

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 7 September 2021

10:00

Council Chamber, County Buildings, Stafford

NB. The meeting will be webcast live which can be viewed here -

<https://staffordshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

John Tradewell
Director of Corporate Services
30 August 2021

A G E N D A

PART ONE

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2021** (Pages 1 - 2)
4. **Climate Change Annual Report (2021) and Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2** (Pages 3 - 30)
5. **Work Programme** (Pages 31 - 36)
6. **Exclusion of the Public**

The Chairman to move:-

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of Local Government Act 1972 indicated below”.

PART TWO

(All reports in this section are exempt)

Membership	
Charlotte Atkins	Bernard Peters
Tina Clements	James Salisbury
Mike Davies	Bob Spencer
Colin Greatorex (Chairman)	Samantha Thompson

Gill Heath (Vice-Chairman
(Scrutiny))
Jeremy Oates
Jeremy Pert

Conor Wileman (Vice-Chairman
(Overview))
Mike Worthington

Note for Members of the Press and Public

Filming of Meetings

The Open (public) section of this meeting may be filmed for live or later broadcasting or other use, and, if you are at the meeting, you may be filmed, and are deemed to have agreed to being filmed and to the use of the recording for broadcast and/or other purposes.

Recording by Press and Public

Recording (including by the use of social media) by the Press and Public is permitted from the public seating area provided it does not, in the opinion of the chairman, disrupt the meeting.

Scrutiny and Support Manager: Nicholas Pountney Tel: (01785) 276153

Minutes of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 29 July 2021

Present: Colin Greatorex (Chairman)

Attendance

Charlotte Atkins	Jeremy Pert
Tina Clements	Bernard Peters
Mike Davies	James Salisbury
Gill Heath (Vice-Chairman (Scrutiny))	Samantha Thompson
Jeremy Oates	Mike Worthington

Apologies: Bob Spencer and Conor Wileman

PART ONE

5. Declarations of Interest

There were none on this occasion.

6. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the comment that the Committee agree that Care Director is not a priority.

7. Integrated Performance Report - Quarter 1, 2021/22

The Leader of the Council introduced the report and highlighted the key areas. He informed the Committee of the measures being taken in light of COVID 19 and the impact on council services and that the future focus was on the way forward.

He also detailed the expected surplus at the end of quarter one. He highlighted the areas of risk identified in the report and also the high level of vaccinations in the care sector. Other areas were funding for schools and the skills and economy agenda.

The Committee asked about access to free schools meals and its relationship to activities which the Leader would come back to the committee and also the success of the schemes.

The Committee debated the presentation of the performance information and it was agreed this would be looked at further.

A Member raised issues in relation to child protection, foster parents and education which the Leader responded to.

The issue of care home savings was raised to which the Leader responded that his was being monitored.

Climate Change and the pace of change was highlighted.

RESOVLED : That

- (a) the performance reporting to Overview and Scrutiny be further explored
- (b) that Climate Change would be an item for overview and scrutiny

8. Proposals for Scrutiny of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Annual Budget and Council Tax

The Scrutiny and Support Manager detailed the purpose of establishing the MTFS Working Group and the role it undertakes. The Corporate Finance Manager supported the role the Working Group undertakes.

RESOVLED: That the following members be appointed to the Working Group

Cllr C Greatorex
Cllr B Peters
Cllr J Salisbury
Cllr C Atkins
Cllr J Pert
Cllr G Heath
Cllr S Thompson
Cllr J Oates

9. Work Programme

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be noted and agreed.

Chairman

Local Members Interest
N/A

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Tuesday 07 September 2021

Climate Change Annual Report (2021) and Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2

Recommendations

I recommend that the Committee:

- a. Review the Climate Change Annual Report (2021), note the progress that has been made and make recommendations which can be considered for next year's climate change annual report.
- b. Review the draft Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2) and make suggestions for any required amendments prior to formal Cabinet approval in October 2021.

Report of Cllr Simon Tagg, Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change

Summary

What is the Overview and Scrutiny Committee being asked to do and why?

1. This report provides Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members with an update on progress with one of the core principles in our Strategic Plan namely 'Think climate change in all we do to limit our impact on the planet'.
2. The report references two key documents; our annual Climate Change progress (as required by the approved [Climate Change Strategic Development Framework](#)) and the draft Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2).
3. It is intended that an annual report will be produced and submitted to the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee each year so that progress on our commitment to become net carbon zero by 2050 can be tracked. The 2021 report is the first to be produced since the Council declared a climate change emergency in July 2019 and Committee Members are asked for comments on how the report can be improved in subsequent years.
4. Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2) follows on from [CCAP 1](#) which was approved and launched last autumn. CCAP2 is currently in draft and will be formally approved by Cabinet in October 2021. Committee Members are asked to help shape the final document before it signed off although it should be noted that it is subject to an annual review to ensure that it stays relevant to changes in technology and events.

Report

Background

5. The County Council has championed the climate change agenda for many years and our previous carbon reduction strategy, Green Shoots, published in 2011 built on previous commitments to this agenda.
6. With the setting of new legislation in May 2019 the UK became the first major economy to pass a law requiring the UK to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050. This means that the country needs to remove as much carbon from the atmosphere as it emits.
7. Following the publication of the new legislation the County Council committed itself to this agenda by declaring a climate change emergency and setting up an all-party group to review progress made to date and suggest initial ideas to reduce the County Council's CO2 emissions further. This work resulted in the publication of a Climate Change Action Plan 1 (CCAP 1) in November 2020.
8. Strong progress is being made on the 22 specific actions contained in CCAP 1 and it should be noted that some actions have a timeframe of more than one year.
9. Additional resources have been secured during 2021 to develop and promote internal and external communications on the climate change agenda, linking in with regional and national events.
10. An internal project group, with officer representatives from all appropriate teams, has been meeting regularly since December 2020 and this group has been used to develop Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2). CCAP 2 is envisaged to be a plan which will be current until 2025, although it will be reviewed yearly to ensure that it continues to be fit for purpose. There is now a need to ensure that there is appropriate member input before finalising the document.
11. Work has also been taking place with the District and Borough Councils to see how efforts across the Staffordshire local authority network can be better co-ordinated to maximum impact. Part of this work has been facilitated by Keele University who have, to date, hosted three workshops. The output from the workshops is currently being pulled together prior to presenting to a joint meeting of senior members and officers.

Annual Climate Change Report

12. The annual climate change report is attached as **Appendix 1**.
13. The report notes a significant reduction in carbon emissions of c12,700 tCo2e from 2018/19 to 2019/20, a reduction of some 25%. This reduction is predominantly as a result of switching to a green energy electricity tariff in the summer of 2019. It should be noted that this significant reduction in annual emissions is unlikely to be replicated going forward and future reporting is likely to show slower progress due to the nature of the challenge before the authority.

14. The report provides an indication of the carbon emissions by area of operation following an audit of the 2019/20 data. The format is consistent with the refresh of the 2018/19 carbon baseline carried out for Climate Change Strategic Development Framework.
15. The report also provides an overview of achievements around the five core themes contained in the Climate Change Strategic Development Framework which link to the actions in CCAP 1.
16. The report provides details on the Climate Change Member Fund that was launched last year. As set out in the report, 116 grants were awarded and lessons are being learnt so that improvements can be made should it be agreed that the fund is run in subsequent years. Information on the distribution of the awards by district/borough areas in 2020/21 is provided below:

CCDC Area	£9,091
ESBC Area	£10,579
LDC Area	£11,731
NULBC Area	£6,400
SSDC Area	£12,246
SBC Area	£12,342
SMDC Area	£11,750
TBC Area	£1,935

17. Committee Members are asked to review the annual report (attached as Appendix 1) and consider what improvements can be made to the reporting format in future years.

Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2)

18. The draft CCAP 2 is attached as Appendix 2 and as explained in paragraph 10 above this is intended to be a plan which will be current until 2025.
19. CCAP 2 has been developed with input from officers of an internal officer group as well as oversight from the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change.
20. As mentioned paragraph 8 above, several actions in CCAP 1 have a timescale greater than 1 year. Where appropriate a few CCAP 1 actions have been continued into CCAP 2.
21. Committee Members are asked to review the information in Action Plan 2 (attached as Appendix 2) and suggest amendments prior to formal approval by Cabinet in October 2021. It should be noted that the action plan will be subject to an annual review to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.

Summary

22. Good progress has been made on the Climate Change agenda since last summer.
23. The 2021 Annual Report outlines the main achievements made and records a significant reduction in the Council's carbon emissions from 2018/19 to 2019/20.
24. It is intended to formally approve CCAP 2 in October 2021 once any recommendations made by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee have been carefully considered.

Link to Strategic Plan

25. The information in this report has a direct link to the Council's Strategic Plan as Climate Change is one of the four core principles which help shape all that we do.
26. The annual report will help us track our progress on this important agenda and the actions contained in CCAP 2 will ensure that all relevant areas of the Council are able to contribute to the target of becoming net carbon zero by 2050.

Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity

27. It has been several years since Climate Change was reviewed directly by an overview and scrutiny committee. As climate change runs through all of the Council's operations and activities this is a matter that is likely to be of increasing interest to all overview and scrutiny committees going forward.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Climate Change Annual Report (2021)
- Appendix 2 – Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2 (CCAP 2)

Contact Details

Assistant Director: Clive Thomson, Assistant Director for Connectivity and Sustainability

Report Author: James Cartwright
Job Title: Interim Sustainability Manager
Telephone No.: 01785 277253
E-Mail Address: James.cartwright@staffordshire.gov.uk

Climate Change

Annual Report 2020/21



Introduction

This annual report provides details of the performance of Staffordshire County Council (SCC) in the area of carbon management and monitoring. It presents our carbon emissions for 2019/20, sets out our achievements over the past year and also highlights the challenges ahead.

In July 2019 the Council declared a climate change emergency and a target to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. This replaced the previous commitment to reduce carbon emissions to 80% of the 1990 baseline.

As a first step towards achieving the net zero goal the Council published the first Climate Change Action Plan in November 2020.

The plan identified five key areas for action:

- **organisation carbon reduction**
- **air quality**
- **natural environment**
- **waste**
- **behaviour change**

The Strategic Development Framework released in February 2021 sets out how the authority will work towards achieving the revised carbon emissions target, using the five key areas identified for delivery in the Action Plan.

Staffordshire County Council Emissions

The Council has made a commitment to monitor its carbon emissions each year and is calculated during the following financial year. The emissions presented in this report represent the financial year 2019/20.

Two additional activities of corporate fleet and Amey (Highways) grey fleet were included within scopes for the 2019/20 monitoring. As these activities only produced an additional 107 tCO₂e (fleet 97 tCO₂e and Amey grey fleet 10 tCO₂e) it did not require an adjustment to the 2018/19 baseline.

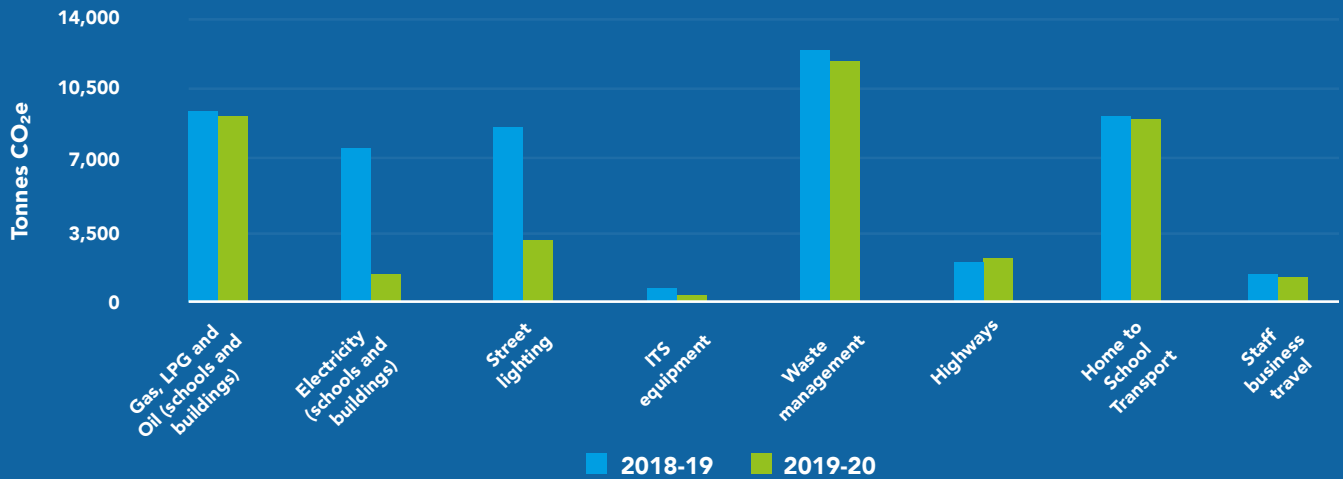
The Councils total emissions for 2019/20 was 37,967 tCO₂e, a decrease of 12,685 from 50,652 tCO₂e the previous year. This decrease is largely attributed to maintained schools and corporate buildings transferring to a renewable energy tariff in August 2019, as well as street lights and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) converting to a renewable tariff the following October. Although transferring to a renewable tariff has substantially reduced our carbon footprint we continue to investigate and prioritise reducing our energy needs across all our services.



Figure one compares the emissions by area of operation from 2018/19 to 2019/20. Apart from highways, which had a very small increase all other areas of operation experienced a decline in emissions from the previous year. The data for water supply and treatment for maintained

schools and corporate buildings was not available for 2019/20. Water only forms a small part of the total emissions and a constant of 99 tCO₂e from the previous year was applied.

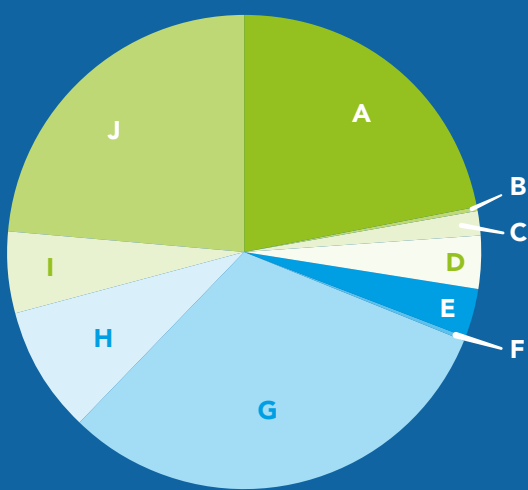
Figure 1 Carbon emissions comparison by area of operation



With the shift to a renewable energy supplier, waste management now forms the largest proportion of the Councils carbon footprint,

with home to school transport and heating of our schools and corporate buildings collectively making 79% of all the Councils emissions.

Figure 2 carbon emissions by area of operation 2019-20 (tonnes CO₂e)



- A. Gas consumption - 8425
- B. LPG consumption - 35
- C. Heating Oil consumption - 673
- D. School and Buildings - Electricity consumption - 1293.8
- E. Fleet - 97
- F. Staff Travel- 1243
- G. Water Supply and Treatment - 99
- H. Waste Handling - 11775
- I. Electricity Street Lighting and ITS - 3312
- J. Highways (Amey) - 2095
- K. Home to School Transport - 8919



Achievements

Organisational carbon reduction

Schools and corporate buildings – The Staffordshire County Councils maintained schools and corporate buildings transferred over to a renewable energy tariff in August 2019, which offset 5,175 tonnes of carbon in 2019/20. Almost £1.5 million pounds has been invested in 41 maintained schools on energy reduction projects to improve the heating systems and provide more efficient lighting. Just over £800,000 was invested in corporate buildings, such as children’s centres libraries and enterprise centres on heating systems, improved insulation and more efficient lighting. Chasewater Innovation Centre and Cannock Chase Enterprise centre installed biomass boilers to allow a transition to a renewable heating system.

Renewables – The County Council have photovoltaics (solar PV) installations on 10 libraries and 14 County Farms, which put 274,000 kwh back to the grid in 2019/20, the equivalent of saving 70 tCo₂e. Options are being investigated for a large scale solar farm project. Provisional scoping work to consider potential sites and the investment required to develop the project is in progress.

Street Lighting – Staffordshire were successful in receiving Salix funding to upgrade existing street lighting to modern LED equivalents. The LED project will upgrade 47,700 lights work has started and will be delivered over a 4 year period, reducing emissions by 2,650t per annum and saving the council over a million pounds a year.

Natural Environment

Flood Management – Staffordshire has been experiencing increased flooding, especially in the last few years. Last year 281 properties reported internal flooding with an estimated damage and recovery cost in excess of £8 million. Rather than just installing hard-engineering solutions, the Council is also investing in natural flood management designs and approaches. In 2020/21 £140,000 was invested in soft engineering works, such as community earth bunds and community fencing across 8 sites to reduce flood risk. Looking forward, the Flood Risk Team have conducted a Buildings at Risk Analysis and are also commissioning an innovative Community Vulnerability Assessment to better understand the risk of flooding and to help identify a forward plan of schemes.

programme. This will lead to enhanced community resilience through improved and innovative digital and physical infrastructure working with regional and public sector partners, universities and charity.

Habitat management – Our Regeneration and Highways teams continue to enhance the County’s prosperity through schemes including i54 and highways improvements, such as the Western relief road in Stafford.

This year as part of these schemes, thousands of native trees were planted to form woodlands and hedgerows for the enhancement of local landscape and biodiversity habitats, along with enhancing wetlands/ponds. All of which will have a positive effect on reducing our carbon impact.

The Flood Risk Team have also been successful in obtaining national funding for an innovative community resilience scheme across a 6-year



Behavioural Change

Working with businesses – SBEN launched the GROWTH mapping diagnostic tool for businesses in February 2021, with 17 businesses registering to have an assessment in just one month. The tool helps businesses to identify their strength and weaknesses on sustainability and provides advice on how to analyse and prioritise environmental sustainability goals.

SBEN deliver a Low Carbon Business Evolution Programme to help businesses across the Stoke and Staffordshire LEP reduce their carbon footprint and increase energy efficiency. Through offering free specialist low carbon reviews to businesses and grant funding of up to 60% to implement the recommendations the programme delivered a saving of 465 tonnes of carbon over the year for Staffordshire businesses.

Climate Change funding – The Climate change action fund, launched in November 2020 provided funding to local schools, community groups and parish councils to help reduce the impact of climate change. The scheme attracted a wide diversity of applications and awarded £76,000 across 114 applicants.

Next steps

To achieve net zero the Council needs to achieve a reduction of 1600 tonnes of carbon each year from the 2018/19 baseline. Last year we exceeded this target through transferring to a renewable tariff for schools, corporate buildings and street light electricity. Although we are ahead of our target for carbon reduction we recognise that there are some significant challenges ahead with many of the easy quick win solutions now completed. We also recognise that we will not be able to eliminate all of our emissions by 2050 and will start investigating offsetting opportunities such as tree planting.

Successful applications ranged from upgrading lighting to LED in schools and community buildings, building bike shelters in schools and tree planting in schools and community spaces. For further information on the scheme see appendix 3.

Our approach to managing climate change - Following the Councils climate change declaration to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 an action plan was published in November 2020. The Plan listed 22 initial actions for the Council to progress, based on 5 priority themes.

To complement the Climate Change Action Plan and to provide an update to the Green Shoots (2011) publication a Climate Change Strategic Development Framework was published in February 2021. This framework sets out the long term approach to delivery in working both internally, with partners and the Staffordshire community to achieve the net zero carbon emission target.

A refresh of the climate change action plan is in progress to identify new programmes and projects for the next five years. Extensive consultation with the diverse range of services the council provides has taken place to identify challenging practicable targets.

The last year has predominantly focussed on our internal processes and programmes. Our Strategic Framework identifies the importance of taking a coordinated action with other Staffordshire councils, businesses, the voluntary sector and residents. It is our ambition to work towards a co-ordinated approach to work towards achieving shared goals.



Appendix 1

Staffordshire County Council approach to Climate change

The County Council has championed the climate change agenda for many years and our carbon reduction strategy, Green Shoots, published in 2011 built on previous commitments to this agenda. Staffordshire County Council recognises that climate change is the biggest environmental challenge facing the world today and has reflected this by identifying climate change as one of the four key principles in the Councils Strategic Plan.

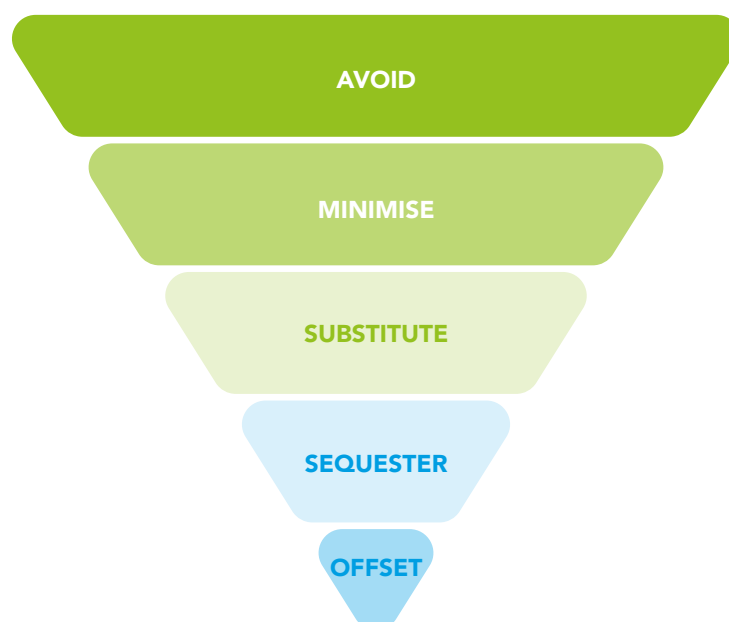
With the setting of new legislation in May 2019, through an amendment to the Climate Change Act 2008, the UK became the first major economy to pass a law requiring the country to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050. This means that the country needs to remove as much carbon from the atmosphere as it emits.

Following the publication of this new legislation, the County Council committed itself to this agenda by declaring a climate change

emergency in July 2019 to also achieve net zero emissions by 2050. This replaced the previous commitment to reduce carbon emissions to 80% of the 1990 baseline.

We have seen a considerable reduction in our carbon emissions from the initial 1990 baseline of 200,000 tonnes. This is partially attributed to many of our schools converting to academies which, once converted are not included as Council emissions. A number of carbon reduction measures have been implemented since this time which has reduced the carbon impact of our services.

The County Council recognises that a range of actions are needed to reduce the Council carbon emissions. We adhere to the carbon hierarchy principles of avoiding and reducing emissions as a priority, where emissions cannot be reasonably reduced any further we consider sequestering.



We also recognise that we need to put in measures so we can adapt to our changing climate.



Appendix 2

How we measure our carbon emissions

Each year Staffordshire County Council monitors its carbon emissions although it has no statutory duty to report these emissions. Due to the complex structure of the Council's operations, with many services operated under contract or lease, SCC has selected to report on emission sources which it has operational control over, i.e. those services which the Council has the full authority to introduce and implement its operating policies.

The DEFRA 2019 carbon conversion factors, provided for use by UK and international organisations to report on greenhouse gas emissions have been used to calculate the 2019/20 emissions.

In 2018/19 we reviewed what we reported against and established a new baseline incorporating a wider range of activities, including services previously unrecorded in the baseline such as home school transport and waste disposal/recycling.

Schools which have converted to academies are no longer included as a Council emission. Academy schools are in total control of their operations and Staffordshire County Council receive no income for their operation or management. The Council is however committed to sharing information with the academies to encourage adoption of the key strategies and so reduce their energy consumption and emissions too.

Greenhouse gas emissions are recorded against the three standard scopes for reporting.

Scope 1 – All direct emissions – these emissions arise as a direct result of our activities under our control. For Staffordshire County Council this includes

- gas consumption from all maintained schools and corporate buildings
- liquified petroleum gas (LPG) usage from corporate buildings
- heating oil consumption from maintained schools
- fuel used for fleet vehicles

Scope 2 – Indirect emissions – these emissions are our emissions associated with the consumption of electricity purchased for maintained schools and corporate buildings. Where the electricity is 100% sourced from a registered renewable supplier, emissions are zero.

Scope 3 – All other indirect emissions – this includes a much wider remit and includes the activities which we do not own or directly control, for example services under contract. This includes:

- business miles associated with staff travel
- passenger kilometres associated with staff travel via train
- water consumption (supply and treatment) from all maintained schools and corporate buildings
- contracted waste operations and processes
- electricity consumption associated with street lighting and ITS equipment
- fuel consumption associated with Amey (Highways) operation
- home to school transport.



Appendix 3

Climate Change Action Fund

The climate change action fund ran from 2 November 2020 to 26 February 2021. Grants of up to £1000 were invited from schools, voluntary and community groups, societies, charities and parish councils. To encourage a spread of funding across the county, each county councillor received an allocation of £2,000 to award to their area.

148 funding requests were received, with £76,074 being awarded across 115 applicants. Of the 115 successful applicants, 72 of these received the full amount requested. Lower levels of funding were awarded to applicants where parts of the project were not considered eligible for funding or Councillors had insufficient budget to fund a project in full. Reduced funding was awarded to 43 applicants.

Projects which were considered high priority to receive full funding included:

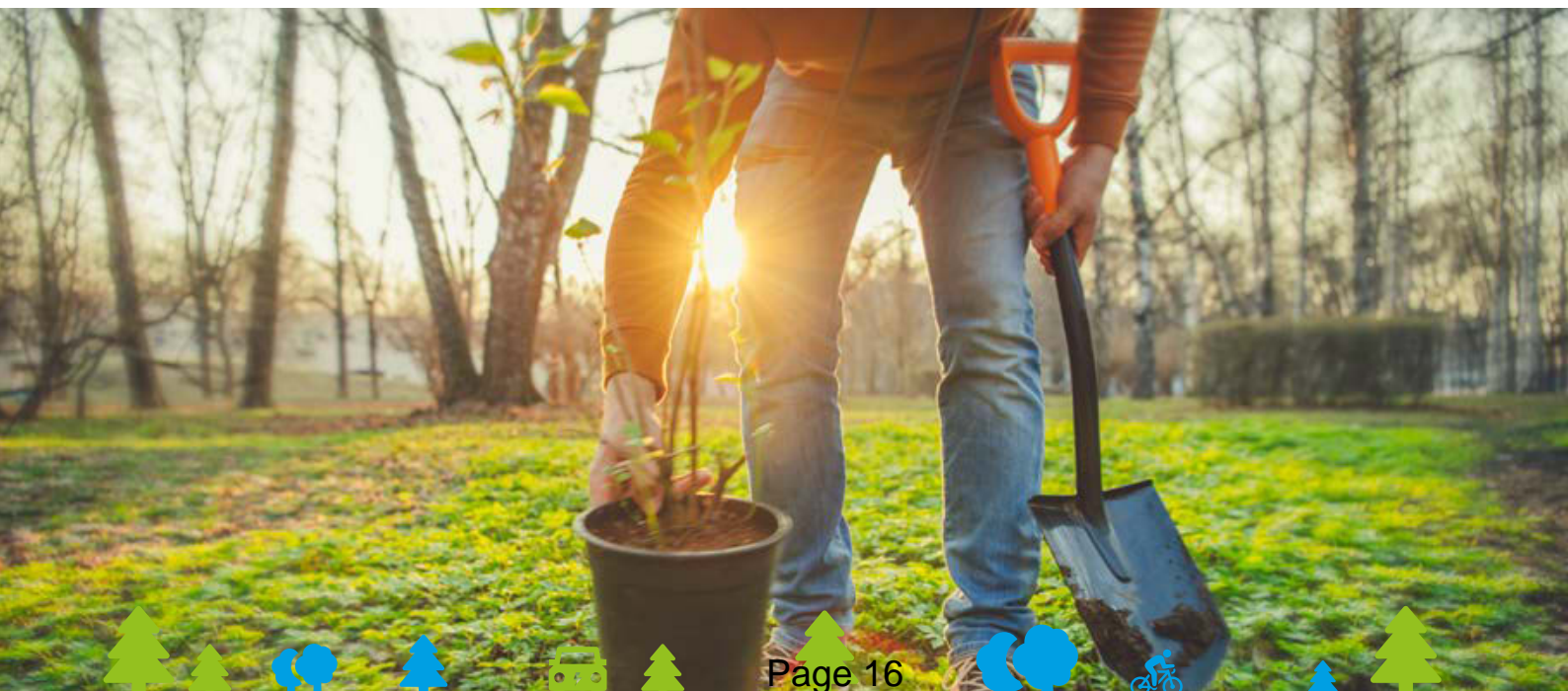
- energy efficiency measures including LED lighting upgrades, improved insulation and improvements to glazing either to reduce excessive solar gain or improve thermal efficiency.

- bike racks and scooter pods to encourage more active travel and reduced car use
- tree planting

Projects representing little or no medium to long term carbon benefit or adapting to our changing climate were not funded and included:

- general biodiversity improvements, such as wildflower planting on areas not currently intensively managed
- outdoor play areas and equipment
- Improving environmental awareness, unless it specifically related to climate change.

For any project to be delivered the landowner had to demonstrate permission for the project was granted, a number of projects were unable to receive landowner permission.





Climate Change

Draft Action Plan 2021- 2025

Page 17

Doing our Bit to make
Staffordshire Sustainable

Introduction

Staffordshire County Council recognises that climate change is the biggest environmental challenge facing the world today and has reflected this by identifying climate change as one of the four key principles in the Council's Strategic Plan.

Staffordshire County Council committed itself to this agenda by declaring a climate change emergency in July 2019 to also achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Strategic Development Framework released in February 2021 sets out how the authority will work towards achieving its carbon emissions target.

The County Council recognises that a range of actions are needed to stop or reduce the Council's carbon emissions. These actions are to either stop carbon emissions, develop ways to remove carbon that is already in the atmosphere (sequestration) or help communities and businesses prepare for the impact of a changing climate (adaptation). In achieving these actions, the authority will play its part in the global effort to reduce the impact of Climate Change and meet its net carbon zero target.

The Council will monitor its carbon emissions each year, to track the success of these actions. This plan will be reviewed annually to ensure that it continues to deliver the Council's commitment to the climate change agenda.

Simon Tagg - Staffordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change



Key Themes

Page 19



Theme 1: Carbon Reduction

Theme 2: Air Quality

Theme 3: Natural Environment

Theme 4: Waste

Theme 5: Behavioural Change

Carbon Reduction

The Carbon Reduction theme has the most amount of actions within the plan. These actions cover internal staff training, resource use and efficient operation of services as well as starting to change the way that we work. The actions also look to include climate change thinking in policy and Governance processes.

Ref	Description	Action
CN-01-21	Ensure climate change and sustainability impacts are considered in decision making, including land disposals and budgets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise the Cabinet Report standard template to include a section on climate change. • Business case templates to include financial benefits or consequences of delivering low carbon alternatives. • Procurement process to include consideration of the impacts on climate change.
CN-02-21	Ensure sufficient resources are available to support business areas in identifying opportunities and understanding carbon impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the resources required to progress the climate change agenda across the council. • Liaise with the Staffordshire Business Environment Network (sben) to identify any opportunity to share expertise between organisations. • Climate Change team to provide expertise and support to business areas to develop ideas to deliver innovation.
CN-03-21	Research sequestration and other offset potential actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify best practice ideas from other local authorities and industry. • Consider the outcome of the Renewable Energy Audit. • Outline options and make recommendations for sequestration and/or offset projects.

Carbon Reduction

Ref	Description	Action
CN-04-21	Continued liaison with district and borough councils to discuss how planning considerations can include climate change mitigation and adaptation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure climate change is a standing agenda item for the Staffordshire Development Officers Group.
CN-05-21	Invest in improving driving styles to reduce preventative carbon emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll out eLearning green driving module for Highways.
CN-06-21	Ensure effective vehicle utilisation for entitled home to school transport pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue all school children with a Smart Pass to monitor usage to identify any inefficiencies in the system.• Evaluate results and consider if any service changes can be made.
CN-07-21	Investigate the potential of using pick up points for Home to School transport and Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liaise with Members, Families & Communities Service and SEN schools to see what scope there is to introduce pick up and drop off points.

Carbon Reduction

Ref	Description	Action
CN-08-21	Increase the number of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with district and borough councils to agree a consistent approach to EV infrastructure across Staffordshire. • Investigate the potential to upgrade electricity supply in SCC building stock to facilitate EV charging in retained property portfolio. • Develop an EV Infrastructure Strategy and Low Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Action Plan • Maximise opportunities to bid for Department for Transport funding, including workplace charging fund (at SCC buildings) and on street residential charging fund. • Work with Amey to roll out EV charging across all highways depots.
CN-09-21	Investigate the transition of fleet to alternative fuels or more carbon efficient options where appropriate by 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the transition of fleet vehicles to low carbon fuels or low carbon technology.
CN-10-21	Reduce the emissions from Highways vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse telematics data to optimise routes and driver behaviour. • Investigate potential for introducing automated systems, such as automatic gritting.

Carbon Reduction

Ref	Description	Action
CN-11-21	Complete a review of all SCC owned or leased buildings with service areas to identify future needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop business asset plans in each district and borough and analyse the business assets for long term functionality.
CN-12-21	Pilot using warm air from data centre to heat floor above.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop agreement with contractors for provision of air cooling system at QB data centre. • Advance planning for air cooling system at County Archive.
CN-13-21	Improve energy efficiency of all suitable SCC owned buildings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate data on running costs, energy usage, type and condition of lighting, boilers and insulation. • Calculate running cost and impact per square metre. • Identify the properties that are most inefficient. • Develop programme of work that looks at replacing lighting, insulation and boilers.
CN-14-21	Install Building Energy Management Systems to all suitable buildings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify SCC owned buildings that do not have a Building Energy Management System (BEM) and prioritise installations.

Carbon Reduction

Ref	Description	Action
CN-15-21	Move to battery operated plant tools wherever possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review SCC owned equipment and usage. Replace where possible.• Establish potential for battery operated tools to be specified in future ground maintenance contracts and apply if possible.
CN-16-21	Emissions Monitoring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to monitor and report the Council's annual carbon emissions.

Air Quality

The Councils single highest contributor to emissions comes from home to school transport fuel consumption. This activity accounts for 27% of our overall total carbon footprint. The Council aims to improve air quality by working with vehicle operators within the county through encouraging the introduction of more efficient engines as well as using the authorities influence on vehicle operators within the county to reduce fossil fuel use.

Ref	Description	Action
AQ-01-21	Investigate the impact of introducing a standard requirement for Euro5 or better for home to school transport contracts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Market test feasibility (cost & availability) of including Euro5 as a standard requirement.
AQ-02-21	Work with local bus operators to improve the energy efficiency of public transport in Staffordshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree a bus service improvement plan with interested local bus operators with an agreed transition path to low emission buses.

Natural Environment

The natural environment is key to removing carbon out of the atmosphere, through carbon sequestration. The focus of this theme is to maximise the benefit the councils land holding has on the climate. New land management opportunities will be identified to further enhance the positive carbon impact of County land with additional benefits of enhanced biodiversity.

Ref	Description	Action
NE-01-21	Commission a study to determine the current sequestration / storage of carbon in natural habitats on SCC landholdings and the potential to increase it through tree planting and habitat enhancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with consultants to produce a review of land/habitats in Staffordshire (including carbon impact, carbon storage benefits, potential opportunities, other benefits such as social and GIS data). Review report outcomes and recommendations and produce business case to take forward recommendations. Develop a standard list of attributes accessible to all GIS users.
NE-02-21	Undertake a programme of tree planting and habitat enhancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify opportunities for small and large scale tree planting. Identify opportunities for carbon sequestration through habitat enhancement.
NE-03-21	Review policies that impact on our management of habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review land management policies and consider options to lower carbon intensity and/or improve biodiversity.

Waste

Waste is the Council's biggest source of emissions making up 38% of the total Emissions. These emissions include not only the emissions from the waste generated by the Council but also Staffordshire households. It measures the emissions from handling the waste at the recycling centres and the emissions from operating the energy recovery facilities for this waste.

Ref	Description	Action
W-01-21	Consider the long term capacity needs for Energy Recovery Facilities (ERF) in Staffordshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider contract requirements for an ERF at Hanford. • Plan for contract requirements when the ERF at Four Ashes reverts entirely to SCC in 2039.
W-02-21	Plateau growth in waste to 0% by 2025, using 2019 pre-pandemic tonnage as the baseline.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver communications campaigns to encourage behaviour changes. • Work with district and borough councils collection authorities to identify common opportunities to boost recycling levels. • Hold a climate change & waste conference.
W-03-21	Reduce food waste and garden waste in the residual waste stream.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate options for a single food waste procurement contract to encourage the districts and borough councils to introduce separate food waste collections ahead of proposed legislative changes. • Promote use of home composting bins. • Continue to support the Waste Savvy volunteer programme.

Waste

Ref	Description	Action
W-04-21	Increase recycling at the Recycling Centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a communications campaigns to reduce non recyclable waste and encourage good recycling habits. • Regularly review the range of materials that can be recycled at the Recycling Centres to react to new opportunities.
W-05-21	Ensure that haulage from Recycling Centres is completed with the maximum permitted weight for each load.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out tool box talks with site staff on the importance of compacting and how to do it. • Ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ All plant operatives have appropriate JCB training for efficient use of equipment. ◦ Load height in containers forms part of supervisor/ team leaders routine. ◦ Minimum / maximum load height indicators are drawn on each container.
W-06-21	Investigate feasibility of moving to alternative fuels for the Recycling Centres haulage and onsite vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the potential for use of alternative fuels/low carbon fuels to be specified for outsourced haulage and owned vehicles and equipment.
W-07-21	Development of Staffordshire Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to reduce haulage requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress scoping for Staffordshire MRF.

Behavioural Change

Climate change is a problem that is facing everyone. To tackle the issues it will need everyone to make changes to their daily lives. The council plan to work with business and other Councils within Staffordshire to produce a joined-up approach to tackling climate change that reaches beyond just the actions of the Authority.

Ref	Description	Action
BC-01-21	Offer funding through the Climate change action fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Launch Round 2 of the fund.
BC-02-21	Communication and behaviour change campaign for staff and residents on climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase climate change awareness in all staff through a variety of media channels under the Making Staffordshire Sustainable branding.• Increase climate change awareness in residents through the Making Staffordshire Sustainable branding and by delivering bespoke internally developed campaigns, supporting and promoting national campaigns and working in partnership with the district and borough council's.• Help to promote and share climate change information with schools.

Behavioural Change

Ref	Description	Action
BC-03-21	Develop an adaptation strategy and plans) for SCC to reduce the impact of the changing climate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a Climate Change Adaptation plan.
BC-04-21	Work with businesses to raise awareness and reduce their carbon footprint.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with Staffordshire Business Environment Network (sben) to identify opportunities to forward climate change agenda.• sben to roll out carbon calculator for businesses.
BC-04-21	Establish a Sustainability Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board to set a countywide strategic direction in ways of working to support the transition to Net Zero.

WORK PROGRAMME – 2021/2022

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee is the Council's principal overview and scrutiny committee. It is responsible for co-ordinating and approving the scrutiny work programmes, overseeing the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and ensuring coherence of approach to cross cutting policy themes. The committee also has a key role in challenging progress around the Council's ambitions of running the business well.

The Committee also scrutinises those areas of the County Council's activity focused on corporate improvement. Its remit covers:

- Holding the Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources of the Council to account for achievement of the overall vision of a connected Staffordshire.
- The Council's overall performance and approach to managing performance and Strategic Corporate Planning
- The Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy
- The Council's on-going programme of improvement and transformation.
- The Committee is responsible for scrutiny of achievement against the Council's strategic priorities
- The Council as a commissioning organisation including how it uses customer insight to drive improvements in services

We review our work programme regularly to ensure it remains relevant to the challenges facing local communities, the Council and its partners.

County Councillor Colin Greatorex

Chairman of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

If you would like to know more about our work programme or how to raise issues for potential inclusion on a work programme then, please contact Nick Pountney - Scrutiny and Support Manager – Nicholas.pountney@staffordshire.gov.uk

Date of Meeting	Topic	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities	Background/Outcome
10 June 2021	<p>Introduction to the Committee and Work Programme Planning</p> <p>Members: Alan White/Ian Parry Officers: John Tradewell/Rob Salmon/Nick Pountney</p>		
2 July 2021 Cancelled Reserved for Call In			
29 July 2021	<p>Integrated Performance Report – Quarter 1 2020/21</p> <p>Members: Alan White/Ian Parry Officers: John Tradewell/Rob Salmon</p>		
	<p>Appointment of the Medium Term Financial Strategy Working Group</p> <p>Officers: Carol Bloxham/Nick Pountney</p>		
6 August 2021 Cancelled Reserved for Call in			
7 September 2021	<p>Climate Change Annual Report and Action Plan 2</p> <p>Member: Simon Tagg Officer: Clive Thomson</p>		
1 October 2021 Reserved for Call In			
5 October 2021	<p>Corporate Complaints Annual Report</p> <p>Member: Alan White/Ian Parry Officer: Kate Bullivant</p>		

Date of Meeting	Topic	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities	Background/Outcome
8 November 2021 Reserved for Call In			
16 November 2021	Integrated Performance Report – Quarter 2 2020/21 Members: Alan White/Ian Parry Officers: John Tradewell/Rob Salmon		
3 December 2021	Digital Strategy Member: Ian Parry Officer: John Tradewell/Kerry Dove		
7 January 2022 Reserved for Call In			
20 January 2022	Development of the Strategic Plan Member: Alan White Officer: John Tradewell		
4 February 2022 Reserved for Call In			
4 March 2022 Reserved for Call In			
29 March 2022			

Date of Meeting	Topic	Link to Council's Strategic Priorities	Background/Outcome
5 April 2022 Reserved for Call In			
TBC	Equal Opportunities		<p>Raised at 3/7/20 committee – need more equality areas in the work programme. Discussion with Chair and Vice Chairs/officers 6/10/20.</p> <p>Draft paper being prepared, setting out the current position from both a community and workforce perspective. Focus groups to be arranged. Following this a general refresh of Equality Objectives will be carried out. Then report to Corporate Review for scrutiny and to inform the committee of the areas which need priority.</p>
TBC	<p>Governance and control of arm's length companies/partners. E.g. Nexxus/Entrust/AMEY. Particularly in light of Robin Hood Energy/Nottingham City Council. What is out process, how is performance measured, how are contract changes negotiated, what influence do we have.</p> <p>Member: Philip White Officer: Helen Riley/Darryl Evers/John Tradewell/Ian Turner</p>		<p>Item discussed with Chair and Vice Chairs. MTFS to look at financial aspects. Report requested for early 2021, possibly January in line with MTFS findings.</p>
TBC Data Sharing			
TBC People Strategy Recruitment Smart Working/Future Office			

Items for Consideration for the Work Programme

Suggested item	Link to the Council's Commissioning Plans	Background	Possible Option

Networks – E.g. Leaders group/CE groups/LGA - how is the information shared?		Discussed at Chairs/Vice Chairs meeting 07/10/20	

Working Group updates

MTFS 2021/22	Appointment of Members 2021	Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr C Creatorex • Cllr B Peters • Cllr J Salisbury • Cllr C Atkins • Cllr J Pert • Cllr G Heath • Cllr S Thompson • Cllr J Oates 	Observers
--------------	------------------------------------	---	-----------

Page 35

Suggested Working Group item	Link to the Council's Commissioning Plans	Background	Possible Option

Membership - County Councillors	Calendar of Committee Meetings
Colin Creatorex (Chairman) Conor Wileman (Vice Chairman - Overview)	10 June 2021 2 July 2021 reserved for call in CANCELLED

Gill Heath (Vice Chairman - Scrutiny)	29 July 2021	
	6 August 2021	reserved for call in CANCELLED
Charlotte Atkins	7 September 2021	
Tina Clements	1 October 2021	reserved for call-in
Mike Davies	5 October 2021	
Jeremy Oates	8 November 2021	reserved for call-in
Jeremy Pert	16 November 2021	
Bernard Peters	3 December 2021	
James Salisbury	7 January 2022	reserved for call-in
Bob Spencer	20 January 2022	
Samantha Thompson	4 February 2022	reserved for call-in
Mike Worthington	29 March 2022	
	5 April 2022	reserved for call-in