

## Action Plan 2023 - 24

This document is an overview of priority actions which the Council is taking to tackle the climate emergency.

The table that follows contains key actions categorised by strategic priority, noting progress and next steps. It is organised by the three priority areas for action:

1. **Decarbonising Buildings – making energy efficiency improvement** of the majority of existing buildings (domestic and non-domestic) and zero-carbon new builds
2. **Decarbonising Transport:** a major shift to mass transport, walking and cycling to reduce transport emissions
3. A rapid and large-scale increase in **Local Renewable Energy Generation**
4. **Net Zero Council – the Council's own operations and where it has influence**

The final section lists the Council's strategies and policies that are supporting delivery of the strategic priorities.

This document is updated annually.

**Each action tile includes a progress bar number:**

- 1 = Action/strategy still in formation
- 2 = Action/strategy in place, but with no current outputs
- 3 = Action/strategy well underway with current outputs
- 4 = Action/strategy mature, with plans for redevelopment or additions
- 5 = Bespoke action/strategy now complete and considered finished

Strategic Priority	Number	Action	Progress Update	Next Steps	Progress Bar
<b>1. Decarbonising Buildings</b>	1.1	Development of strategic approach to home energy efficiency retrofit (private sector).	Strategy and Projects Manager recruited to the Climate and Environmental Sustainability team to assess the role the council is best placed to play, and which stakeholders we need to engage with, to enable rapid development of the private sector retrofit market in Bath and North East Somerset, including maximising the benefits to the area from the WECA Retrofit Accelerator Hub project.	Junior energy policy and projects officer to be recruited by December 2022. Strategic approach to retrofit assessed and recommendations made on the favoured approach and role of the Council by end March 2023	2
<b>1. Decarbonising Buildings</b>	1.2	Energy profiling of the housing stock in BANES and analyse cost effective interventions.	Training in use of the Parity Projects Pathway Analysis tool has been delivered to selected staff and an initial report profiling the housing stock in BANES has been produced which analyses the measures and costs that would be required to meet two Net Zero investment scenario targets: achieving net zero with and without 'disruptive' measures.	Use tool to analyse and cost potential interventions in communities with high proportion of people living in energy poverty, housing stock with shortest payback periods for retrofit interventions. Analysis of most impactful retrofit interventions to inform supply-side training provided by retrofit hub, etc.	2

<p><b>1. Decarbonising Buildings</b></p>	<p>1.3</p>	<p>Roll out grant funding schemes for low-income households.</p>	<p>In partnership with BCC and NSC, BANES are rolling out Bright Green Homes; an affordable warmth grant for low income, low energy-efficient households which don't have gas heating, with mechanisms to encourage take-up from owner-occupier and private rented properties.</p>	<p>Continue to bid for further Government funding for affordable warmth grants as they become available. The Council is currently working with BCC and NSC again to secure further funding to continue the Bright Green Homes Scheme for 2 years to March 2025. The proposed scheme will offer insulation, low carbon heating and solar PV to 500 low income households across the consortium.</p>	<p>4</p>
<p><b>1. Decarbonising Buildings</b></p>	<p>1.4</p>	<p>Develop communication strategies to drive public interest and access to information about retrofit work.</p>	<p>Updated Energy at Home website to provide basic retrofitting and low-carbon heating information to households.</p> <p>Successful completion of a Climate and Biodiversity Festival in 2021 and 2022, including a platform for talking about energy efficiency advice in the context of a cost of living crisis.</p>	<p>Review scope for uploading bespoke estimated retrofit costings for individual households to the Energy at Home website to allow access to more detailed and nuanced information.</p>	<p>2</p>

<b>1. Decarbonising Buildings</b>	<b>1.5</b>	Develop planning policies and guidance to enable energy efficiency improvement of buildings.	Energy Efficiency, Retrofitting & Sustainable Construction SPD published. In the process of passing a Local Plan Partial Update which updates parts of the Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan to make sure planning decisions better address the climate emergency.	Develop updates to the full Strategy and Placemaking Plan for the period 2024-34 which further improve the sustainable construction policies to continue reducing energy demand and use, whilst also integrating adaptation elements robustly into building design requirements.	3
<b>1. Decarbonising Buildings</b>	<b>1.6</b>	Maximise benefits to B&NES residents from WECA Retrofit Accelerator Hub.	Helped shape the WECA Retrofit Accelerator Hub: a three year programme that will encourage, support and guide homeowners from initial thoughts about retrofit, through surveying, advice on measures to signposting to capable installers to carry out works. The Hub will fund consortium members to increase capacity and provision of retrofit services across the region. Region wide marketing and awareness raising campaign in 2023. CSE appointed as consortium lead in October 2022.	WECA and CSE developing first phase of the Hub for first outputs in 2023. Council will ensure maximum benefit for B&NES residents.	2
<b>2. Decarbonising Transport</b>	<b>2.1</b>	Development of a suite of capital	Developed the Journey to Net Zero strategy, which sets out how	Delivery of transport improvements	2

		programmes to reduce car use by 25% in B&NES.	the council will deliver sustainable transport for the next eight years through a suite of approved capital programmes and potential future programmes, including: building public transport options; providing for travel on bike and foot; creating improved places to live and work; cleaner, greener school travel; supporting future mobility and improved rural connectivity.	identified in the Journey to Net Zero through £540m of City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement, and liveable neighbourhood programme. Funding awarded from DfT in combination with the Bus Service Improvement Programme funding of £105m.	
<b>2. Decarbonising Transport</b>	<b>2.2</b>	Increasing ability to estimate whole-life carbon emissions of transport impact from development projects.	Developing a new West of England Regional Transport Model which allows us to model the impact of transport schemes and provides a framework for estimating the impact of projects on transport emissions to allow for better cost-benefit analysis and mapping of emissions reductions against carbon targets.	Complete and gain approval of the West of England Regional Transport Model during Spring 2023.	3
<b>2. Decarbonising Transport</b>	<b>2.3</b>	Work to increase grid capacity in BANES to allow for faster rollout of EV fast chargers.	The council is consulting with the National Grid to set aside significant funds to upgrade the grid in next funding period, beginning in 2023, to ensure grid capacity to allow for faster rollout	Continue quarterly operational engagement meetings with WPD and attend Draft Ofgem Determination	1

			of fast/rapid charge points for electric vehicles in the area.	workshops in anticipation of final determination expected by early 2023. NB Overlap with Renewable Energy section on the grid constraint issue.	
<b>3. Increasing Local Renewable Energy Generation</b>	<b>3.1</b>	Develop an evidence base to inform new Local Plan and future workstreams regarding potential deployment of renewable energy in BANES.	Completing a bottom-up assessment of potential renewable, low and zero carbon energy technologies, at different scales and locations across Bath and North East Somerset. Enabling decisions to be taken based on policies supporting and facilitating deployment these energy systems and to aid officers and developers when assessing applications for new development sites or for larger-scale new generation schemes.	Initiate work to develop renewable energy policy approach and evidence base for the new Local Plan. The primary goal will be to further enable renewable energy generation schemes, with a holistic focus on community benefit and biodiversity integration.	2
<b>3. Increasing Local Renewable Energy Generation</b>	<b>3.2</b>	Develop communication strategies to drive public interest and access to information and expertise about renewable energy.	Promoted innovative new group-buying programme led by WECA called Solar Together. Scheme gave participants reassurance that they were buying high-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and battery storage, access to competitive prices, and guidance	Review Solar Together with WECA and investigate running another round following high demand of initial offer. Develop a district-wide energy strategy. Continue work with CSE on the	3

			and information at every stage through the process.	community Renewable Energy Conversations project.	
<b>3. Increasing Local Renewable Energy Generation</b>	<b>3.3</b>	Development of Energy Action Plan to provide strategic framework and outline of short- and longer-term actions.	Review underway and strategic framework and recommendations for actions emerging. Senior officer and member engagement to take place during November and December 2022, with view to approval of first Energy Action Plan by March 2023. Will encompass both retrofit and renewables, direct delivery, influencing and partnership work.	To be determined	1
<b>4. Net Zero Council</b>	<b>4.1</b>	Develop council knowledge and capacity for increasing renewable generation on council properties.	Renewable Action Group formed to coordinate development of a pipeline of council renewable projects and spending of the renewable energy development fund. Ensure that all the council is positioned to apply for all relevant national public sector grants. C. 400kw of solar PV installed capacity on council estate; 1.3MW in pipeline; 8.3MW in potential pipeline.	Completion of sites in pipeline and feasibility work of potential pipeline sites including solar canopies on P&R car parks and 4MW ground mounted site. Energy strategy work following on from Aecom Strategy Options report and AECOM RERAS. See 3.3	2
<b>4. Net Zero Council</b>	<b>4.2</b>	Put in place the framework and policies for measuring and	A new Procurement strategy has been published which formalises the council's need to: consider the carbon footprint and	Development of method for integrating sustainable procurement strategy	2

		reducing the council's Scope 3 emissions.	environmental impact of products and services bought. A study has been commissioned from Spherics data company produce a first comprehensive estimate of council scope 3 procurement emissions.	into procurement bid and scoring documents. Dialogue with the largest emitters in the council's suppliers to review strategy for reducing supply chain emissions.	
<b>4. Net Zero Council</b>	<b>4.3</b>	Waste Services action to reduce operational carbon emissions.	Waste Services redevelopment of the Pixash Lane site has been designed to bring the operational carbon emissions from the main waste management and recycling depot in Keynsham close to zero. The redevelopment is now well underway and includes a solar array of xxx KW/MW, energy efficiency building fabric, EV charging, waste-water recycling for vehicle washing and at least 10% bio-diversity net gain.	The development is expected to be top-performing in relation to sustainable build features and future-proofed with capacity to increase recycling.	4
<b>4. Net Zero Council</b>	<b>4.4</b>	Property Services projects to reduce carbon emissions from the Council's corporate estate.	Work completed on Charlton House Care Home in Keynsham including solar roof, energy efficiency improvement, LED lighting and a heat pump. Work underway to do the same for two more care homes: Combe Lea	A new funding bid had been submitted to Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund to pay for heat pumps in the care homes above which if	3



			and Cleeve Court, due for completion end of 2022 for solar and LED lighting.	successful will be completed by 2024 A pipeline of projects in the Corporate estate to decarbonise buildings and increase renewables.	
<b>4. Net Zero Council</b>	<b>4.5</b>	Decarbonising Council fleet programme.	Converting our fleet from petrol and diesel to electric when alternative models are available, that are feasible and affordable. 30 electric vehicles currently in fleet; small vans and street cleansing pedestrian machines and sweepers. We trialed an electric waste collection truck.	6 more vehicles due for replacement this year. We are in the process when replacement is due to convert to alternatives for hand-held/small powered pieces of kit – strimmers, leaf-blowers, hedge-trimmers, chain-saws and are prioritising use of these in the CAZ and other noise and emissions sensitive areas/uses.	3
<b>4. Net Zero Council</b>	<b>4.6</b>	Aligning council policies and plans.	The council's Corporate Strategy to 2024, adopted in 2019, has tackling the climate and ecological emergency as a core policy and sets out a series of specific actions to help deliver our net zero commitments. Updates on projects that deliver the core	Work is underway on planning for the council's corporate planning frameworks following the current Corporate Strategy period. One of the options being considered for this is to	3

			policy are reported in the council's <a href="#">newsroom</a>	adopt the “doughnut” model which places the environmental ceiling alongside social outcomes as the key decision-making framework.	
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## Strategies and plans enabling delivery

### Decarbonising Transport:

[West of England Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan](#)

[West of England Joint Local Transport](#)

[Journey to Net Zero](#)

[Local Cycling and Walking Implementation Plan](#)

[Bus Service Improvement Plan](#)

[City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement](#)

[Low Traffic Neighbourhood Strategy](#)

[On-street Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy](#)

### Decarbonising Buildings and Increasing Local Renewable Energy Generation:

[Local Planning Policies](#)

[Energy Efficiency, Retrofitting and Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document](#)

### Net Zero Council:

Waste Strategy (*available early 2023*)

Corporate Estate Management Strategy (*available end of 2023*)