



## **CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY PANEL**

**03 NOVEMBER 2021**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY PANEL**

The following papers have been added to the agenda for the above meeting.

These were not available for publication with the rest of the agenda.

Kevin Gibbs  
Executive Director: Delivery

	<b>Page No</b>
<b>6. UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S DECARBONATION PLANS</b>	<b>1 - 28</b>
The Advisory Panel will receive an update from Kevin Gibbs, Executive Director: Delivery, Hazel Hill, Energy Sustainability Officer and Laura Johnson, Executive Director (assets & growth) Silva Homes.	

<https://youtu.be/ZaMuXDCu30c>

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# Bracknell Forest Council Climate Change Strategy Update For Climate Change Advisory Panel





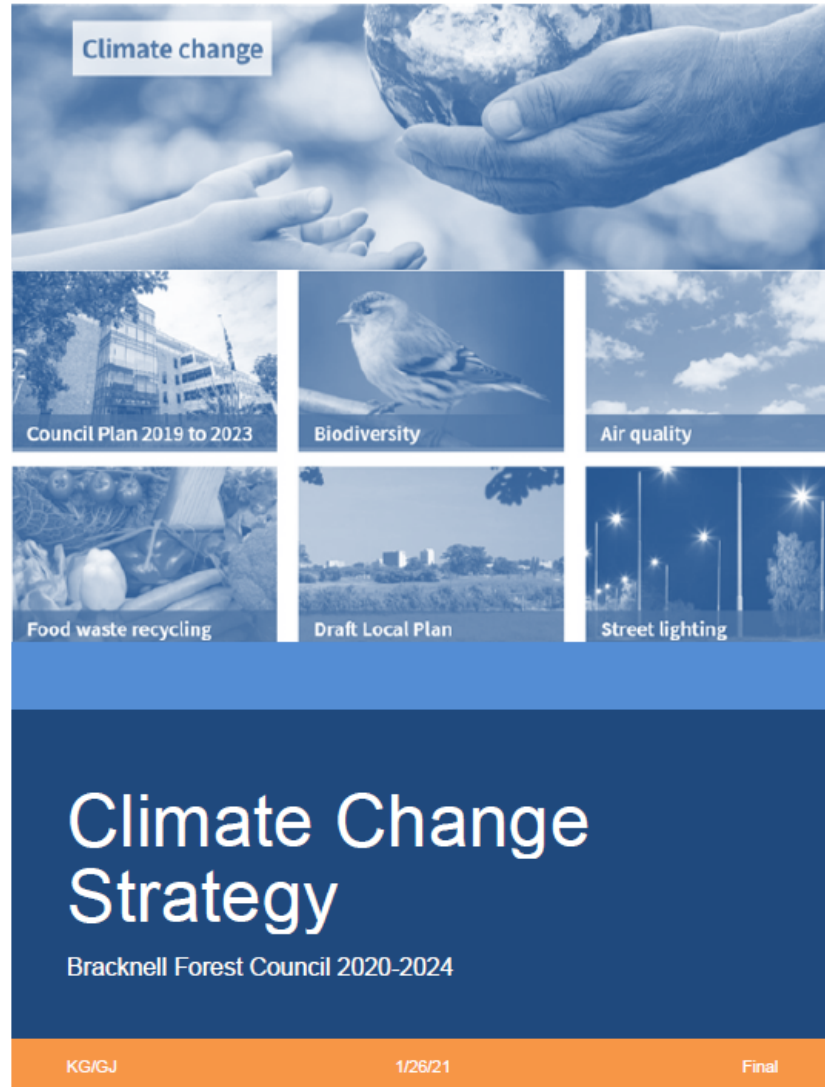
# Climate Change Strategy update

Kevin Gibbs  
Executive Director: Delivery  
Bracknell Forest Council



# BFC Climate Change Strategy

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## Agenda

- Background and Context
- BFC Highlights
- Green Homes Grants – Hazel Hill
- Silva - SHDC Wave 2 funding
- Q&A




# BFC Climate Change Strategy

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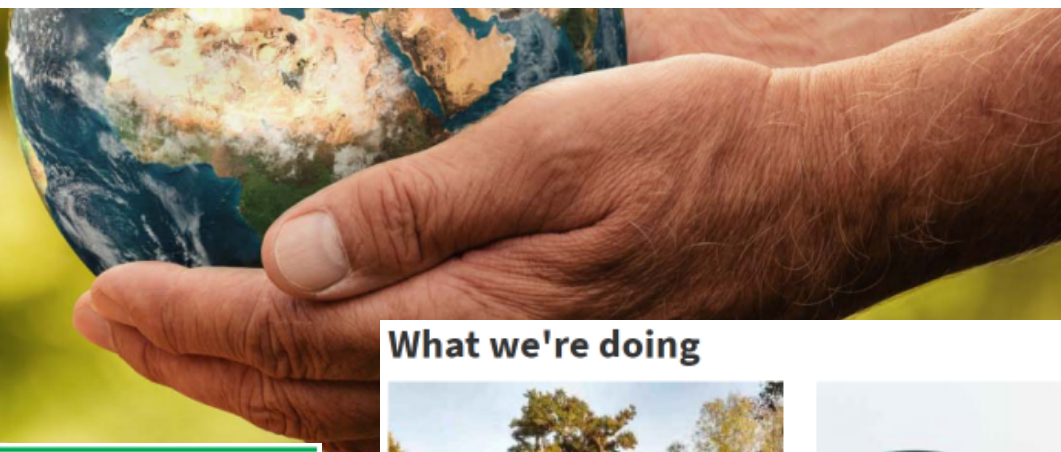
Menu 

Address the impact of man-made climate change on our local communities by putting in place actions that work towards meeting

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/strategies-plans-and-policies/climate-change>

## Climate change

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## What we're doing

### Climate change strategy

We strongly believe that we need to continue our work to address the impact of man-made climate change on our local communities.

We have committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

To deliver this challenging target, the whole council will need to work together as well as with our partners, schools and young people.

[Read more about our climate change strategy](#)

### Natural environment

#### Our climate change history

Addressing man-made climate change isn't a new area for us.

[Explore our climate change history](#)

### Energy and waste

#### Climate change review

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is leading work on our climate change strategy.

[Find out about the commission's work](#)

### Travel and transport

#### Research

Find data on Bracknell Forest emissions.

[Explore our research](#)

# BFC Climate Change Strategy (on a Page)

Bracknell Forest Council: 2020 – 2024

Adopt 4 Strategic Principles for the council's approach to tackling climate change

**We will achieve our 2050 objective of being carbon neutral through:**

Working with partners.

Preserving the climate beneficial elements of the COVID-19 emergency.

Working with schools and young people.

Preserving the natural environment sustainably in line with the Bracknell Forest strategic plans

Develop a high-level implementation Climate Change Action Plan

action plan to reduce carbon emissions that are under the council's control

action plan to influence and lead community action against climate change



# Strategy Development

## Bracknell Forest Council: 2020 Action Plan

Develop a high-level implementation Climate Change Action Plan

6.3 kt Co2e = < 2%

action plan to reduce  
carbon emissions that are  
under the council's control

*The Council's direct activity - including commissioning resources in the most environmental efficient way and, procuring services to achieve this objective. We aim to reducing the impact of what is within our control.*

443 kt Co2e = > 98%

action plan to influence and  
lead community action  
against climate change

*Lobbying and promotion to encourage others to support the objectives in the strategy*



# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: 2020/21 Action Plan

**The Action plan has a total of 42 projects covering a breadth of council directorates.**

- ✓ • 5 of these projects reflect emissions that BFC has direct control over;
- 18 of these projects reflect emissions that the council can influence within the borough; and
- 19 of these projects are a combination of both of the above

### **Quarterly reporting via**

- Internal Officer board – Chaired by Damian James
- Climate Change Advisory Panel supported by Kevin Gibbs



# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: Executive Director's update

### Big Green week (18 -26 September)

**The Big Green Week** is a national initiative to encourage companies, groups and individuals from private and public sectors to showcase what they are doing for the climate change agenda. The council moved the CCAP to be the centrepiece of its contribution to this programme of events. The council also moved its annual recycling Roadshow to the week too. A number of press releases were also targeted to the week; many of the projects are detailed within this report.



# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: Executive Director's update

### Grant funding

**home decarbonisation project on the Green Homes Grants (GHG).** The council has now completed the works from GHG bid 1 (£900k grant received). The Energy Sustainability Officer has just started on the plan works under GHG bid 2 (£274k received). We have also made another bid for sustainable warmth (GHG bid 3). The outcome of this bid is expected later in the Autumn.

The Energy Sustainability Officer is also supporting Silva Homes in their bid for £1m under the **Social Housing Decarbonisation fund for 800 properties**, that are EPC rated C or below, to bring these up to a more sustainable energy rating, which is good for the environment but also good for those living in these properties.

Property Services have also been successful in **Salix – GOL - LCSF2 bid**, securing **£154k** of funding for preparing heat decarbonisation plans for all of the Councils property stock including schools not already funded. This is in addition to the **£775k** secured under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which will go to the Schools estate, with **£350k** going to Sandhurst School.

# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: Executive Director's update

### Greening our Waste Strategy

- Food waste recycling service continued to be very well used by residents and has so far avoided 1.9 million kg of CO2 emissions
- 6-month data shows the recycling rate remains above target at 58%
- The Executive approved the recommendations made by the Environment and Communities Overview and Scrutiny panel to implement food waste recycling into 20% (1800) flats across the borough
- Difficult quarter for contractor vacancies but they have been very resilient

# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: Executive Director's update

### Public Protection Partnership – air quality

The **anti-idling project**, focused primarily around the schools, has appointed a new member of staff to work on this project. He will be attending the Officer board, to ensure that the board has the most up to date information on this project. The next step will be the procurement of equipment.

→ **Licensing liaison Officers** will be attending **taxi ranks** and starting the education around idling and idling enforcement. This programme will then expand to known hot spot areas around the borough. This will be in addition to September's work on coordinating the beginning of school term with these project objectives.

# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: Place, Planning and Regeneration

### Parks & Countryside

The team are investigating a **ground source heat pump system for Westmorland park**, as the existing gas system is not working well. The project has progressed to receiving and evaluating quotations.

The **Bracknell Forest Giants** event took place at the Lexicon in August.

**Queen's Platinum Jubilee trees** planting call, which will be wrapped into this work, with ideas currently being explored.



# BFC Climate Change Strategy

## Bracknell Forest Council: Place, Planning and Regeneration

### Summary from Transport Strategy Manager (Place, Planning and Regeneration):

- **EV charging points** - confirmed that the council has secured **£100k** funding to roll out 32 residential charging points across the borough. These will be low wattage / slow chargers, aimed at overnight charging
- 13 • **Active travel initiatives.** Department of Transport funding **£160k** has been provided to look at cycling and walking plans. The service will expand cycling routes to Crowthorne and Sandhurst and has done some promotional videos as well. This will be supported by interactive maps, cycle leg rides, family events, and working with businesses and schools to increase participation.

# BFC Climate Change Strategy

Bracknell Forest Council: Chief Executives

- Currently developing a Communication plan for the strategy and strategy outcomes
- 15 Press stories issued between April and August '21
- Recycling, food waste recycling and vegan life style
- “Dame Foodie Dench”- video

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Spring 2021

## Town & Country

Brought to you by Bracknell Forest Council

### Residents recycle over 536 tonnes of food waste

#### What's inside



Next steps in the roadmap out of lockdown  
See page 3



### Council's plan to be carbon neutral by 2050

### Names for new food waste vehicles

### Funding awarded for schools climate change decarbonisation project

### Climate change strategy approved by council's Executive

### Residents recycle 536 tonnes of food waste

### Bracknell vegan market in town this Sunday!

The popular Bracknell vegan market returns to The Lexicon this Sunday 30 May.

26/05/21

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
	Name of project / work	Brief description of project / work	Who does this primarily benefit? (select from drop down options)	Which of the Council's 4 Climate Change Strategy Pillars does this best fit (select from drop down options)	Please list any relevant strategies or plans that this project/work is linked to:	Lead Directorate / Service	Lead Officer / Lead Member	Do you have any indicators / measures linked to this work? If so, please state below:	Did you establish a baseline measure at the commencement of this project/work? If so state what it was below:	Have you set a target (where applicable) to achieve in relation to this project/work? If so, what is it?	What is your target date? (BFC is aiming to be carbon net-zero by 2050)	Project budget	Risk	RAG	Officer to respond	Q3 (Oct_dec 20) Update	Q4 (Jan-Mar 21) Update	Q1 (Apr-Jun 21) Update
2																		
	CS12 Policy - renewable energy concepts on all new builds	ensure that properties meet a minimum renewable energy standard	Community only impact	Working with partners	Core Strategy Development Plan; Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Hayes	all new developments of 5+ homes or more than 500 sq metres to demonstrate measures to reduce CO2 emissions by 10% and to provide 20% of all energy consumed by on-site renewable means; all new developemnt of less than 5 / less than 500 sq metres to demonstrate measures to reduce CO2 emissions by 10%	Measurement of this policy commenced in Oct 2018 That was point zero.	no: of new homes meeting set criteria p.a. TARGET FIGURE of 500 p.a. (1,389 in first two years of measurement Oct 18_20).	2050	Nil			Hazel Hill		36 homes met the criteria in Q4	CS12 Policy- 58 buildings passed for development with renewable energy
3																		
	Monitor residential energy efficiency (ELMHURST database)	Updating the database including new or additional properties.	Community only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Bracknell Forest Local Plan; Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill /	Total no: of homes on the database; PLUS total proportion (%) of homes on database that are rated D or above	Yes Oct 2018: 44,040 homes on database and 39,988 of those (90.8%) were rated D or above	To increase the total number of BF residents homes captured on the database and to increase the % of homes with a rating of D or above from the Oct 18 baseline figure of 90.8%. (Target of 0.5% increase per annum)	2050	Nil			Hazel Hill	Apr 21 update: 48,256 homes on database of which 44,773 (92.8%) are rated D or above.	Elmhurst - as of today we have 48,719 properties on database 94% of all domestic dwellings with 93% scoring D or above	
4																		
	Promote (& measure) grants/funds for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy at home	Warm Homes Grant up to £2.8M (converting BF homes to gas supplied heating)	Community only impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Birch	no: of homes converting to gas	Records began in Feb 2019. Baseline was zero at that point.	To upgrade 250 propoerties in total	2050	up to £2.8M	Procurement details meeting arranged, resources/staffing additional member will be required	Amber	Hazel Hill	follow up Q's sent to HH on email on 4th Feb	No progress in Q4 as a result of COVID impacts	Warm Homes 80 installs completed to end of May ( last report)
5																		
	Promote (& measure) grants/funds for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy at home	LA - Flex (installing cavity/loft insulation and / or boiler replacements in BF homes)	Community only impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Birch	no: of properties benefiting from LA Flex funding	Measurement began in Nov 2017 Baseline was zero at that point.	TARGET FIGURE of 400 properties to benefit p.a. (1,468 total in first 3 years of measurement Nov 17_20)	2050				Hazel Hill	follow up Q's sent to HH on email on 4th Feb	1,116 more properties have benefited from scheme between Nov 20 - April 21. Letters re-printed and re-distributed to help raise awareness	LA flex scheme 35 more homes had works done including heating and insulation measures
6																		
	Promote (& measure) grants/funds for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy at home	Warm, Safe & Well scheme £54k (funding home insulation schemes for eligible* residents)	Community only impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Birch	no: of properties benefiting from WSW funding	Measurement began in Feb 2020 Baseline was zero at that point.	Either: no: of properties benefitting p.a. or aim to spend all £54k available both	2050	Up to £54k per year			Hazel Hill	follow up Q's sent to HH on email on 4th Feb	21 residents benefitted from scheme. Approx spend £24,500	£30,488 worth of funding spent benefitting 37 residents so far. Monies unspent from 20/21 will be available in 21/22. Total of £108k to spend.
7																		
	Promote (& measure) grants/funds for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy at home	Green Homes Grant £900k (LAD 1A scheme). Funding energy efficiency and or renewable energy improvements in E,F,G fuel poverty homes.	Community only impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Birch	no: of properties benefiting from funding	Zero as at Oct 2020 when scheme commenced	90 properties set to benefit in 6 month grant period (Oct 20_Mar 21)	Mar-21	Up to £0.9M			Hazel Hill	89 properties already identified; second bid for grant funding has been placed - awaiting outcome in Q4.	89 properties completed / 1 to finish; second bid (1B) for grant funding was unsuccessful.	99 properties benefited from a combination of 124 measures. Average bill saving of £300 per property, 118 tonnes of Carbon saved
8																		
	Promote (& measure) grants/funds for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy at home	Green Homes Grant £275k Bid2(LAD 2 scheme). Funding energy efficiency and or renewable energy improvements in E,F,G fuel poverty homes.	Community only impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Birch	no: of properties benefiting from funding	90 properties delivered from scheme 1A	Up to 27 properties may benefit (Apr 21 - Dec 21)	Dec-21	Up to £0.275M			Hazel Hill	N/A	Notified in Q4 that this additional funding should be available from Q1 21/22	No start on project yet. Issues around agreeing a managing agent to coordinate the Berkshire-wide scheme.
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	Promote (& measure) grants/funds for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy at home	Bidding for Green Homes Grant Bid 3 (Sustainable Warmth)	Community only impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	People/Early Help & Communities/Welfare & Housing	Hazel Hill / Cllr Birch	no: of properties benefiting from funding							Hazel Hill			New item added Aug 21
10																		

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11	Westmorland Park Improvements	Solar pv, 22kW EV charge point, composting, heating improvements.	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Westmorland Park management plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson						Assistance, Advice and approval required from Delivery	Amber	Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish	48 x solar PV's + EV charger & composting area all installed. Seeking funding to convert building heating away from gas.	Have asked for quotes for a ground or air source heat pump. Exsiting heating system requires considerable work and therefore we would wish to pursue during the summer	Ground source heat pump quotes received, P&C to process Invest-to-save application.
12	Plan for impacts of climate change on species and habitat conservation and migration	Not planned.	Council and community combined impact	Working with partners	Biodiversity Action Plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson / Marlies Boydell	No	No	Yes, complete a review which was done in 2015.	N/A	Nil			Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish	added a climate change adaptation segment to the site mgmt plans template	No further update	No further update
13	Implement climate change cross-cutting themes in Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	Ongoing work on the BAP	Council and community combined impact	Working with partners	Biodiversity Action Plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson / Marlies Boydell		No	There are 18 targets in the General Themes section of the BAP.	N/A				Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish	P&C recognise that these ambitions are not targeted / measurable and are working on new ambitions.	Working towards installation of rain water harvesting at various sites. Water captured to be used to water new tree planting. Initial review of GM contract has highlighted areas that can be removed from regular maintenance. Key achievements - over 5,500 new trees planted. Many are part of the highway re greening schemes, planting trees in areas which have traditionally been maintained as short grass. P&C are where possible replacing petrol powered machinery with electric versions. Following theft of 6 machines, new electric versions have been purchased.	No further update
14	Encourage public to have more environmentally friendly gardens	Year of the Garden 2020	Council and community combined impact	Working with partners	Biodiversity Action Plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson / Marlies Boydell		No	This project contributes towards the Urban habitat section of the BAP. There are 15 targets.					Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish			No further update
15	Improve water supply and retention to trees in order to reduce impact of warmer summers and droughts	Mulching application is used where feasible	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainable in line with policies within the Bracknell Local Plan	Individual site management plans; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson /						Reduced staff levels due to staff leaving, however new staff being recruited	Green	Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish		Mulching of trees is embedded in new working practices, and rainwater harvesting equipment has been ordered.	
16	Adopt maintenance programmes for parks and open spaces to changes in the growth patterns of plants	All rangers have been asked to seek and remove areas from regular maintenance where it is no longer deemed necessary	Council only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Ranger Team strategy to reduce GM contract when it is renewed; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson / All rangers								Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish			New grounds maintenance specification expecting to be written this Autumn.
17	Green Giants community tree planting	Getting younger residents involved in tree planting and providing educational materials around why trees are important	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Biodiversity Action Plan; Climate Change Strategy Tree strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Chis Mansfield/Alan Wilson	Number of children taking part in tree planting projects							Chis Mansfield/Alan Wilson			New Item added Q1- In August, provided residents with information regarding why trees are important and tree planting activities.
18	Increase / improve the borough's tree cover	Either plant new trees or replace existintg with stocks suited to our climate	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Individual site management plans; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Parks & Countryside	Alan Wilson								Alan Wilson / Charlie McNish	Plans for end of Q4: 1,400 small native trees, 80 standard size trees and 500 hedgerow species will all have been planted by Mar 21.	85 standard trees planted this winter and 5500 whips.	Planning further tree planting projects this Autumn, including Crowthorne Road and The Parks.
19	Reduce landfill waste	Reduce the % of overall waste going to landfill	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Greening waste collections; Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/Waste & recycling	Donna Cox / Cllr Hayes	% of waste to landfill	17% (19/20 figure) NI193	Reduced % of landfill waste	N/A		None	Green	Claire Pike	Stats are reported a quarter in arrears. Most up to date stats are Q2 (Jul-Sep). Figures are most easily compared on a fullyear basis.	Key achievements - Full year performance figures will be available end of June – reporting for waste runs a quarter behind. However the new waste service for weekly food waste collections begun for all houses in the borough on 1 March 2021 – the first month went very well with 536 tonnes of food being collected, this was well over the target. New Projects - Food waste collection at flats and HMOs with bulk bins is currently the focus of an Overview and Scrutiny review	Reduce landfill waste – The introduction of the food waste recycling service for all houses as part of Greening waste collection has reduced the landfill rate in Q1 to 7.3%, this is down 4.4% compared to Q1 2020. (Performance rates do fluctuate through the year relative to the seasons.) Annual rate for 2020/21 was 16.2%

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20	Increase recycling rate	Increase the recycling %	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Greening waste collections; Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/Waste & recycling	Donna Cox / Cllr Hayes	% of waste recycled	43% (19/20 figure) NI 192	Increase recycling %	N/A		None	Green	Claire Pike			Increase recycling rate – The recycling rate for Q1 is 58.4%, this is a 14.5% increase compared to Q1 220. (Performance rates do fluctuate through the year relative to the seasons.) Annual rate for 2020/21 was 43.4%
21	Decrease waste per household	Decrease the waste per household in kgs	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Greening waste collections; Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/Waste & recycling	Donna Cox / Cllr Hayes	Kgs waste per household per annum	974kgs waste per hh (19/20 figure)	Reduce kgs per hh	N/A		None	Green	Claire Pike			Decrease waste per household – 2020/21 there was 992 kg of waste produced per household, this was an increase of 18kg compared to the previous year. Covid had significant impacts on the amount of waste across the borough so the increase is likely to be as a result of Covid. Q1 2021/22 we have seen waste levels begin to return to normal levels, however it is too soon to draw too many conclusions.
22	Seek to measure emissions (& encourage reductions) in the environmental impact of contractors' vehicles		Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/Environmental Services	Claire Pike / Cllr Hayes	total t CO2e emitted by vehicle fleet	Not yet	reduce t CO2e emitted per mile	N/A		None	Green	Claire Pike	Continuing to work with Bracknell BID to encourage more sustainable travel; EV charging update for BID Board delivered on-line on 20th October, audit of cycle infrastructure including signage and white lining completed and improvements identified. 2020 bu	Data expected in Q1 21/22	Seek to measure emissions (& encourage reductions) in the environmental impact of contractors' vehicles – baseline for waste collection (SUEZ) 2020/21 was 3.12 kg of CO2 per mile Q1 2021/22 was 2.62kg of CO2/mile – this is down 0.58kg of CO2/mile compared to Q1 2020/21
23	Convert all highway infrastructure to low voltage/LED technology where possible	Complete all underpasses, bollards, directional sign lights and traffic light systems to low volatge/LED technologies	Council only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainablyin line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Local Transport Plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Highways & Transport	Cllr Turrell								Phil Burke	65 of 75 subways now converted to LED's. Aim to complete next quarter.		
24	Increase the use of sustainable modes of transport in targeted areas	Get more people in residential and business areas walking and cycling or using public transport, particularly where census or public health data suggests uptake is low but could be higher  LCWIP and Emergency Active Travel Measures, work with BID to promote and increase sustainable modes of travel in Business Areas	Council and Community Combined impact	Working with Partners  Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Sustainable Modes Strategy which contains: - Walking and Cycling Strategy; - Public Transport Strategy; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Highways & Transport	Aidan Richardson & Phil Burke / Cllr Turrell	Travel in Bracknell Report which contains annual bus and rail use data along with annual cycle and walking survey data and traffic counts  Census 2011 data (now old)  Active Travel Survey (2015)  DFT Propensity to Cycle Tool  Council Staff Travel Survey	Yes we consider previous years data within the Travel in Bracknell Report and we consider a measure of success to be annual increases in walking & cycling in our annual surveys, along with bus and rail patronage	No	N/A				Phil Burke	Continuing to work with Bracknell BID to encourage more sustainable travel; EV charging update for BID Board delivered on-line on 20 <sup>th</sup> October, audit of cycle infrastructure including signage and white lining completed and improvements identified. 2020 bus / rail patronage dropped significantly as a consequence of COVID. A separate COVID travel report will be published. 20 x CCTV locations were monitored in Sep 20. When compared to May 19 these displayed a 7% increase in cyclists, a 9% increase in child pedestrians, but an 18% decrease in adult pedestrians.	Continuing to work with Bracknell BID to encourage more sustainable travel; white lines indicating pedestrian/cycle paths have been refreshed and new signage added. Junction improvement at crossing of Warfield Road by junctions with Holy Spring Lane and Sandy Lane to make it easier for pedestrians and cyclists to cross. Work underway on new pedestrian and cycle crossing on Binfield Road near to junction with Harvest Ride. Bus patronage continues to be suppressed. Fixed cycle counter on London Road showed cyclecount for Mar 21 at this location was 134% higher than in 2020	New walking and cycling crossing points completed on Binfield Road and Forest Road. Filming underway on a series of short films to highlight the borough's cycle network and promote walking and cycling in general.
25	Encourage more children (and parents) to cycle to school	Bikeability Cycle Training and promoting initiatives such as Bike to School day	Community only impact	Working with Schools and Young people	Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Highways & Transport	Aidan Richardson & Phil Burke	Number of children trained annually to Level 1 & 2 standard  Number of children cycling to school as reported by annual school census data	Yes we consider previous years data on numbers trained	We aim to train as many children as we can each year	N/A				Phil Burke	Work has begun producing bespoke on-line resource for primary schools consisting of sustainable travel information and a map showing local infrastructure supporting walking and cycling routes to each individual school. It was not possible to deliver bikeability training in schools due to COVID-19 restrictions (we normally benefit 600 children p.a.)	Bikeability cycle training delivered to 23 pupils at Cranbourne Primary. Schools were only open to key workers' children during Jan/Feb.	Bikeability cycle training delivered to 222 children in the borough's schools.

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2																		
26	Encourage more employers to support sustainable travel choices among employees	Travel Plans and Travel Information for Workplaces and work to support the Bracknell BID	Council and Community Combined impact	Working with Partners	Travel Information for Workplaces document <a href="https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/travel-information-for-workplaces.pdf">https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/travel-information-for-workplaces.pdf</a>  Planning Obligations SPD outlines our Travel Planning policy  Sustainable Modes Strategy which contains: - Walking and Cycling Strategy - Public Transport Strategy; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Highways & Transport	Phil Burke	Number of businesses with a Travel Plan in place?	No	No	N/A				Phil Burke	No update apart from BID work described above. Planned face to face business engagement events have been cancelled due to Covid restrictions.	No update apart from BID work described above. Planned face to face business engagement events have been cancelled due to Covid restrictions and many employees continue to work from home	No further update
18	Promote & facilitate greener fuel vehicles and technology	EV charge point project & Sustainable Modes Strategy	Council and Community Combined impact	Working with Partners  Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Sustainable Modes Strategy (includes Smarter Vehicle Use Strategy); Climate Change Strategy;	PPR/Highways & Transport	Phil Burke	Number of charges / KWH used on EV chargers in Council car parks	No	No	N/A		N/A	Green	Phil Burke	Use of EV charge points in town centre car parks have been affected by Covid-19 restrictions, with November only having 50% of pre-Covid activity for example. H&T have been supporting P&C colleagues in a bid for OLEV grant funding for an EV charger at Lilly Hill Park.	Officers have been meeting with the Energy Savings Trust and the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles to clarify criteria ahead of submitting a bid for funding of EV chargers in council-owned car parks. Officers have also been in discussion with a number of charge point providers to discuss options for privately funding rapid and fast chargers at Council-owned sites, including Bracknell Sports Centre. BFC chaired a Berkshire-wide meeting to all 6 Berks authorities on 29-04-21 to discuss a consistent approach to the provision of EV infrastructure. A dedicated EV page has been added to the Council web site to reflect the growing importance of EV charging infrastructure, and the supporting EV chapter from the Sustainable Modes strategy is being updated.	OZEV have approved a funding bid to the On-Street Residential Charging scheme to provide 32 charging sockets at 11 car parks across the borough. A guide to EV charging infrastructure has been published on the EV page of the council's web site.
27																		
28	Promote the use of alternative travel choices for short local trips	We are working in partnership with Eco Rewards to promote a sustainable travel incentives scheme	Council and Community Combined impact	Working with Partners  Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Highways & Transport	Phil Burke	Travel in Bracknell Report which contains annual bus and rail use data along with annual cycle and walking survey data and traffic counts  Census 2011 data (now old)  Active Travel Survey (2015)  DfT Propensity to Cycle Tool  Council Staff Travel Survey	The Eco Rewards scheme will establish its own baseline for monitoring success  We also consider a measure of success to be annual increases in walking & cycling in our annual surveys, along with bus patronage	No	N/A			Phil Burke	The Eco Rewards scheme is continuing. In Q3 17,673 miles of sustainable journeys were logged on the system. During November unique taps and journey reports peaked at 2900. The scheme has been severely affected by Covid restrictions which has hampered the planned roll out to schools. H&T are investigating options to produce a series of short films promoting walking and cycling in the borough	The Eco Rewards scheme is continuing with a successful launch of the scheme at Warfield Primary school. In Q3 30,000 miles of sustainable journeys were logged on the system, and 9 tonnes of CO2 saved (compared to taking these trips by car). There are plans to further extend the scheme to Ranelagh and Brakenhale schools. New Projects - H&T are investigating options to produce a series of short films promoting walking and cycling in the borough including green spaces and the existing cyclepath network.	The Eco Rewards scheme now includes 8 schools. 21,700 green miles have been recorded in Q1, and 6.8 tonnes of CO2 have been saved.	
29	Monitor environmental impact of BFC-owned / leased vehicle fleet	To record annual (calendar) mileage per owned/leased vehicle for calculating emissions purposes	Council only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Customer Experience/Transport & Support Services	Matt Howlett	total mileage per vehicle per calendar year	mileage from 2019 equated to 52 Tonnes CO2 equivalent worth of emissions	to maintain or reduce total emissions down from 2019 levels	2050		Minimal Risk	Green	Matt Howlett	Primed/readied to provide mileage data on all owned and leased fleet vehicles for the calendar year 2020.	mileage from 2020 equated to 48 Tonnes CO2 equivalent worth of emissions.	Fleet Management will supply total annual mileage for 2021 in January 2022

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
	Name of project / work	Brief description of project / work	Who does this primarily benefit? (select from drop down options)	Which of the Council's 4 Climate Change Strategy Pillars does this best fit (select from drop down options)	Please list any relevant strategies or plans that this project/work is linked to:	Lead Directorate / Service	Lead Officer / Lead Member	Do you have any indicators / measures linked to this work? If so, please state below:	Did you establish a baseline measure at the commencement of this project/work? If so state what it was below:	Have you set a target (where applicable) to achieve in relation to this project/work? If so, what is it?	What is your target date? (BFC is aiming to be carbon net-zero by 2050)	Project budget	Risk	RAG	Officer to respond	Q3 (Oct_dec 20) Update	Q4 (Jan-Mar 21) Update	Q1 (Apr-Jun 21) Update
2																		
30	Increase EV's in the Council fleet and improve charging infrastructure	Where possible replace with EV's or reduce the size of the fleet	Council only impact	Preserving climate beneficial elements of COVID19	Climate Change Strategy / staff travel policy	Delivery/Customer Experience/Transport & Support Services	Matt Howlett	no	no	ongoing	2030		Not all Evs are suitable for primary purpose (minibuses). Shorter lease periods considered when tendering as advances in vehicle market may provide suirable vehicles	Green	Matt Howlett	There are currently 5 x EV pool cars, with another on order. Pool car usage now almost nil due to remote working (COVID). Replaced a diesel fuel vehicle for a hybrid one (P&C). Fitted EV charging point at Waymead day services site in preparation for delivery of an EV for that service. There are currently 9 EV charging points for BFC vehicles across 6 sites (TS x 4, Comm Centre x 2, Waymead, TLO, WM Park)	BFC fleet now has 6 EV's / 1 hybrid vehicle, representing almost 25% of council owned fleet	2 EV pool cars have been ordered to replace current diesel cars. V2G vehicle not a viable option at this time due to cost vs potential income.
31	Reduce emissions from Home to School transport scheme		Community only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Customer Experience/Transport & Support Services	Matt Howlett	No	No	Current DPS framework for HTST and Passenger Transport expires 31.08.2026	2050		The current contract framework is in place until 2026 so there is little we can do to influence the types of vehicles until then. Mitigation: Ensure vehicles used meet current framework standards	Amber	Matt Howlett	All vehicles utilised must meet current framework standards. The HTS is contracted out and as such there is very little we can do to influence types of vehicles used until current contracts expire in 2026. In addition as much as 65% of all HTS journeys take the beneficiaries out of borough.		Low Emission vehicle being introduced on an "in house" education transport route.
32	Reduce water use in identified council buildings.	Installing AMR meters across the estate	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Conservation of Resources; Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Property	Hash Patel	m3 water consumption; co2 reductions	ongoing	5% reduction per annum	2030		Time and old water meters. Work is slower than original assumptions	Amber	Hash Patel	no data available yet		17 of 56 meters installed with automated meter reading
33	Monitor Energy Performance of Buildings & Highway assets	Display Energy certificates	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Sustainability, Climate change Strategy;	Delivery/Property	Hash Patel	CO2 rates, KWH energy	Grade D and above	By 2030	2030				Hash Patel	no data available yet		Yearly DEC produced, slight changes in reports as there has been a decline in use due to Covid. Improving energy efficiency within the corporate estate through the decarbonisation scheme (work in progress for 2021-22) - project near completion in improving the thermal efficiency of the bottom 10 schools according to their Display Energy Certificate rankings.
34	Report on specific projects delivering energy efficiencies in BF properties	Priestwood & Hanworth CC & Crematorium boiler/heating upgrades, 76 Binfield Road oil to gas conversions, solar install @ Bracknell Leisure Centre.	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Sustainability, Climate change Strategy;	Delivery/Property	Hash Patel	KWH energy & CO2	Previous to Present KWH/CO2	15% saving from previous	2040		Still seeking data from external source	Amber	Hash Patel	no data available yet		Awaiting gas data. Energy reduction, measures and verification in process for sites with data
35	Feasibility studies - retrofitting the corporate estate	Procuring a series of feasibility studies (with Atkins) to identify retrofit energy saving opportunities on corporate buildings	Council only impact	Working with partners	sustainability; Climate change strategy	Delivery/Property	Hash Patel/Richard Payne	No	No	No	No	£154,000			Hash Patel/Richard Payne			New Item added Sep 21
36	Report on specific projects delivering energy efficiencies in BF schools	SH sch oil to gas conversion; schools estate thermal efficiency improvements	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Sustainability, Climate change Strategy;	Delivery / Property	Hash Patel	KWH energy & CO2	Previous to Present KWH/CO2	15% saving from previous	2040		Time and need to gather metering data	Green	Hash Patel	no data available yet	£350k secured to convert Sandhurst school from oil to gas heating; £425k for thermal improvements across range of schools	Need to gather one year of Data to see if reductions have occurred, as schools were partially closed this may be also a skewed year. Seeking annual generation data.
37	Improving energy efficiency within the corporate estate through decarbonisation scheme. New energy purchase contract signed with EDF Blue Energy	From Apr 21 all electricity supplied to BFC estate will come from 100% zero carbon sources	Council and community combined impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	sustainability; Climate change strategy	Delivery / Property	Hash Patel	KWH energy & CO2	Previous to Present KWH/CO2						Hash Patel	N/A	NEW item - added in Q4	From Apr 21 all electricity consumed by BFC estate properties will be from 100% renewable sources

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
	Name of project / work	Brief description of project / work	Who does this primarily benefit? (select from drop down options)	Which of the Council's 4 Climate Change Strategy Pillars does this best fit (select from drop down options)	Please list any relevant strategies or plans that this project/work is linked to:	Lead Directorate / Service	Lead Officer / Lead Member	Do you have any indicators / measures linked to this work? If so, please state below:	Did you establish a baseline measure at the commencement of this project/work? If so state what it was below:	Have you set a target (where applicable) to achieve in relation to this project/work? If so, what is it?	What is your target date? (BFC is aiming to be carbon net-zero by 2050)	Project budget	Risk	RAG	Officer to respond	Q3 (Oct_dec 20) Update	Q4 (Jan-Mar 21) Update	Q1 (Apr-Jun 21) Update
2																		
38	Ensure Climate Change mitigations are reflected within procurement documents	Project specific. Climate change covered in Strategic Procurement Plan.	Council and community combined impact	Working with partners	Climate Change Strategy	Resources/Procurement	Jo Alderson	No	No	No	No	N/A			Jo Alderson	New style Strategic Procurement Plan (SPP) now includes Climate Change in the Sustainability Section. An SPP is required for procurement projects above £189k. Establishment of Strategic Procurement Group (SPG) – the purpose of this group is "to support achievement of the Council Plan and drive effective commissioning and procurement across the council". Increased use of e-Procurement system for electronic tenders plus electronic contracts, thereby reducing physical paperwork.	No update since last quarter	
39	Idling vehicle actions	Enforcement on idling vehicle engines within the borough	Community only impact	Working with partners	Environment Act 1995, The Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed penalty) England Regulations 2002, Air Quality Action Plan 2014, Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/PPP	Anna Smy / Cllr Harrison	Recorded number of incidences	Actions will commence in 2021						Anna Smy	Paper requesting this authority going through committee process in Q4	Putting practical measures in place in readiness to equip officers to implement this work	
40	Testing vehicle emissions	Enforcement on poor vehicle emissions in the specific AQMA areas	Community only impact	Working with partners	Environment Act 1995, The Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed penalty) England Regulations 2002, Air Quality Action Plan 2014, Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/PPP	Anna Smy / Cllr Harrison	Number of stops initiated and no: of penalties awarded	Actions will commence in 2021						Anna Smy	Paper requesting this authority going through committee process in Q4	Putting practical measures in place in readiness to equip officers to implement this work	
41	Licensing	Manage limitations on taxi emissions via licensing and spot checks	Community only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/PPP	Sean Murphy / Cllr Harrison	Number of licenses awarded; no: of spot checks initiated	Actions may commence in 2021						Sean Murphy / Charlie Fielder	Paper requesting this authority going through committee process in Q4	Putting practical measures in place in readiness to equip officers to implement this work	
42	Monitor and improve Air Quality	Reporting on 2 x specific AQMA's with aim to reduce levels of NO2	Community only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Environmetal Protection Act 1990, Air Quality Strategy 2007, EU Directive, Climate Change Strategy	Delivery/Contract Services/PPP	Charlie Fielder / Cllr Harrison	Annual report sent to DEFRA - have to achieve National Air Quality Objectives (NO2, PM10 levels)	NO2 measurements recorded since 2000. 2020 return was favourable.		ongoing - annual				Charlie Fielder	the air quality monitoring report was published in Jun 20. It is updated annually	£259k secured from DEFRA to support efforts to monitor and lower levels of PM2.5 and NO2	
43	Emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan - flood risk	Emerging policy on flood risk requires development to avoid areas at risk of flooding	Community only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Draft Bracknell Forest Local Plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Planning	Sarah Slade	Development to avoid areas at risk of flooding	Unsure - plan period is 2022 - 2037	Number of appeals allowed when refusal is on grounds of flood risk	Unsure - plan period is 2022 - 2037				Sarah Slade	no specific update as draft local plan is still in preparation stages	The Local Plan is not adopted so the planning policies have not yet been implemented. The Pre-Submission Bracknell Forest Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal have been published for consultation from 23 March to 17 May 2021, and it will then be submitted and examined, with adoption anticipated in 2022.	There is no specific update for this quarter as the emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan (BFLP) is not adopted so the new planning policies have not yet been implemented. However, the Pre-Submission BFLP and Sustainability Appraisal has been recently published for a statutory pre-submission consultation (23 March to 17 May 2021). The BFLP will be submitted to the Secretary of State and examined, with adoption anticipated in 2022.
44	Emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan - construction	Emerging policy on sustainable construction requires a reduction in carbon emissions or net zero emissions for new dwellings, water efficiency standards and sustainability standards for non-residential development	Community only impact	Managing the natural environment sustainably in line with policies within the Bracknell Forest Local Plan	Draft Bracknell Forest Local Plan; Climate Change Strategy	PPR/Planning	Sarah Slade	Major new residential development - net zero for regulated emissions; all other residential development minimum 19% reduction in emissions; residential development water use 110litres/person/day ; non-residential development of 500sqm or above to meet BREEAM excellent standard	Unsure - plan period is 2022 - 2037	Percentage of major residential development not meeting zero carbon standard; Percentage of all other residential schemes not meeting 19% improvement in the dwelling emission rate over the target emission rate; Percentage of residential development not meeting water efficiency standard of 110 litres/person/day; Percentage of non-residential developmentof 500sqm or above not meeting BREEAM 'excellent' or equivalent;.	Unsure - plan period is 2022 - 2037				Sarah Slade	As above	The Local Plan is not adopted so the planning policies have not yet been implemented. The Pre-Submission Bracknell Forest Local Plan and Sustainability Appraisal have been published for consultation from 23 March to 11 May 2021, and it will then be submitted and examined, with adoption anticipated in 2022.	



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To: **Executive Briefing (Climate Change Advisory Panel)**  
**02 November 2021**

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## **Climate Change Action Plan Progress Report** **Executive Director of Delivery**

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The council has committed itself to becoming a net-zero carbon authority by 2050 and has created a Climate Change Strategy and supporting action plan to deliver this objective. Members have requested an annual progress report to be submitted to full council in the summer of each year. The first report is due in the Summer of 2022. As part of the action plan tracking process, six monthly updates have been scheduled to the Executive, via the Executive Briefing process and then on to the Climate Change Advisory Panel. The next update is due on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 and this paper summarises that update.

### **2 Supporting Information**

- 2.1 The council published a Climate Change Strategy in January of this year. The strategy had an action plan, detailing the projects and programmes, from across the council, that link directly to mitigating the impacts of man-made climate change.
- 2.2 The action plan is a live document with updates being managed by the Climate Change Officer board, which has representatives from each directorate and major project areas. The projects are grouped by directorate and Executive Member and updates are based on information provided by specific Officers named as project leads within the action plan. A copy of the Action plan as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 is attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.3 The Officer Board meets each quarter to discuss and report on achievements related to the action plan. At the end of each financial quarter Officers complete an action plan quarterly update sheet (Appendix 2), with those updates being transferred on to the action plan itself.
- 2.4 Under the Leader's schedule of appointments, noted by Council on 28 April 2021, the Climate Change Advisory Panel, was established. The Executive Director of Delivery, as the Officer lead for Climate Change, supports this panel, and provides the panel with a summary of progress made against the action plan three times a year.

### **3 Highlights**

- 3.1 The council's Climate Change Strategy was added to the 2021/22 corporate audit plan, with the audit taking place in August 2021. The objectives of the audit were to evaluate the controls in place to manage and deliver the council's Climate Change Strategy and action plan, with a view to delivering reasonable assurance as to the adequacy of the design of the internal control systems and their application in practice. Although the audit confirmed that there is an "adequate" level of assurance around the governance of the programme, and that there are, "...a *number of areas of good practice*", work is now needed on the governance around adding new projects onto the action plan, as this was an area of improvement suggested by the auditor. Therefore, the team are looking at adding a template to deal with new actions, so that there is a sign off process before new actions are added to the action

plan itself. This will ensure that these new projects have approval from directorate management teams, and if appropriate, the Executive Member for that area of work. This will give more rigour around adding new additional items to the plan.

### **Climate Change Advisory Panel**

- 3.2 The Climate Change Advisory Panel (CCAP) under the Chairmanship of Cllr Tony Virgo has been established and has now had two meetings. The role of CCAP is to advise Executive Members on issues around climate change. The CCAP provides a useful public forum for sharing the council's journey to net zero and to demonstrate that there is credible performance management of our projects.
- 3.3 The meetings are broadcast on YouTube and the papers are published via Mod.gov, like any other council meeting. However, the Terms of Reference for this Advisory Panel gives it the freedom from being a formal "council committee", giving it the space to investigate and feedback learning that would be helpful to the Executive and therefore support the council in achieving its objective of being carbon net zero by 2050.
- 3.4 In terms of frequency of meetings, the Panel meets bi-monthly. It has also now been agreed with the Chair that each CCAP meeting will either be themed around a topic or will be a quarterly update on the council's work programme. All members of CCAP are on the council's Yammer site (an internal Facebook / social media tool) and therefore have a rich evidence base to look at, as Officers from the Officer group are posting items of interest to the site and updates on their work.
- 3.5 At the first meeting of the CCAP, the panel received the action plan highlights, and then discussed the work commissioned by the Executive on developing an anaerobic digester plant for BFC. The update was provided by the Panel chair, in advance of the meeting, and although the meeting covered the main points of the updates, it was agreed that using the normal report distribution systems would be a better approach for Panel members. Therefore, this report follows this more standard format.
- 3.6 The CCAP meeting of the 20 September, was the first of the themed meetings, focusing on Electric Vehicles (EV) and associated deployment issues. This meeting was timed to be part of "the Big Green Week", part of a national campaign of green events. The Agenda featured a presentation of the council's EV policy, along with presentations from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (energy provider) and Bloor Homes, representing the new home builders. The informative presentations highlighted that the council's current strategy was ahead of government policy and therefore needed government to take the next enabling step before the council could progress with its plans. SSEN highlighted that energy generation issues for EV's is very local as each substation needs to be calibrated to the load in that area and therefore good modelling of demand is necessary. Finally, the house builders were contending with power management within their developments, to help plan for safe charging and what the current demand would be.
- 3.7 So, in summary the key issues that the Panel presented to the Executive, were that the delivery of the council's plans was dependant on government publishing its own zero emissions plan. This was because that document is the enabling policy that will unlock next steps for everyone involved in taking forward this programme of work. The Panel also noted that with zero emission vehicles on the horizon, EVs may be only a steppingstone in the process of decarbonisation of the UK vehicle fleet. Finally, that the private sector was the best placed to balance the risks and rewards from investment in the infrastructure. It is for the market to ensure that the provision

is in the right places, to meet users' needs, as only the marketplace can accurately model the take up of vehicles and put the electrical capacity in the right places to meet this need.

- 3.8 This next update report will be accompanied by a video presentation from the Energy Sustainability Officer, on the home decarbonisation project on the Green Homes Grants, plus a series of slides summarising the work including forward planning to support Silva homes on their intended Social Housing decarbonisation Fund bid. Silva homes will also be attending the meeting to update on their plans, which have now come under the umbrella of our strategy.

- 3.9 The forward plan for the panel is:

- 11 January – local power generation
- 9 March – action plan update
- May 2022 - zero emissions builder / buildings

The panel will be looking for topics to build their programme for 2022/23 shortly.

### **Big Green week (18 -26 September)**

- 3.10 The Big Green Week is a national initiative to encourage companies, groups and individuals from private and public sectors to showcase what they are doing for the climate change agenda. The council moved the CCAP to be the centrepiece of its contribution to this programme of events. The council also moved its annual recycling Roadshow to the week too. A number of press releases were also targeted to the week; many of the projects are detailed within this report.

### **Grant funding**

- 3.11 In terms of the home decarbonisation project on the Green Homes Grants (GHG), the council has now completed the works from GHG bid 1 (£900k grant received). The Energy Sustainability Officer has just started on the planned works under GHG bid 2 (£274k received). They have also made another bid for sustainable warmth (GHG bid 3). The outcome of this bid is expected later in the Autumn.
- 3.12 The Energy Sustainability Officer is also supporting Silva Homes in their bid for £500k under the Social Housing Decarbonisation fund for 223 properties, that are EPC rated C or below. This would bring these up to a more sustainable energy rating, which is good for the environment but also good for those living in these properties.
- 3.13 Property Services have also been successful in Salix – GOL - LCSF2 bid, securing £154k of funding for preparing heat decarbonisation plans for all of the Council's property stock including schools not already funded. This is in addition to the £775k secured under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which will go to the Schools estate, with £350k going to Sandhurst School specifically.

### **Parks & Countryside**

- 3.14 The team are investigating a ground source heat pump system for Westmorland park, as the existing gas system is not working well. The project has progressed to receiving and evaluating quotations.

- 3.15 The service has had some staff changes which now require a new service primary link Officer for Climate Change. So, some items of the action plan are on pause while a replacement is appointed and has time to pick up on the actions.
- 3.16 The Bracknell Forest Giants event took place at the Lexicon in August. The communication plan in place for the Forest Giants, links in with the climate change objectives, as these are heavily influenced by our tree strategy. The legacy target for this project was to use the concept of forest gardens and getting youngsters involved in tree planting programmes. Some of the events during the programme featured rolling videos in an empty unit in Princess Square. These videos were from the Woodland Trust and highlighted why it's so important to plant trees. The legacy work will come into play in September/October, but the ambition is to encourage the planting of trees by schools in locations across the borough. Parks & Countryside have identified areas for future tree planting and using the Forest Giants theme will enable this work to continue beyond August. The service will also be pushing forward to get schools involved. This work also links to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee trees planting call, which will be wrapped into this work, with ideas currently being explored.

### **Environmental Services – Greening our Waste Strategy**

- 3.17 Performance on the council's food waste recycling service remains strong. The service has diverted over 3,100 tonnes of food waste from landfill. This has produced a carbon saving of over 1.9 million kg of Co2e (carbon dioxide equivalent emissions) being prevented from entering the atmosphere due to the diversion away from landfill. The 3 weekly residual waste collection has been a major factor in the success of the food waste scheme. The quarter 1 recycling rate is higher than last year, at 58%. However, it is expected that rates will settle around 54% by the end of the year, which is still more than 10% improvement on last year. Participation in the food waste scheme remains exceptionally high at around 90% of households. This compares to an average of around 60%-70% in other schemes. The Executive has recently approved plans to roll out the scheme to up to 20% of flats in the Borough.
- 3.18 Some waste measurements have been impacted by COVID, waste from domestic collections and street waste, is higher than normal, which makes it difficult to do a year on year comparison, so we will continue to use 2019 as the reference year.
- 3.19 The next area of focus around this project is the vehicle emissions and efficiency. The service will be doing some tweaking of the action plan to reflect the need to be cognisant around emissions from domestic waste i.e. look at this point more holistically. We need to incorporate this factor into our disposal waste reductions.

### **Highways and Transport**

- 3.20 The Highways and Transport service has received a revenue grant, from the Department of Transport, over the last quarter aimed at active travel initiatives. £160k has been provided to look at cycling and walking plans. The service will expand cycling routes to Crowthorne and Sandhurst and has commissioned some promotional videos as well. This will be supported by interactive maps, cycle led rides, family events, and working with businesses and schools to increase participation.
- 3.21 Funding has also been received to help with a bus service improvement plan. By working with planners to produce a new travel plan policy, this will give us more control over sustainable mode initiatives and will bring in more resources than

before. This will also enable the service to look at appropriate funding mechanisms like, a roof levy per house.

- 3.22 The Assistant Director: Highways and Transport, provided the September CCAP with a presentation on the council's policy around Electric Vehicles (EV). In this presentation he confirmed that the council has secured £100k funding to roll out 32 residential charging points across the borough. These will be low wattage / slow chargers, aimed at overnight charging. Having reviewed the best locations for these, it has been agreed local community hubs, e.g. at shopping centres, would be the best locations. Next phase of this work would be to bid for funding aimed at rapid chargers. BFC are working with a pan-Berkshire group of councils to do this bid and ensure that BFC's network, meshes in with the rest of the county.

#### **Public Protection Partnership – air quality**

- 3.23 The anti-idling project, focused primarily around the schools, has appointed a new member of staff to work on this project. They will be attending the Officer board, to ensure that the board has the most up to date information on this project. The next step will be the procurement of equipment.
- 3.24 Licensing liaison Officers will be attending taxi ranks and starting the education around idling and idling enforcement. This programme will then expand to known hot spot areas around the borough. This will be in addition to September's work on coordinating the beginning of school term with these project objectives.

#### **Economic Development**

- 3.25 The Forest Giants events in the Lexicon have now been added to the action plan. This event has brought attention to the borough and the borough's messages around protecting and enhancing our natural environment.
- 3.26 The council has engaged the Bracknell Improvement District (BID) as part of the CC strategy and the Executive Director was invited to present to their board. The BID represents circa 300 businesses. Businesses in the borough and are a key group to engage with in addressing and tackling climate change. The council will therefore be publishing some information that businesses can use and share. The council is also looking to create a virtual space, where the business community can share updates and good practise.

### **4 Communications plan**

- 4.1 A detailed communication plan is being developed. However, good progress has been made in getting profile for key programme successes. At the moment the communications team have set themselves the objective of publishing a climate change news story every two weeks. This has been achieved since May 2021. There have been over 15 different climate change stories issued by the council from April 2021 until August 2021.
- 4.2 Social media: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, have been key communication channels. The council has over 13,000 followers on Facebook, so it is one of the most important platforms to put communication messages out through. This also has the benefit of being two-way communication, with posts generating much debate between the users and messages back to the council. The council also uses e-news letters, e.g. Parks & Countryside, Waste & Recycling, etc., in addition to Town and Country, as its other routes for messaging.

- 4.3 The team's press releases have been used by the Bracknell News, and on local radio and BBC radio Berkshire. Cllr Hayes has done a number of interviews with BBC Radio Berkshire which have received good publicity, particularly when a food recycling truck was named "Dame Foodie Dench", prompting a video response from Dame Judi herself. Having local events like the Forest Giants has generated a real focus on the area and the council's work around climate change. We are therefore now exploring if additional budget for communications can be secured to extend the work to billboards, radio ads, leaflets, letter drops, etc.
- 4.4 Looking forward, the team will be exploring the most effective ways to communicate with schools more regularly, e.g. headteachers updates, etc. Also, more targeted messaging for groups like older residents, faith groups, etc. Our climate change Officer has started producing weekly tips for residents for these different resident channels. The focus is on everyday things that residents can build into their routines, e.g. shorter showers, sustainable cooking, etc.
- 4.5 Internal communications are equally as important. Messages and articles have been put in the staff newspaper, Forest Views and recently the front page featured the new Climate Change Officer, helping to make the post and the strategy more visible to all staff and Members. Using the internal staff channels more, has opened up new internal debates around efficiencies that the council can make in its operations, such as staff talking about working from home in a more sustainable way, etc. Having now secured a monthly slot in forest views for climate change content should mean that the council's priority in this area stays front and centre in staff's thinking and planning.

## **5 Equalities Impact Assessment**

- 5.1 Specific EIA's are completed by Officers for their individual projects within the Action Plan.

## **6 Strategic Risk Management Issues**

- 6.1 The Council is committed to becoming a net zero carbon authority by 2050. All actions that the council undertakes should be assessed for their environmental impacts prior to receiving executive approval.

### Background Papers

Appendix 1: Climate Change Action Plan updated to 31 Aug 2021

Appendix 2: Action Plan quarterly update template

### Contact for further information

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