

# STAFFORDSHIRE



# RD SHIRE

S U S T A I N A B I L I T Y   B O A R D

20 March 2023

# Members



# Background

- Created in January 2022 as a response to local authorities in Staffordshire announcing climate emergencies
- Elected Members ( Sustainability/Climate Change Portfolio holders) from the councils in Staffordshire gather to allow discussion on relevant environmental sustainability issues, debate matters affecting multiple authorities and decide outcomes and objectives for collective projects.
- Facilitating a collaborative forum, to work together, to influence change and to encourage organisations and individuals to ensure Staffordshire is net carbon zero by 2050.
- January 2023 joined with the JWMB to improve effectiveness and efficiency of directing and monitoring on the sustainability agenda.
- This allowed recommendations to be made to the Staffordshire Leaders Board in a clear and concise fashion





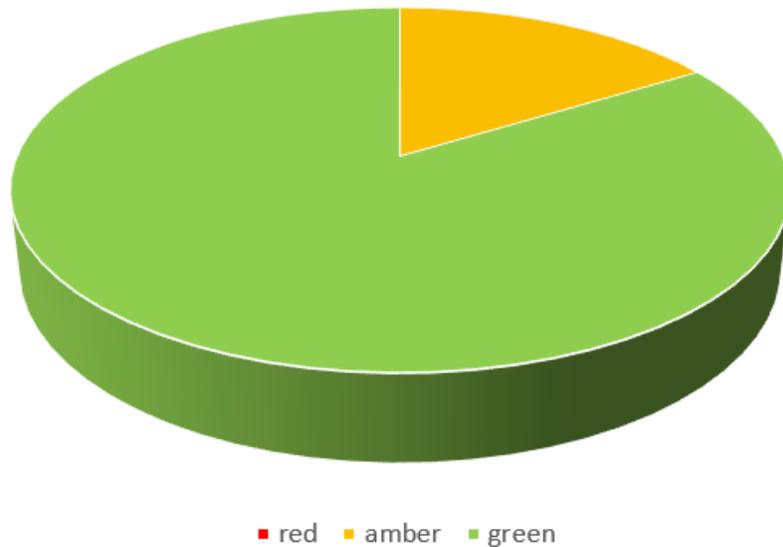
# Achievements

- All Staffordshire local authorities agreed on **Base Pledges** and have taken them to their respective Cabinets for approval and to report back to SSB on a quarterly basis
- A **joint SSB Communication Plan** has been agreed/funded and taken to respective Cabinets for approval
- All local authorities are taking their **EV strategy** through their respective Cabinets for approval (ongoing)
- Actively engaged with the emerging **Staffordshire Climate Commission**
- Engagement with local businesses and community groups to work on environmental improvement and awareness
- Harmonised collection of **dry mix recycling collection** across Staffordshire
- Made representation to National Government on Waste Policy



# Performance Monitoring Sustainability

Base Pledge Monitoring March 2023 update

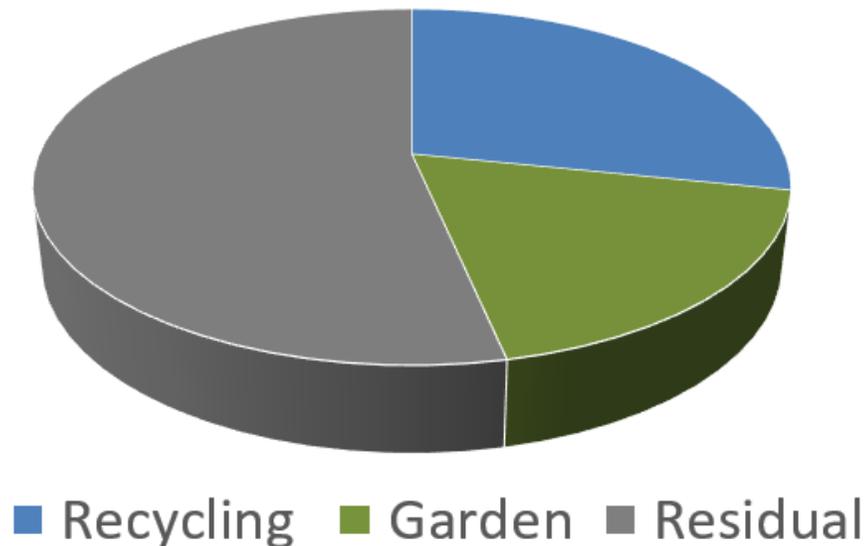


- Following commitment to the 10 Pledges 13 action points were agreed
- Performance against those action points is monitored on a quarterly basis using a RAG ( Red-Amber-Green) rating
- As of March 2023 there are no red flags against any of the action points
- 84% achieved green status and all are currently on track to reach the objective of the action point



# Performance Monitoring Waste

Total Waste Composition 2022-23



The aim of the Staffordshire Waste Partnership is to work together to reduce waste, and maximise reuse, recovery, and recycling. SWP is striving towards a zero waste economy, where all materials have a purpose and avoid disposal of any kind.

The 'Integrated Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent' focuses upon the following principles;

- Increased household recycling
- Zero waste to Landfill
- Achieving sustainable management of all waste
- Managing waste as a potential resource
- Developing effective co-operation and joint working between local authorities, businesses and residents



# Cannock Chase Council



- Costed Action Plan Published
- Working alongside ENGIE on Zero Carbon Rugeley Project
- Hawk Green Development - Low Energy Homes
- Binworld Environmental Awareness Programme (1550 pupils / 19 schools)
- Small Change Big Difference Programme
- Established 1<sup>st</sup> Urban Forest

# Cannock Chase Council



- Solar Battery Installation – 75 council houses
- Greener Travel & Environment - Commonwealth Games Legacy
- Working on EV Charging Strategy & Fleet Strategies
- Fleet and Taxi Reviews – Energy Savings Trust
- Local Area Energy Planning Project – Energy Catapult Buro Happold
- Carbon Literacy Training for Members and Officers

# PAVING THE WAY TO NET ZERO...

- Declaration of a **Climate Emergency** in 2020
- **Climate Change Action Plan** published containing 57 actions.
- **Climate Change and Nature Strategy** adopted setting out 4 aims in our commitment to becoming Carbon Neutral.
- **Climate Change SPD** developed to mitigate climate change and ensure development adapts to the consequences of climate change.

## EV CHARGING POINT SUCCESS:

Three dual floor-mounted EV charging points are currently being installed in Coopers Square Car Park, Burton

Five electric-powered vans have been added to our fleet, and EV charging points have been successfully installed at our waste depot and Stapenhill Cemetery.



Climate change and nature recovery are considered in all Council decisions, strategies, policies and plans.

# SOME OF OUR OTHER SUCCESSES...

- A total of 2500 native tree species were planted between 2021-22 on our green open spaces.
- Washlands Enhancement Project is underway following an upgrade to 9km of flood defenses in Burton by the EA.
- Stapenhill Gardens and Bramshall Road Park have achieved Green Flag standard.
- Reduced mowing regimes to create wildflower, bee friendly parks.
- New building in Go Garden to help us grow our own plants and trees, reducing transport emissions
- A Single Use Plastics action plan has been developed and is being implemented.



# CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY

- Carbon literacy awareness training to staff and members.
- Whole council climate change workshop to raise priority.
  - X6 Tiny Forests planted around the district.
  - Cycle to work scheme re-introduced for all staff.
- Biodiversity and Greenspace mowing meeting set up.
- EV for street cleaning, Parks vehicles replaced with EV.
  - Key stakeholder in national nature recovery project.
- National lead on BNG, assisting Defra and other councils.
  - New Climate Change pages and resources online.



# TAMWORTH & LICHFIELD JOINT WASTE SERVICE

- 74k properties - bag for paper & card
- 3k rural properties - bin for paper & card
- 3.5k communal properties - transferred onto dual stream collections
- Procurement of new twin pack trucks for the recycling service
- New disposal contract for dry recyclate
- Major round review and comms plan



## SUCCESSES

- High resident participation.
- Improvement in quality of material.
- Reduction in rejected bins and no rejected loads.

## LESSONS

- Procurement issues.
- Challenge rolling out new rounds and new service at the same time.



# Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council

- Successful in gaining government Carbon Reduction Funding (CRF) for a number of projects looking at carbon reduction in community centres, with 20 facility audits completed and also a solar farm feasibility study.
- Commissioned a Road Map to Net Zero by 2030 for the Councils operations and estate.
- Introduced Hydro-treated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel for the Councils HGV's saving 90% Co2 emissions and other particulates.
- Rolled out mandatory Carbon Literacy and sustainability training to all Council staff and Members and 2 cohorts of Sustainability Champions completing Keele University Net Zero Skills Boot camp course.
- Targeted communications campaign to increase participation in separate food waste collections, including schools education campaign.
- Completed the first 4 phases of our Urban Tree Planting Strategy, with 12 sites being planted with around 265 specimen native species and protected as Urban Carbon Capture parks for future generations.

# Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council

- Further phase of urban tree planting currently taking place including 850 native Lime trees to form the Boroughs 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary 'Lyme Forest' and further native woodlands.
- Agreed policies that put sustainability at the heart of our emerging Borough Local Plan.
- Improving energy efficiency performance within 38 domestic properties through the Social Housing and De-carbonisation Fund





# Climate achievements 2022-23

- Delivery of the South Staffordshire Climate Festival 2022 to promote awareness and engagement through social media
- Distribution of £4k+ funding to 21 'climate prize' projects across our 5 localities
- Continued to build carbon friendly development measures within our emerging local plan
- Hosting climate / business networking events both through Staffordshire Business Environment Network and partnerships with local businesses and land owners
- Continuing to reduce the carbon footprint of our operations (37% decrease since reporting began in 2010) as we work up a detailed plan to achieve net zero



# Waste and recycling achievements 2022-23

- Since April 2022, over 8,000 tonnes of garden waste collected in green bins from the district has been sent to a local composting facility
- Since April 2022, almost 8,000 tonnes of dry mixed recycling and paper/card have been collected from blue bins and bags, and delivered to a dedicated Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) before being separated and sent on to reprocessors to be recycled
- Since April 2022, over 20,000 tonnes of residual household waste has been collected from grey bins and delivered to a dedicated Energy Recovery Facility based in South Staffordshire
- Zero waste from householder bins and bags is delivered to landfill
- 2022/23 has seen a successful roll out and introduction of blue reusable bags for residents to recycle paper and card separately, resulting in a higher quality of material delivered to the recycling plant (less contamination/moisture)
- Dedicated communications campaigns have taken place to support Recycle Week 2022 and Love Food Hate Waste

# Stafford Borough Council

- Policy background: Declared a climate emergency in 2019, adopted a Climate Change and Green Recovery Strategy in 2020, and identified achieving Climate Change and Green Recovery objectives one of four main priorities in Corporate Business Plan.
- Feasibility studies have been commissioned to explore the viability of installing renewable energy infrastructure on council owned assets, adding to the existing renewable energy infrastructure the council has already installed.
- LED lighting and movement sensors installed in council owned assets, reducing energy consumption.
- 12 electrical vehicle charging points have been installed this year.
- Worked with Cannock, and Lichfield council, Innovate UK, and Burro Happold to produce a Local Area Energy Plan, informing where renewable infrastructure could be deployed in the area.
- Switched to a renewable energy tariff.
- Annually updated carbon audit is produced, enabling the reduction of internal carbon emissions to be tracked.
- Carbon Literacy training is being rolled out to council officers and members.

# Stafford Borough Council

- A community panel was set up in 2021. They are currently formulating and implementing projects relating to:
  - Plastic and Waste Reduction
  - Food and Farming
  - Biodiversity and Wellbeing
  - Raising Awareness
- The council has recently adopted its Climate Change Adaptation Strategy..
- £4.1 million has been awarded to develop the Stafford Brooks Project in partnership with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, the Environment Agency and National Highways.
- A new Local Nature Reserve was designated by the council last year.
- Tree planting projects have been delivered across the Borough. This has included on Local Nature Reserves, and on areas of amenity grassland.
- We have been with community groups and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to enhance areas of green space and deliver biodiversity enhancements.

# Climate Change Achievements

- SCC carbon emissions reduced by 43% since 2019
- Instrumental role in the development of the SSB
- Through the Climate change action fund, members have helped 290 community groups and awarded over £200,000 over the past 3 years, to help residents tackle climate change
- Approved the Local cycling and walking infrastructure plan (LCWIP)
- Secured £2.2M investment into the environment for cycling and walking
- Given away 1000's of trees to residents, to enable planting and carbon sequestration across the County





# Waste Achievements

- So far this year we have sent 156,351 tonnes of waste to Energy Recovery Facilities
- We also helped 3 local authority partners Walsall, Sandwell and Warwickshire, who sent around 160,000 tonnes to Energy Recovery Facility this year.
- This will produce 26 Mega Watts of power, powering around 66,000 homes
- Only 61 tonnes of waste have been sent directly to landfill
- Successfully insourced our Household Waste Recycling Centre network
- Reused 328 tonnes of items that would have been thrown away and Recycled 45,000 tonnes through the network
- Working with our Haulage contractor to introduce low carbon fuels for their fleet and planning to trial on our 16 JCBs



# Aiming Low

- Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil in large fleet
- Assessment of fleet by Energy Saving Trust
- Reduce emissions by 25% from buildings (compared to 2019/20)
- Sustainable Procurement Policy
- £1.9m to decarbonise leisure service
- Energy and water audits of all buildings
- Appoint a Climate Change & Biodiversity Officer
- Transfer managing country parks to Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
- Carbon Literacy Bronze (silver imminent)
- Action Plan rated second top district by Climate Emergency UK

CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
ACTION



# Staffordshire Moorlands Aiming Low – District-wide

- Climate Fund for community groups - 14 projects supported so far
- Youth programme developed with SCYVS and Globe Foundation
- 23 community orchards
- Dedicated programme to encourage modal shift to walking
- EV strategy approved and moved to delivery
- Commissioned Staffordshire Wildlife Trust for Plan for Nature
- Set up Staffordshire Moorlands Green Network for community groups
- Created engagement videos [What we can all do](#) our [strategy](#)



# Tamworth Borough Council

## **The Borough Council:**

- ▶ adopted its first Carbon baseline position in October 2022
- ▶ approved resources to prepare an action plan for the authority
- ▶ approved resources to deliver a climate change officer for three years from April 2023 to support workload

# Tamworth Borough Council

## **The Borough Council:**

- ▶ Have ordered and are awaiting delivery of 7 EV fleet vehicles to support street scene operations
- ▶ Are in discussion with BP pulse to deliver a 12 bay EV charging hub on a council owned car park.

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