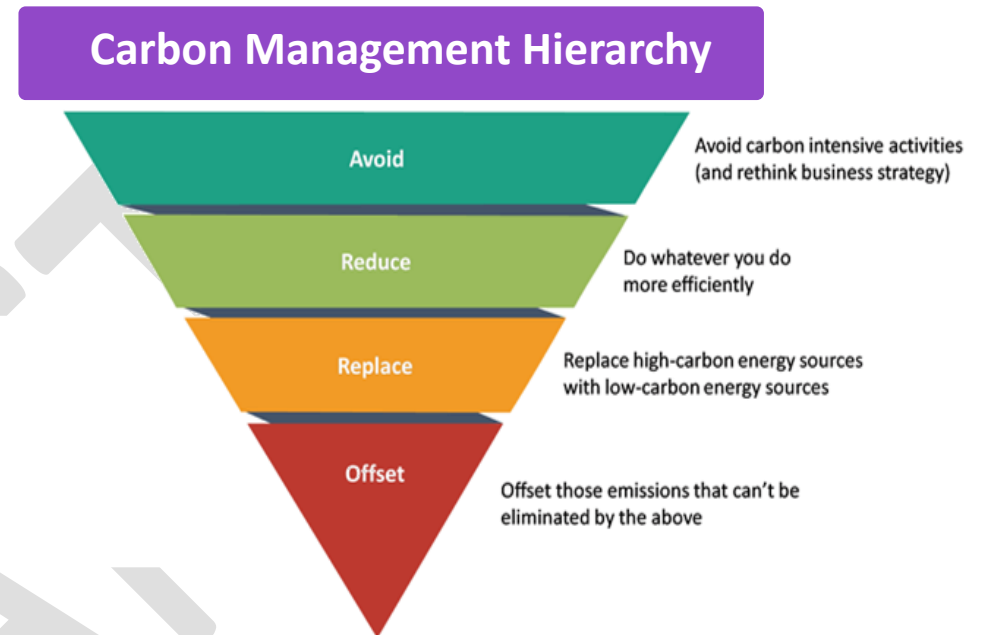
A Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Action Plan has been developed which will collate all of the actions across all of our key work areas that will help us achieve our objectives.

The CEE Action Plan is broken down into short, medium, long-term and ongoing actions. It will remain a 'live' document – meaning that it will be under constant review and development and be updated regularly to reflect the progression of projects, initiatives and events. We will use it to track, monitor and report our progress on particular targets and assign responsibilities. Before actions are added into the CEE Action Plan, they will be evaluated to ensure that they are:

- Progressing the pathway to reaching our key objectives by their respective deadlines
- Following the Carbon Management Hierarchy, where applicable
- Evidence-based
- S.M.A.R.T. goals
- Futureproof
- Suitably ambitious

Within this strategy we outline some of the progress made in these key areas so far, as well as provide a high level overview of some of the actions that we will be working on. We have broken these down into internal and external actions, as well as suggested actions that individuals can take in these areas as well. This is by no means a comprehensive breakdown but is designed to provide an insight into areas of focus.

We will release an annual Climate and Ecological Emergency Report to outline progress made on our objectives and to report on the borough's emissions.



Spheres of Influence

The Council is able to make a larger impact through its 'spheres of influence'.

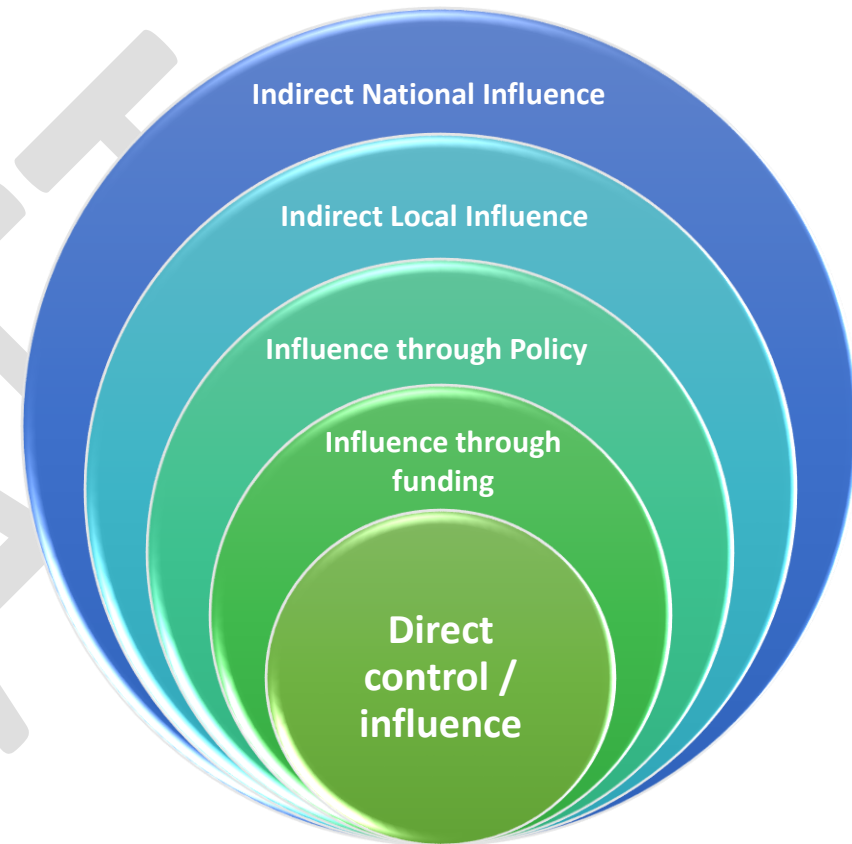
The Council has limited powers, responsibilities, resources and finances. Many of the changes that will be required to achieve our climate targets will be the responsibility of others including public, private and third sectors and individuals. It is therefore important that these net-zero targets are understood to be everyone's responsibility.

As a local authority, we are uniquely able to influence other areas outside of our direct control through funding and policy, as well as having additional indirect impacts locally and nationally.

These 'spheres' determine whether the actions the Council undertakes is direct and internally acted upon, done in partnership with others, or whether it is an indirect policy, funding or education role we have to play.

The impact the Council can have should not be underestimated as a third of UK emissions comes from residential buildings, surface transport and waste – all of which are key areas which councils can influence.

As we develop our CEE Action Plan, we will ensure that we will be considering all of the ways in which we can utilise our 'spheres of influence' to achieve the best possible impact and outcome.



Partnership working

The Council work closely with a range of partners to deliver on various projects.

One of the original pledges when making the Carbon Emergency declaration was to “*work with the established groups of Hertfordshire Public Sector Organisations to review their services and implement measures to reduce their impact on the environment and climate breakdown*”.

Sustainable Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire County Council have also declared a climate emergency and have set out their three key commitments to make Hertfordshire cleaner, greener and more sustainable:

- 1. Lead in our own operations:** As an organisation, they want to be carbon neutral by 2030 and improve nature on their land by 20% by 2030
- 2. Enable sustainability with our programmes, policies and decisions:** In Hertfordshire, they want to be a net-zero carbon county before 2050 and to improve wildlife across the county by 20% by 2050
- 3. Inspire businesses and residents to take action:** They will ask energy companies to develop a regional net zero energy strategy; support public transport growth, including taxi, bus and rail and encourage walking and cycling over car travel and promote more low emission vehicles and charging points.

Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership

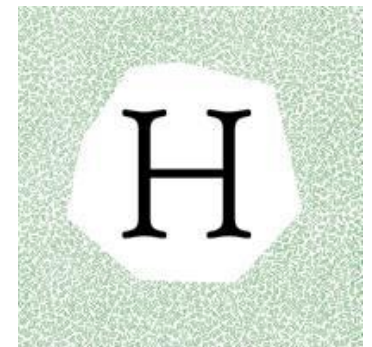
The Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership (HCCSP) was formed in March 2020 and consists of all 10 districts and boroughs, Hertfordshire County Council (HCC), and the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (Herts LEP). The partnership works collaboratively to identify joint work programmes on climate change, as well as wider sustainability and environmental issues throughout Hertfordshire. More information can be found on their website: www.hccsp.org.uk



Hemel Garden Communities

Hemel Garden Communities (HGC) is an ambitious development programme in partnership with St Albans District Council, HCC and the Herts LEP.

The project aims to transform Hemel Hempstead and create attractive and sustainable new neighbourhoods and communities to the north and east of the town, through the delivery of over 11,000 new homes. New neighbourhoods will be set around local centres, green spaces and play areas, all easily accessed on foot. Sustainable travel such as walking, cycling and public transport will be given priority as they aim to target a greener, healthier environment, which includes open spaces as well as new country and district parks.



Climate and Ecological Emergency - Internal High Level Actions

High level actions the Council will take to ensure it achieves net zero for Scopes 1 and 2 (emissions directly under our control) by 2030 and for Scope 3 (where the Council owns the buildings but doesn't control the use of energy) by 2050 at the latest.

Buildings owned and used by the Council to deliver services.

The Council will carry out the surveying work, initially on our main buildings (The Forum, Berkhamsted Town Hall, Victoria Hall, Cupid Green Depot, Adventure Playgrounds and Cemeteries) to determine the initial work required to make them as energy efficient as possible. This is in progress.

Following this a programme will be drawn up regarding the works required. Initially, this will be largely improvements to insulation plus installation of solar panels where possible. Achieving net zero will require non-fossil fuelled efficient and economic heating systems which currently are not yet sufficiently developed but should be in the next few years as we move away from gas.

Government decarbonisation grants have been made available for 'shovel ready projects' that have sufficient evidence, which is why it is crucial to get these sites surveyed.

Converting the Council's vehicle fleet and machinery from fossil fuel powered to green.

This will start by replacing petrol/diesel vehicles as they end their useful life. Initially this will focus on the smaller vehicles.

Our refuse freighters are only a couple of years old and have a lifespan of 7-8 years – as electric alternatives are not as efficient and are currently considerably more expensive. Replacing this part of the fleet is likely to start closer to the 2030 target date.

New build Council Housing

The Council's programme of building new Council homes will achieve at least EPC B and will progressively move as close to net zero carbon as possible. This will require a credible and affordable alternative to gas heating.

Introducing an effective offsetting programme

Offsetting is taking action that produces a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and will be an important part in any carbon reduction plan. Examples are installing green energy such as Solar Farms and Wind Turbines, tree planting and other biodiversity work. It may take the form of

investment in green projects run by the private or public sector. The Council will need some offsetting and will introduce an investment programme to deliver this.

A study carried out for the Council has indicated that the existing Council owned trees sequester 1000 tonnes of CO2 per year. Additional tree planting is a long term approach and still hugely important – but takes 30-40 years to reach sufficient maturity to have maximum impact.

Retrofitting our 10,250 Council homes to achieve net zero carbon by 2050

As 87% of the Council's emissions come from our council homes this is by far the largest investment that will be needed to achieve net zero carbon. The approach will be 'fabric first' where the energy efficiency improvements like insulation and Solar are done before heating systems are changed. Currently there is no alternative to gas that is affordable to run for many tenants. Air and ground source heat pumps are part of the solution for homes not on the gas grid though they often require a secondary heating supplement to achieve acceptable temperatures. The Council will aim to have delivered the energy efficiency works to 90% of the stock by 2030. Introduction of non-fossil fuel heating will commence after 2030 as soon as a credible and affordable alternatives have become generally available.

Revising the Council's approach to procurement of contracts for services to maximise sustainability in delivery

This will involve reviewing contracts coming up for renewal or re-tender and for completely new contracts. Procurement Services will work with Services to build in the appropriate requirements.

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

The Council is already working on developing a Biodiversity Action Plan and this will guide the way in which we build in more measures to improve biodiversity on Council owned land. This will also assist a wide range of voluntary and other organisations to move their land management in the same direction. Involvement of the community will be vital in helping achieve a sustainable Dacorum.

The new Local Plan will require all developers and their schemes to deliver 'biodiversity net gain' either within their development and if this is not possible paying into a Council operated Biodiversity Fund. This action is likely to exceed the extent to which the council itself can deliver.

Increasing the Council's Recycling rate.

The Council will continue to work to increase the recycling rate in the Borough progressively with a recognition that early progress will assist the decarbonisation of the Borough. The Council's target is to achieve a 63% recycling rate by 2025.

Climate and Ecological Emergency - External High Level Actions

High level actions the Council will take to assist the Borough and its businesses and residents achieve net zero carbon by 2050.

As a borough, Dacorum must reduce its emissions at a rapid speed in order to remain within its designated carbon budget as per the Paris Agreement. Ideally, borough emissions need to drop by approximately 57% by 2025 compared to 2019 levels.

The Council accounts for less than 5% of the borough's emissions. For this reason, a large focus of the Council's work must be on supporting external action.

Ensure that the new Local Plan will result in the highest level of sustainable new development that the Planning regulations allow.

The developing local plan already includes requirements to deliver new development to at least the highest standards within government guidance and to promote net zero carbon development. It also has very strong protection for biodiversity and the environment requiring developers to ensure a biodiversity uplift. Where they can't they will have to pay the equivalent into a 'Biodiversity Offset Fund' which will help local sustainability action. Another key requirement for larger developments will be for them to demonstrate how they can deliver a sustainable place with a focus on accessible open space, facilities that are in walking distance and making it easier to walk and cycle.

Buildings owned by the Council and leased to other organisations.

This includes Neighbourhood Centre shops, flats and maisonettes on top of the shops, Community Centres, commercial lettings and other properties leased to partner organisations including community organisations and the Sports Centres. Given the large volume of these, the deadline is 2050. The programme will commence with the surveying work and subsequent actions that this points to.

Develop and implement a sustainable transport plan

This should encourage a move away from cars to walking, cycling and use of public transport together with a strategy to ensure we can engage with the private sector to install Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points and rapid charging centres in the Borough and that we have EV charging points in our Council car parks.

This element of work will form part of the Local Plan and all new developments and will be in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council, which is the Transport Authority. The Council will continue to work with HCC on its Local Transport Plan covering the Borough. Some improvements will require government action and funding particularly in the move away from fossil fuelled vehicles.

We have carried out a study to predict electric vehicle requirements to 2030. As part of this work, it has been estimated that the number of electric vehicles in the borough will increase to 30,000 by 2030 (currently 1000). As over a third of our residents will be unable to charge their cars at home, in order to meet these demands we are likely to need around 700 chargepoints in the borough. Working with private sector providers this will form an ongoing and dedicated project to ensure these growing needs are met. The council is already taking action to install additional charging points in our own car parks and work on this will start in the next few months. The level of additional progress required, however, cannot be made without the conclusions of the government and HCC's EV strategy.

The Council will work with home owners and the Private Rented Sector

A very large part of the CO2 emissions occur through the energy and heating requirements of the owner occupiers and Private Landlord's properties. The government has pledged to ensure that rapid progress is made in achieving net zero carbon in the nations' homes by 2050.

The Council will play a key role in providing up to date information and advice to residents who want to improve their homes energy efficiency. Knowing where and how to access grant funding will be crucial and the Council will help in this.

We will also work directly with Private Landlords to make sure that they take advantage of grant support that will improve energy efficiency, making their properties better insulated and in due course as close to net zero carbon as possible and also add value to their properties in doing so.

Economic Development Regeneration strategy

The Council are developing an Economic Development Regeneration strategy to ensure that sectors championing delivery of products and services which reduce carbon emissions are supported and encouraged to locate in the Borough.

We are already working with the Enterprise Zone – Herts IQ – at Maylands where 8000 jobs will be delivered in the next 15 years or so with a focus on both getting High Tech and Companies focusing on sustainability. This would include getting off-site construction manufacturers located locally to have a more local input into the new homes for the Borough. Maylands overall has received a £2M decarbonisation grant to assist businesses to become more energy efficient and sustainable.

We will also work with local businesses to help them decarbonise their current operations and to take advantage of the huge amount of work that will take place in bringing the homes in Dacorum up to fully sustainable standard.

Community action

Community awareness and participation in working towards net zero and improved biodiversity will be facilitated and encouraged.

Whether encouraging residents to cycle more or turn their thermostats down, behavioural change will be vital to reducing the borough's emissions and increasing biodiversity. Working alongside the community to engage, enable and educate will be critical in order to achieve net-zero by 2050.

The Council will use its 'spheres of influence' to encourage as much change as possible through a wide programme of frequent campaigns and initiatives, utilising local, national and global action.

To support with this, Dacorum's Climate Action Network (Dacorum CAN) has been established and will work to deliver this programme, as well as encourage volunteer activities and partnership working and host events. The network will encourage residents to "think global and act local" and will work to bring together local groups and individuals. This will help to drive progress forward, amplify campaign messages, and support local initiatives and projects to get off the ground.

A range of sub-groups will be created to focus on specific demographics, such as for schools - Dacorum's Young Climate Action Network (You-CAN), businesses, and Parish and Town Councils, etc.

In order to help encourage action from local groups we have launched an annual Green Community Grant scheme, which has already given away £10,000 to local projects.

To keep the community informed and engaged, we will host an annual Climate and Ecological Emergency conference and networking event. This will update on and celebrate progress within the borough, as well as provide an update on the work that needs to be done in order to meet our environmental targets. Alongside this we will also publish annual Climate and Ecological Emergency progress reports on our website, as well as annual emissions reports for the wider borough.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Sustainable Transport

In Dacorum, transport is responsible for over 40% of the borough's greenhouse gas emissions.

Sustainable Transport Hierarchy

The 'Sustainable Travel Hierarchy' is the most efficient way of reducing the borough's emissions.

Making changes to the way we travel will be crucial for meeting our net-zero goal. This will involve significantly reducing car use, increasing active travel (such as walking and cycling) and potentially eliminating some journeys altogether. Hertfordshire County Council are the local transport authority. The Government will need to legislate for change and provide funding and support moving forwards.

What will we be doing within the Council?

In order to reduce the transport emissions from our own organisation and staff we will be:

- Creating a Green Transport Plan and encouraging other local organisations to do the same
- Encouraging virtual meetings, flexible working and working from home.
- Exploring and rolling out cycling and lift share incentives

What will we be doing to support others?

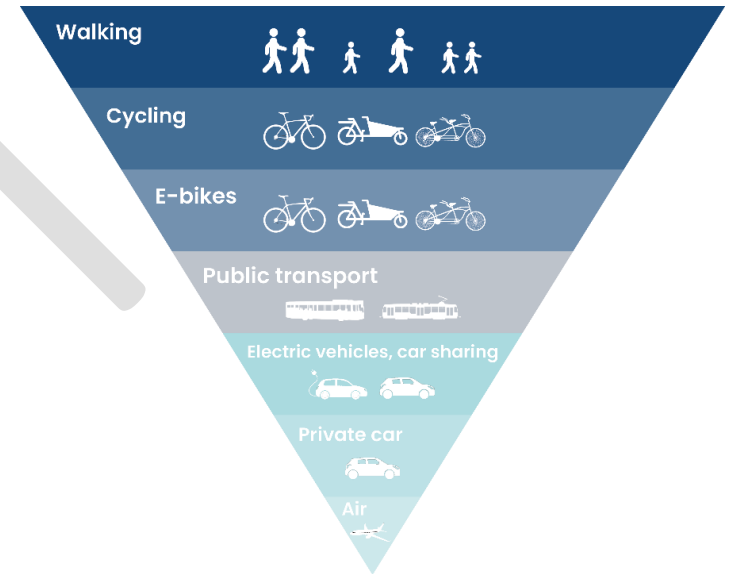
There are a number of ongoing projects that are taking place to improve sustainable transport throughout the borough – for example with Smart Go Maylands, the Hemel Garden Community project, and Hertfordshire County Council.

- Creating a Sustainable Transport Strategy and delivering projects that improve walking and cycling routes and infrastructure
- Delivering campaigns and initiatives that encourage and enable active transport – such as bike confidence classes and the second-hand bike market.
- Exploring the feasibility of implementing rental schemes for bikes, e-bike and e-scooters

What can you do?

By rethinking the journeys that you make on a regular basis using the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy, you could drastically cut your personal carbon footprint, as well as other co-benefits including saving money, leading a healthier lifestyle and improving the air quality of your local neighbourhood.

- Consider whether you are able to eliminate any journeys, such as by working from home more frequently, or doing a weekly food shop instead of daily.
- Identify what the barriers are that prevent you from walking, cycling or scooting more regularly and think how you can overcome these.
- Make pledges that are realistic for yourself and your capabilities – such as pledging to always walk if the destination is within a mile away



Electric Vehicles

The number of electric vehicle drivers is rapidly growing and it's a trend that's set to continue.

A third of the borough's greenhouse gas emissions come from cars. From 2030 the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles will be banned.

Electric vehicles (EVs) have zero tailpipe emissions, making them better not only for drastically helping to reduce emissions in comparison to regular cars, but for improving our air quality too. There are also numerous key benefits for owners such as savings on fuel and running costs.

As shown by the BEIS graph, EVs produce less than 30% of the emissions of fossil fuel powered cars. Additionally, as the National Grid also decarbonises and is powered by more renewable energy sources, the greenhouse gas emissions from electric cars will fall even lower in the future.

As such switching to EVs will be a crucial step in order to lower our emissions. However, as outlined by the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy, we must also drastically reduce the amount of journeys made by car at the same time.

What will we be doing within the Council?

- Installing EV chargepoints in our car parks for staff (programme commencing 2021/22)
- Providing the intelligence on demand to facilitate the private sector to invest in charge points in the Borough
- Replacing our fleet with electric vehicles, where technology allows, and optimising our routes
- Consider establishing an electric car pool scheme for staff

What will we be doing to support others?

- Collecting evidence about the need for EV infrastructure around the borough and using this to support applications for funding and land use.
- Developing an Electric Vehicle Strategy and installing more EV chargepoints throughout the borough on our own land.
- Working in partnership with other organisations to encourage them to increase the number of EV chargepoints available for residents

What can you do?

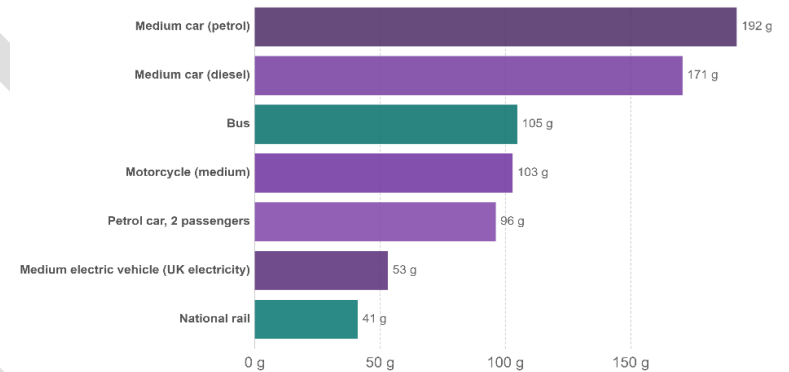
If you would like to learn more about electric vehicles, the Energy Savings Trust website has lots of useful information and advice.

- Make your next vehicle purchase an electric vehicle
- If you have a driveway at home, use the governments Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme and receive a grant of up to 75% of the cost of a chargepoint.
- Encourage your local businesses to install EV chargepoints in their car parks.

Carbon footprint of travel per kilometer, 2018

The carbon footprint of travel is measured in grams of carbon dioxide equivalents per passenger kilometer. This includes carbon dioxide, but also other greenhouse gases, and increased warming from aviation emissions at altitude.

Our World
in Data



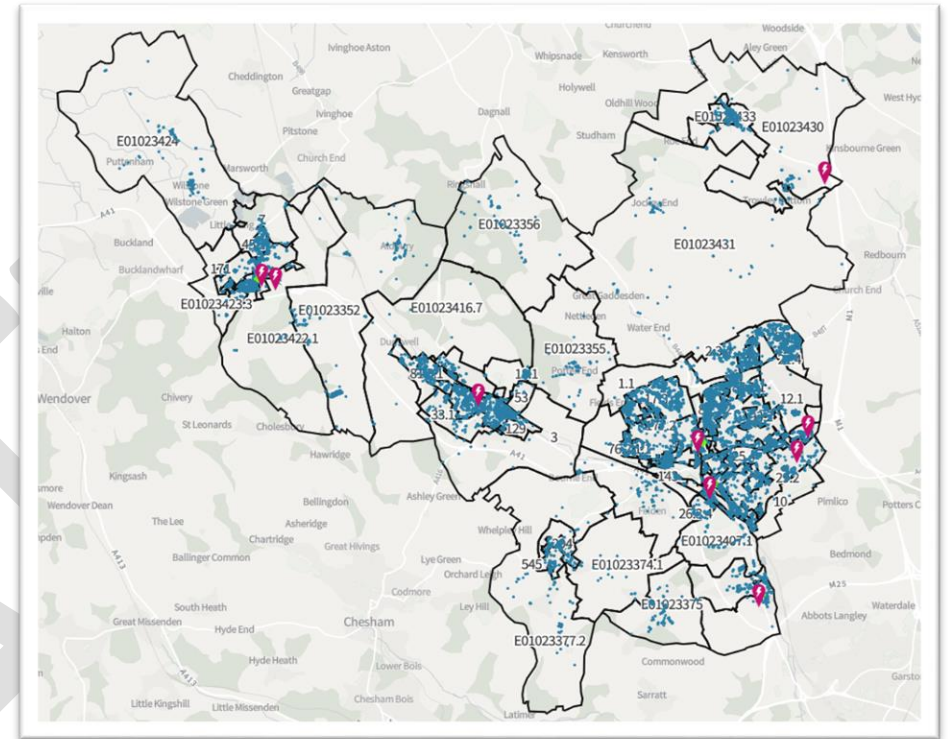
Source: UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2019. CC BY
Note: Data is based on official conversion factors used in UK reporting. These factors may vary slightly depending on the country, and assumed occupancy of public transport such as buses and trains.

Planning for the Electric Vehicle Re-volt-ution in Dacorum

Whilst the majority of residents will be able to easily charge their electric vehicles from home on their own driveways, this option will not be available for many of Dacorum's households.

As part of our 'discovery' phase for EVs, we have been working with sustainability consultants Field Dynamics in order to gain a greater understanding of what the transition to electric vehicles will look like within Dacorum. The results from this work have showed us that:

- By 2030 there is forecast to be at least 30,000 electric vehicles in the borough – currently there are around 1000.
- At least a third of households (over 20,000 homes) do not have driveways or garages and will be reliant on alternative charging infrastructure
 - These households are symbolised by blue dots on the map
- The borough is estimated to need around 700 publically available chargepoints to facilitate the extra demand.
 - Achieving this will need a collaborative effort between all land-owners, businesses and organisations.



The Government is developing a plan to accelerate the decarbonisation of transport which will set out in detail what government, business and society will need to do to deliver the emissions reduction needed. Once released, we will review our planned actions and objectives and ensure they align with this plan.

Listening to our residents

We have an ongoing Electric Vehicle Resident Survey on our website, which enables us to hear from residents directly and understand their needs.

From this data we have learned that:

- Over 60% of respondents plan on buying an electric vehicle within the next five years, or own one already.
- The two main reasons why people want to switch to electric is to help mitigate the climate emergency and to help improve air quality.
- The main concern for switching to EVs is availability of charging points. Over 60% of respondents would be encouraged to buy an EV sooner if more chargepoints were installed in their local area.

If you are interested in taking part in the survey, please visit: www.dacorum.gov.uk/sustainability

Commuting

In the UK, commuting is responsible for around a fifth of all miles travelled.

During the COVID restriction lockdowns many people were able to discover new, more flexible ways of working. It will be important to embrace these positive changes moving forward.

For the UK to reach its national climate targets, we require a reduction in car use by 2030 of between 20% - 60%, depending on the speed of the switch to electric vehicles. If people are able to work from home more frequently and eliminate these commuting journeys, then this will help put us on track for reaching our climate targets.

If you do still need to travel by car, even by being flexible about travelling at different off-peak times to avoid contributing to slow-moving traffic can help as this helps to reduce emissions from sitting still with an engine idling.

'Learning from Lockdown'

We ran a survey called 'Learning from Lockdown' to identify how behaviours changed due to the restrictions in ways that could be beneficial for the environment.

As many needed to shield, furlough or work from home, residents told us that they noticed several benefits to there being less cars on the road; including less air pollution, more wildlife and quieter and safer roads.

This led to 9 out of 10 residents telling us that they want to see less cars on the road in the future.

Over 75% of participants said that they will be using video conferencing to reduce the need for external meetings and commuting. Before COVID, change on such a large scale would have been unheard of and shows how quickly society can adapt when they need to. It is crucial this positive change is harnessed moving forward.

We also gained several insights around cycling within the borough:

- A third of participants cycled more over lockdown.
- Over a third of people said that the key barrier to them cycling more was concerns about road safety.
- Nearly 1 in 4 participants, said they would be interested in bike classes to increase their confidence, which many listed as a barrier to them riding more
- Half of all participants own a bike - however 16% of these do not work.
- 14% of all participants don't have a bike, but want one – of these, over a third listed 'I cannot afford a bike' as their reason for not having one.

To help increase cycling rates in the borough, we will be using this information to address the issues highlighted. Many of the barriers can be overcome with offering cycling confidence classes, encouraging a second hand bike market, promoting bike repair workshops and ultimately discouraging driving which will increase people's confidence on quieter roads. All of these have been factored into the initiatives which we will plan to incorporate into our CEE Action Plan.

To read more about the survey results, visit www.dacorum.gov.uk/sustainability

ENERGY USE IN BUILDINGS

Energy Use in Buildings

Heating rooms, generating hot water, and powering all of our appliances and devices as we go about our daily lives are all actions that use energy and consequently create emissions.

Energy Hierarchy

Following the Energy Hierarchy by being 'Lean, Clean and Green' is the most efficient way to reduce emissions from buildings.

1. Reduce energy demand
2. Become more energy efficient
3. Use renewable energy sources

Reducing Energy Demand

What will we be doing within the Council?

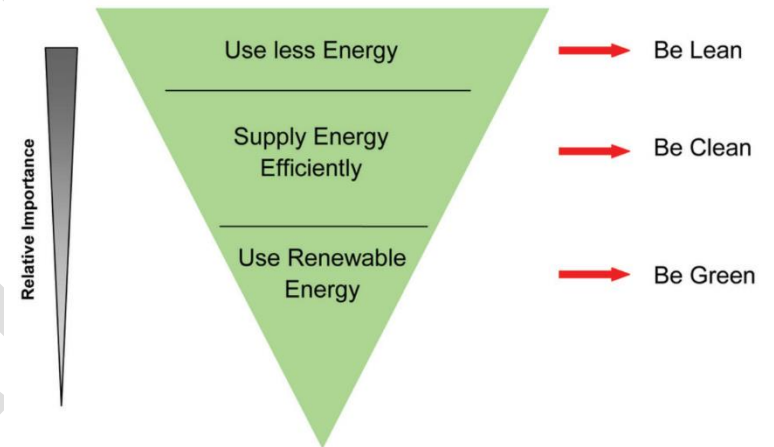
- Auditing our buildings to identify what improvements could be made – such as installing light motion sensors.
- Encouraging staff to turn off equipment when not in use
- Applying for funding to support with making our buildings as efficient as possible.

What will we be doing to support others?

- Launching an energy saving app in partnership with the Energy Saving Trust to support residents.
- Developing awareness campaigns and initiatives for residents to learn more about how to reduce their energy use.
- Developing awareness campaigns and initiatives for organisations to learn about how to reduce their energy use at in their own offices and buildings

What can you do?

- Get a Smart meter to monitor your energy use so that you can identify areas for improvement.
- Turn down your thermostat and make sure to put on a jumper before turning the heating on.
- Get into the habit of turning appliances off, not just putting them on stand-by.



Becoming more Energy Efficient

What will we be doing within the Council?

- Ensuring that all new build homes meet high energy efficient requirements
- Making improvements within our own buildings, such as improving insulation and switching to LED lightbulbs
- Only purchasing energy efficient appliances

What will we be doing to support others?

- Carrying out a retrofitting programme on the Council Housing stock to improve the EPC ratings of homes
- Developing targeted initiatives and campaigns – for example, encouraging landlords to reach minimum energy efficiency standards
- Promoting available funding to help carry out the improvements needed – for example ECO funding

What can you do?

- Find out your homes EPC Rating and identify what improvements you can do that will improve your EPC rating to as high as you can get it.
- Take a look at some energy saving guides (and download our app!) and follow the advice for how to make changes around the home
- Only purchase energy efficient appliances

Using Renewable Energy Sources

What will we be doing within the Council?

- Switching to a genuinely 100% green energy supplier
- Investigating whether we could install renewable energy sources on our buildings, such as solar panels or air or ground source heat pumps
- Investigate our options for using renewable energy technology, such as solar panels, throughout the borough

What will we be doing to support others?

- Investigating partnering with a solar community project or bulk-buy scheme
- Investigating the feasibility of developing a large-scale community solar farm within Dacorum
- Promoting available funding to help install renewable energy measures

What can you do?

- Switch to a green energy tariff (ideally 100% renewable energy).
- Investigate whether you could install renewable energy sources on your property, such as solar panels or an air or ground source heat pump
- Investigate whether you could have a home energy or heat storage system at your property.

Homes

Homes account for over a third of the borough's total CO2 emissions.

Emissions from our homes represent approximately a quarter of the average person's carbon footprint. There are a range of actions that can be taken to reduce this – some are quick and easy and will save you money, others could be expensive to install but are likely to save you money and emissions long-term.

The borough has over 66,500 homes with several thousand more expected to be built over the coming years and so focusing on reducing these emissions will be crucial for meeting net-zero carbon targets.

In order for us to reach our net-zero targets by 2050, we must make sure that we make our homes as energy efficient as possible. This requires the Government to provide funding for households to carry out the work and support to the construction industry to be ready for the change to non-fossil fuel heating.

Energy Performance Certificates (EPC ratings) are ranked from A (very efficient) to G (very inefficient).

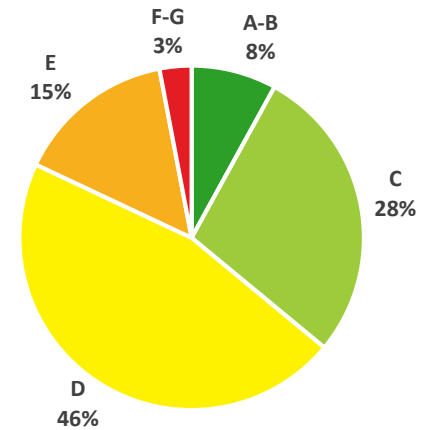
A home is required to have an EPC rating when it is constructed, let, or has been sold in the past 10 years. EPCs also include recommendations on measures that would make your home more energy-efficient, along with estimated costs for implementing the changes and the potential savings you could make.

You can find yours online through the [government website](#).

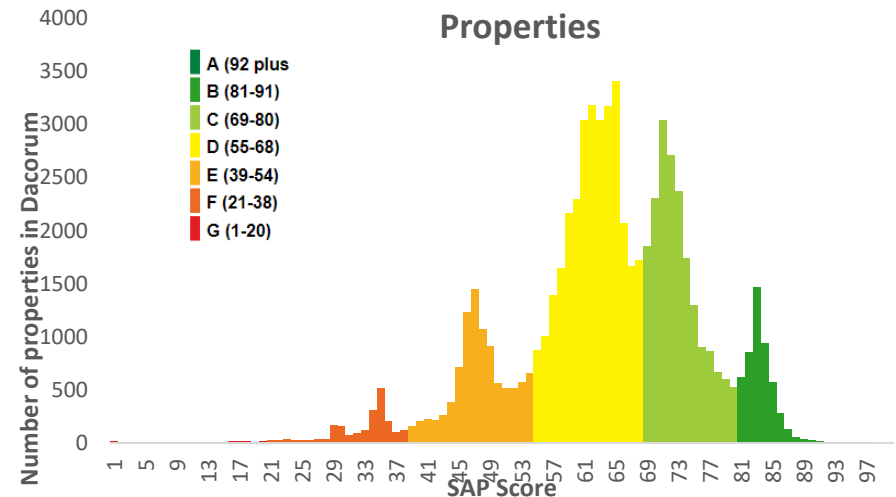
As part of our 'discovery phase', we have been working alongside the Energy Savings Trust (EST) to understand the actual and estimated EPC breakdown of homes around the borough.

The Domestic Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) Regulations set a minimum energy efficiency level for private rented homes. Since 1 April 2020, landlords can no longer let properties if they have an EPC rating below E. The minimum standard is set to increase to an EPC energy rating of D by 2025 and C by 2030. As shown by the chart, nearly two thirds of homes in the borough are currently at a rating of D and below.

EPC Ratings of Dacorum's Homes



EPC Profile Breakdown for All Dacorum Properties



Businesses

In Dacorum, emissions from industry and commercial use is responsible for over 22% of the borough's greenhouse gas emissions.

An ambitious project has been launched to support the decarbonisation of local organisations.

The Eastern New Energy (ENE) research project, led by the University of East London, aims to accelerate the race to net zero at a ground roots level by decarbonising Maylands Business Park in Hemel Hempstead.

Herts IQ (of which Dacorum Borough Council is a partner) has been instrumental in bringing £3million worth of investment to this site, which is one of the UK's largest business parks and home to over 650 businesses.

The overall project is worth £10.2million and is spread over various other areas of the Eastern region. The project will help local businesses and organisations identify ways to rapidly decarbonise communities, buildings and transport.

Many UK business owners understand that they must reduce their own carbon footprint by 2050, but many don't know where to start. As well as helping businesses to develop new technology, the ENE project will address the challenges that business owners face by analysing the barriers to adopting low carbon practices and providing practical solutions on the ground.

The ENE project will work with businesses in Maylands Business Park to reduce their carbon footprint by providing free advanced metering systems, energy audits, vehicle fleet audits and grants for the deployment of energy measures. It will also collaborate with businesses to develop an Energy Services Company (ESCO) to help deliver Net Zero action plans.

For businesses based in Maylands that take part in the project, it is also offering free fleet and energy audits that include recommendations for cost effective energy measures.

The Herts IQ group are also already working to improve sustainable transport across Maylands in addition to this project.

The ENE project is funded by the England European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme. This ambitious pilot is funded until early 2023, and if proven successful, will provide a model for other business parks elsewhere in the country.



IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY

Improving Biodiversity

In the past 50 years, global wildlife populations have decreased by 68%

The last mass extinction event was 66 million years ago, when an asteroid collided with the Earth and famously wiped out the dinosaurs. We are now entering the sixth mass extinction period. This new period is called the Anthropocene and is caused by human activities such as habitat loss and degradation, species overexploitation, invasive species and disease, pollution and of course, climate change.

We can improve biodiversity on a local level through direct actions such as growing more trees, plants and flowers, improving green spaces for local wildlife, changing how often we cut grass and many more.

What will we be doing within the Council?

- Developing a Biodiversity strategy to ensure that we are managing council land in a way to maximise biodiversity
- Implementing a Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document
- Developing a Carbon and Biodiversity Offset Fund to help pay for environmental projects

What will we be doing to support others?

- Working with local organisations such as HCCSP and Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust to identify areas of joined up working
- Running a Green Community Grant scheme for local groups
- Running a variety of campaigns, initiatives and events for organisations, local groups, schools and individuals.

What can you do?

- Improve wildlife in your garden by looking at resources such as the [Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust](#) website.
- Live more sustainably, thinking of the direct and indirect impacts of your actions.
- Get involved with local wildlife groups and help to support local projects and initiatives



As part of our 'Discovery' phase, we have been gathering a range of information:

- Treeconomics inventory of all trees on the Council's land.
- Working to establish a 'biodiversity baseline' for the borough, in partnership with the HCCSP
- Carrying out a 'Green Spaces Audit' for all council-owned land
- HCC are working on a tree canopy project

Hertfordshire State of Nature report

The Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust published a '[State of Nature](#)' report in 2020 which highlights information about biodiversity locally. We are very fortunate to have this information as they are one of the only Wildlife Trusts in the UK that has been able to create a report such as this.

Since 1970, 10,863 species have been recorded in Hertfordshire. The report shows that 1 in 5 of the species that were able to be assessed are now either threatened, or have gone extinct.

Biodiversity Net Gain

National planning guidance and the forthcoming Environment Bill require development to create a 10% net gain for biodiversity for a site.

Where these measures are not able to be achieved onsite, payments can be made to a biodiversity net gain fund equivalent to the cost of achieving the required number of biodiversity units elsewhere.

Trees

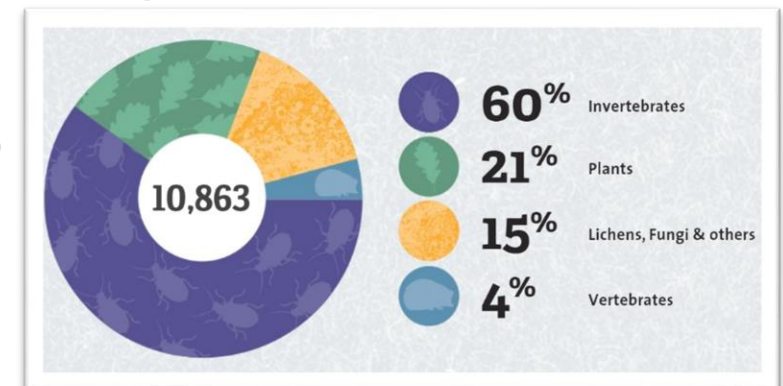
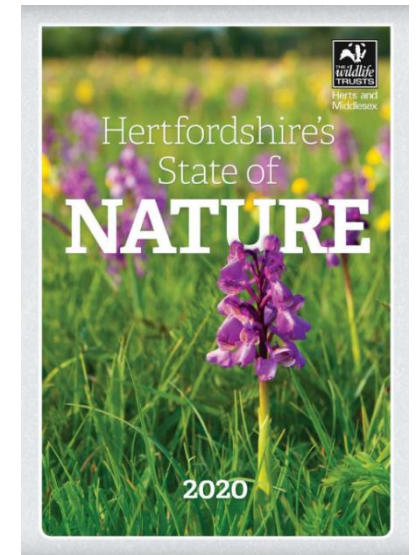
Trees are important as they help towards both reducing emissions, as well as improving biodiversity.

We are developing a tree planting strategy which will see several thousand more trees being added to the borough. Over 1000 new trees have already been planted since 2020.

Wildflowers

The UK has lost 97% of its wildflower meadows in less than 100 years.

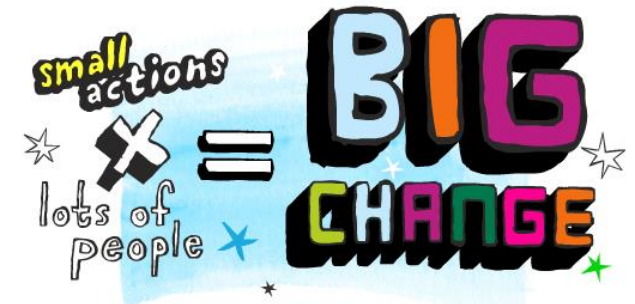
To increase the number of wildflowers locally we are designating more spaces for wildflowers and reviewing cutting processes. To celebrate Biodiversity Day 2021 we gave away over 1000 packets of wildflower seeds for free to residents and local schools. We also ran a primary school competition with an insect sit-and-study centre as the prize.



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Sustainable Communities

To tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency, change will need to come from individuals and organisations.



Small Actions Create Big Change

With nearly 8 billion people in the world, it can be easy to believe that individual actions don't matter. But every single action has an impact on the planet. The climate and ecological emergency has gradually been caused by lots of little unsustainable actions that have all created big changes.

Whether considering biodiversity or carbon emissions, the consequences of our individual actions are often not contained within the borough itself and instead have negative impacts elsewhere – e.g. a simple action of eating a cheeseburger can be linked to the negative impact of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.

Throughout our daily lives we can all choose to make more sustainable choices; from the food that we eat, to the products we buy, the journeys we make and the energy we use. The consequences all add up, which is why the climate and ecological emergency is *everyone's* responsibility. This is why adopting sustainable lifestyles together as a community is so important. It is by working together and thinking about the little actions that we can help to fix the problems that we have created. Of course we will also need big changes from governments and industries, but the best way to spark these larger changes is with people power.

What will we be doing within the Council?

- Introducing Sustainability Impact Assessments to analyse each new project or policy
- Rolling out Carbon Literacy Training to more staff and to Members
- Developing internal sustainability initiatives and campaigns for staff

What will we be doing to support others?

- Developing Dacorum's Climate Action Network and using our 'spheres of influence' as far as possible
- Running a Green Community Grant scheme for local groups
- Running a variety of sustainability campaigns, initiatives and events for organisations, local groups, schools and individuals.

What can you do?

- Find out your carbon footprint and identify areas where you can make changes that align with a 5 tonne lifestyle
- Consider your own 'spheres of influence' and how you can encourage more positive change
- Join Dacorum's Climate Action Network and work with us to take action locally

Dacorum's Climate Action Network (Dacorum CAN) brings together local individuals and organisations to 'think global and act local'.

Dacorum CAN supports, educates, encourages and enables its members to make positive environmental changes, which will help to tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency.

The network will help facilitate and encourage meaningful change throughout the borough by providing a platform to help to bring together local individuals, community groups, schools and organisations to share ideas, initiatives and take action to drive down our emissions, improve biodiversity and increase sustainability.

The network will support the delivery of many of the community initiatives identified in our CEE Action Plan.

By working together we will be able to amplify our actions and make progress faster. Actions will include running environmental campaigns and initiatives; hosting events to increase public engagement; increasing environmental education and awareness through training sessions and presentations, and much more.

We will aim to engage with thousands of local residents throughout the borough, as well as organisations. If you would like to join DacorumCAN, please email sustainability@dacorum.gov.uk

Dacorum Climate Action Network is free and open to everyone who lives, works and plays in Dacorum and pledges to take positive environmental actions.

Benefits of joining Dacorum CAN

- Discover local environmental events
- Access environmental webinars and training
- Discover local groups and initiatives
- Collaborate with like-minded people
- Stay up-to-date on local environmental initiatives
- Be inspired by Sustainability Superstars
- Receive information and advice about positive environmental actions



**THINK
GLOBAL**
**ACT
LOCAL**

Additional benefits for organisations...

- Amplify environmental projects and campaigns
- Free promotion of environmental events
- Find volunteers to help support initiatives
- Discover funding opportunities
- All organisations are welcome, including schools, community groups, businesses, charities, and more.

To join the network simply fill out a quick registration form: www.dacorum.gov.uk/dacorumcan

What's your carbon footprint?

Your carbon footprint is a measure of how many carbon emissions you produce in your everyday life. Calculating your carbon footprint helps you to understand what impact the actions in your daily life are having and how you are contributing to climate change.

You can find out your carbon footprint quickly and easily and see how it compares to the average UK or global citizen using [WWF's carbon footprint calculator](#). Your results are broken down into four key areas; food, home, travel and 'stuff' – which is essentially everything else that you buy or use.

- Average UK carbon footprint = **13 tonnes CO2e** per person
- Average global carbon footprint = **7 tonnes CO2e** per person.

WWF set a target of being 10.5 tonnes, however widely respected climate scientist Mike Berners-Lee recommends that we should be aiming for a 5 tonne lifestyle.

Green Community Grants

We have established a Green Community Grant scheme specifically to support projects in our community that benefit the environment, as well as Dacorum's residents. The purpose is to encourage and enable local groups to "*think global and act local*" whilst tackling environmental challenges.

Groups can obtain a maximum of £3,000. Proposed projects must demonstrate that they will actively help towards the mitigation of the climate and ecological emergency locally, whilst also engaging with or benefiting the local community. The projects with the greatest impacts will be awarded the funding.

Community Gardens and Orchards

Community gardens and orchards can be brilliant ways to create sustainable communities. We will be planning to establish more of these throughout the borough.

Locally grown produce can benefit the society in a number of ways: provide fresh and nutritious food, reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from its transport, improve self-sufficiency, increase climate resilience and improve the sense of well-being of the community.

In the 'Learning from lockdown' survey, over half of participants said that they would be willing to volunteer at a community garden. With 9 out of 10 participants telling us they would buy food from a local community garden. This would reduce the need for packaging, carbon emissions from transportation and storage, etc.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

The impacts of the items we choose to buy and how we dispose of them are often hidden, but by becoming aware of these and making sensible choices, we are able to have a positive environmental impact both on carbon emissions as well as biodiversity.

Supply chain impacts account for more than 80% of greenhouse gas emissions and more than 90% of the impact on air, land, water, biodiversity and geological resources. For this reason it is important to make conscious, ethical choices as consumers, whether you are an individual or an organisation.

Following the waste hierarchy by reducing, reusing and recycling as much as possible is a key element to developing a sustainable lifestyle.

To support with this, alongside the recycling service that we provide to residents we also work as part of WasteAware, the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership, to run a wide range of campaigns and initiatives throughout the borough. For example; Refill Hertfordshire, food waste challenges, Sustainable Clothes Swaps, reusable nappy initiatives, and more.



APPENDICES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DRAFT

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
DMP02	Number of planning applications received	854		908		692			30 Sep 2021 Incoming planning applications remain at very healthy levels. In particular, householder planning applications at 15-20% higher than Q3 the previous two years.
DMP03	Percentage of planning application refusals appealed against	44.44%	35.00%	12.70%	35.00%	18.37%	35.00%		I have asked the team to clarify this figure. It appears that this is the number of planning appeals received during that period, and not the number of planning applications refused that period, which have been appealed. The latter would not be possible to record on a quarterly basis as there is up to 6 months in which to submit an appeal. The issue with calculating in the former way, is that this depends on PINS, who tends to bulk start appeals.
DMP03 (D)	Number of planning application refusals	54		63		49		n/a	
DMP03 (N)	Number of planning application refusals appealed against	24		8		9		n/a	
DMP04	Percentage of major applications determined within 13 weeks (YTD)	62.50%	60.00%	100.00%	60.00%	75.00%	60.00%		Target met. Low numbers means that one or two applications can make a big difference.
DMP04 (D)	Number of major applications due to be determined	8		3		4		n/a	
DMP04 (N)	Number of major applications determined within the 13 week target	5		3		3		n/a	
DMP05	Percentage of minor applications determined within 8 weeks	67.54%	70.00%	70.09%	70.00%	68.67%	70.00%		30 Sep 2021 Just below target. We have re-aligned team management resources in light of Joan Reid's return from maternity leave to look afresh at the Majors/Minors team.

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
DMP05 (D)	Number of minor applications due to be determined in Period	114		117		83		n/a	
DMP05 (N)	Number of minor applications determined within the 8 week target in period	77		82		57		n/a	
DMP06	Percentage of other applications determined within 8 weeks	91.97%	70.00%	89.83%	70.00%	80.18%	70.00%	✓	30 Sep 2021 The Fast Track team continue to excel against this target measure and should be applauded.
DMP06 (D)	Number of other applications due to be determined in Period	361		354		222		n/a	
DMP06 (N)	Number of other applications determined within the 8 week target in period	332		318		178		n/a	
DMP07	Percentage of planning applications refused	8.77%	10.00%	8.13%	10.00%	7.88%	10.00%	✗	30 Sep 2021 Proportionally very similar to last month and still within the acceptable range.
DMP07 (D)	Number of planning applications determined in period	536		750		584		n/a	
DMP07 (N)	Number of planning applications refused in period	47		61		46		✗	
DMP08	Percentage of planning applications validated within 3 working days	77%	70%	53%	70%	96%	70%	✓	30 Sep 2021 The Business Support team have dealt with high numbers of applications, staff annual leave, and being one member short due to moving across to Housing. In that context this performance is even more pleasing.
DMP08 (D)	Number of planning applications due for validation in period	877		983		1,096		n/a	

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
DMP08 (N)	Number of planning applications validated within 3 working days in period	672		524		1,057		n/a	
DMP30	Appeals dismissed	22.22%	70.00%	80.95%	70.00%	75.00%	70.00%	✘	30 Sep 2021 Small total numbers on which to base a monthly target. Nevertheless, a recent increase in allowed appeals is something that needs to be watched.
DMP30 (D)	Total number of appeals in period	9		21		12		n/a	
DMP30 (N)	Number of appeals dismissed in period	2		17		9		n/a	
FIN16	Planning Fees ytd actual against profiled budget	£1,968,042	£1,749,550	£879,520	£699,820	£1,422,855	£1,505,400	✔	
FIN17	Search Fees ytd actual against profiled budget	£322,805	£288,750	£142,678	£115,500	£172,994	£288,750	✔	
Page 87 04	Average time taken to process an official Local Land Charges search	10.13	10.00	10.16	10.00	8.53	10.00	✔	
01	Priority 1 site visits	50.00%		57.14%	200.00%	100.00%	200.00%	✘	Out of the three missed cases, two were a result of a departure of an Enforcement Officer, whilst the third, in hindsight, should not have been classified as a priority 1 case.
PE01 (D)	Priority 1 sites due a visit in period	6		7		7		n/a	
PE01 (N)	Priority 1 sites visited in period	3		4		7		n/a	
PE02	Priority 2 site visits	50.00%		45.90%	195.00%	58.33%	195.00%	✔	The Enforcement team are picking up speed in dealing with outstanding first site visits, which are skewing this performance figure.
PE02 (D)	Priority 2 sites due a visit in period	30		61		12		n/a	
PE02 (N)	Priority 2 sites visited in period	15		28		7		n/a	

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
PE03	Priority 3 site visits	43.93%		64.22%	200.00%	46.55%	200.00%	✘	The Enforcement team are picking up speed in dealing with outstanding first site visits, which are skewing this performance figure.
PE03 (D)	Priority 3 sites due a visit in period	107		109		58		✘	
PE03 (N)	Priority 3 sites visited in period	47		70		27		n/a	

Environmental and Community Protection

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
ECP01	Percentage of Noise Nuisance cases closed within 60 days	87.63%	85.00%	89.66%	85.00%	83.65%	85.00%	✘	
ECP01 (D)	Number of Noise Nuisance cases that reached 60 day in period	97		58		104		n/a	
ECP01 (N)	Number of Noise Nuisance cases closed within 60 days	85		52		87		n/a	
ECP02	Percentage of registered food premises that have a rating of 4 or 5	74.37%	90.00%	74.72%	90.00%	78.26%	90.00%	✘	
ECP02 (D)	Number of registered food premises	1,834		1,804		1,720		n/a	
ECP03	Percentage of ECP Service Requests responded to within target	95.61%	95.00%	96.88%	95.00%	86.31%	95.00%	✘	
ECP03 (D)	Number of ECP Service Requests responded due in period	1,596		2,821		1,424		n/a	
ECP03 (N)	Number of ECP Service Requests responded to within target in period	1,526		2,733		1,229		n/a	
ECP05	Percentage of Fly tips reported assessed by an Enforcement Officer within 3 working days	87.48%	90.00%	86.55%	90.00%	96.13%	90.00%	✔	

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Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
ECP05 (D)	Number of Fly tips reported in period	719		952		852		n/a	
ECP05 (N)	Number of Fly tips reported assessed by an Enforcement Officer within 3 working days	629		824		819		n/a	
ECP06	Development Control Consultations to ECP with a first formal response within 20 days	100.00%	90.00%	100.00%	90.00%	100.00%	90.00%	→	
ECP07	Number of Environmental Enforcement Actions	1,130		1,282		1,322		↘	
ECP09	Percentage of high risk (A-D) food inspections/interventions achieved within the Quarter	46.43%	95.00%	29.76%	95.00%	41.30%	95.00%	↗	
HS01	All reported accidents/incidents (Including those required to be reported to the HSE)	57		52		28		↘	
HS02	Accidents / incidents that are notifiable to the HSE under RIDDOR	6		2		1		↘	

Environmental Services

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
CSG01	Percentage of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	100.00%	95.00%	91.43%	95.00%	100.00%	95.00%	↗	
CSG01 (D)	Number of dog fouling reports in period	40		70		36		n/a	
CSG01 (N)	Number of dog fouling reports actioned within 7 days	40		64		36		n/a	
CSG01a	Number of dog fouling reports actioned within the set timescale of 7 days	40	0	64		36		↘	

Measure Code	Measure Name	This Quarter Actual	This Quarter Target	Last Quarter Actual	Last Quarter Target	-4 Quarters Actual	-4 Quarters Target	DoT	Comments
CSG02	Percentage of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	94.71%	95.00%	97.75%	95.00%	95.95%	95.00%	✗	
CSG02a	Number of fly tips collected within the set timescale of 7 days	376	1,504	391		332		✗	
CSG04a	% of litter area inspections graded A or B - Litter	100%		100%				➔	
CSG04a (D)	Number of litter areas inspected in period	0		0		0		n/a	
CSG04a (N)	Number of litter areas inspected graded A or B - Litter	0		0		0		n/a	
WR01a	Justified Missed collections (Excluding Assisted Collections)	1,555	600	881	600	1,240	600	✗	
WR03	Number of justified missed assisted collections	245	120	181	120	242	120	✗	
WR05	Dry recycling Collected	3,922.30	3,600.00	4,082.66	3,600.00	4,114.08	3,600.00	✗	
WR06	Total tonnage of garden waste collected	3,992.86	2,400.00	3,822.36	2,400.00	3,870.62	2,400.00	✔	
WR07	Tonnage of food waste	1,285.65	1,020.00	1,314.44	1,020.00	1,291.91	1,020.00	✗	
WR08	% change in commercial waste customers in the quarter							?	
WR08 (D)	Number of commercial waste customers last period							?	
WR08 (N)	Number of commercial waste customers this period							?	

SPAE OSC : Work Programme 2021/22

Meeting Date	Report Deadline	Items	Contact Details	Background information
Tues 27 April 2021	Fri 16 April 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Environmental Services performance Q3 Environmental Services Annual Review	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		South West Herts Joint Strategic Plan	Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk Chris Outtersides, SW Herts Joint Strategic Plan Director Chris.outtersides@dacorum.gov.uk	Update report on progress on the proposed Joint Strategic Plan
		Water & Sewerage	Group Manager for Strategic Planning and Regeneration Chris.taylor@dacorum.gov.uk	Background on infrastructure planning for water supply and sewerage provision in the Borough
Tues 15 June 2021	Fri 4 June 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Quarter 4 2020/21 Reports:	Assistant Director for Planning, Development &	Quarterly performance

		Planning, Development and Regeneration performance	Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	report
		Environmental Services performance Q4	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q4	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Abandoned Vehicle Policy	Lead Enforcement Officer Operations ECP ben.stevens@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental improvements to the River Gade	Interim Assistant Director Neighbourhood Delivery Bill.Buckley@dacorum.gov.uk May change	
Wed 30 June 2021	Mon 21 June 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Dacorum Local Plan emerging Strategy for Growth	Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	To report on the outcome of the draft strategy for growth consultation and next steps
Wed 7 July 2021	Mon 28 June 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		

		Annual Planning Enforcement Report	Team Leader Development Management Philip.stanley@Dacorum.gov.uk	
		Where does Dacorum waste go	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Waste presentation from the HWP	The Herts Waste Partnership Duncan.Jones@hertfordshire.gov.uk	
Wed 22 Sept 2021	Mon 13 Sept 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Planning, Development and Regeneration performance Q1	Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental Services performance Q1	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q1	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Stewardship & Open Spaces Policy interim report	James Doe Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk & Interim Assistant Director Neighbourhood Delivery	To review progress on the new policy for stewardship and
		KEEP – with further		

		report when complete	Bill.Buckley@dacorum.gov.uk (Probably new AD in post)	management arrangements for open spaces secured through new developments in the Borough
Change to 2 Nov 2021		Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Q2 Budget Monitoring	Nigel Howcutt/Fiona Jump	
		Q2 Planning, Development and Regeneration performance	Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	Quarterly performance report
		Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan	Corporate Director for Housing and Regeneration mark.gaynor@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental Services performance Q2	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q2	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	

Wed 24 Nov 2021	Fri 15 Nov 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Hemel Garden Communities	James Doe Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	Update report on progress on the Hemel Garden Communities programme including major study work
		Stewardship & Open Spaces Policy update	James Doe Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk & Interim Assistant Director Neighbourhood Delivery Bill.Buckley@dacorum.gov.uk	To review progress on the new policy for stewardship and management arrangements for open spaces secured through new developments in the Borough
		Hemel Hempstead Town Centre Strategy and Design Code for Paradise, Hemel Hempstead	Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	To report on progress on the Strategy for Hemel Town Centre and to set out proposals for the proposed Paradise Design Code

				for public consultation
		Economic Development Update	Group Manager for Strategic Planning and Regeneration Chris.taylor@dacorum.gov.uk	Annual update on activity from the Council's economic development service and Hemel Hempstead Market
		Environment & Community Protection Enforcement Policy	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Food Service Plan	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
Wed 1 Dec 2021	Monday 25 Nov 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Joint Budget <i>Ideally no further items to be added</i>	Corporate Director, Finance & Operations James.deane@dacorum.gov.uk	
Tue 11 Jan 2022	Fri 31 Dec 2021	Action Points (from previous meeting)		

		Fire Safety Policy	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Developer Contributions Update	James Doe Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	Annual report on funds received through new developments via s106 agreements and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
		Commercial Waste Service- update	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Waste Resources review update on Government Consultation	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov.uk	
Tues 2 Feb 2022	Monday 24 Jan 2022	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		Joint Budget <i>Ideally no further items to be added</i>	Corporate Director, Finance & Operations James.deane@dacorum.gov.uk	
		Luton Airport expansion proposals	Assistant Director for Planning, Development and Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	To set out a proposed response to London Luton Airport Ltd on the proposals

Wed 16 March 2022	Mon 7 March 2022	Action Points (from previous meeting)		
		PSPO & Enforcement Annual review	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov .uk	
		Planning, Development and Regeneration performance Q3	Assistant Director for Planning, Development & Regeneration james.doe@dacorum.gov.uk	Quarterly performance report
		Environmental Services performance Q3	Group Manager for Environmental Services craig.thorpe@dacorum.gov. uk	
		Environmental and Community Protection Performance Report Q3	Group Manager for Environmental and Community Protection Emma.walker@dacorum.gov .uk	