



**EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT COVER SHEET**

<b>Title of Report:</b>	Climate Change and Nature Action Plan – Review of Progress 2023/24	To be marked with an 'X' by Democratic Services after report has been presented
<b>Meeting of:</b>	Corporate Management Team - 14 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2024	X
	Pre Cabinet – 22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug 2024	X
	Leader's / Leader of the Opposition's Advisory Group - 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024	X
	Cabinet – 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2024	
	Audit Committee [DATE] / Scrutiny Regeneration, Development and Market Hall Committee [DATE] / Scrutiny Health and Well Being Committee [DATE] / Scrutiny Climate Change and Environment Committee / Scrutiny Value for Money Council Committee [DATE]	



<p><b>Is this an Executive Decision:</b></p>	<p>YES</p>	<p><b>Is this a Key Decision:</b></p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><b>Is this in the Forward Plan:</b></p>	<p>YES</p>	<p><b>Does this report contain Confidential or Exempt Information:</b></p> <p><b>If the report Contains Confidential Information, please provide reason.</b></p> <p><b>If the report contains Exempt Information, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972:</b></p>	<p>NO</p> <p>[ ]</p> <p>[ ]</p>

**Essential Signatories:**

**ALL REPORTS MUST BE IN THE NAME OF A HEAD OF SERVICE**



Monitoring Officer: **John Teasdale**

Date ..... Signature .....

Chief Finance Officer: **Lloyd Haynes**

Date ..... Signature .....

**EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Report to Cabinet**

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024**

**REPORT TITLE:** Climate Change and Nature Action Plan – Review of Progress 2023/24

**PORTFOLIO:** Cllr Fletcher – Environment and Climate Change

**CHIEF OFFICER:** John Teasdale

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Mark Jeffcote Ext. No. x1134

**WARD(S) AFFECTED:** All Wards

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present progress on the Climate Change and Nature Action Plan at the end of the 2023/24 financial year.
- 1.2. The report also contains the latest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Borough and the Council.

**2. Executive Summary**

- 2.1. East Staffordshire Borough Council declared a 'Climate Emergency' in August 2020 and has pledged to make the Council's operations and activities carbon neutral by 2040 and aspires to make the Borough carbon neutral by 2050.
- 2.2. The latest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Borough show a reduction of 42.1% between 2005 and 2022 from 1047.5 kilotonnes CO<sub>2</sub> to 606.5 kilotonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. There was also a decrease of 3% between 2021 and 2022 (see Figure 1).
- 2.3. The latest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Council show a reduction of 43% between 2009/10 and 2023/24 from 3547 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e to 2024 tonnes<sup>1</sup>. In addition,

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<sup>1</sup> The emissions data for the Borough and the emissions data for the council's own operations and estate have different base years because the data for the Borough is provided by the Government whereas the council data is calculated internally

there was a decrease of 4.5% from 2119 tonnes in 2022/23. This continues the year-on-year downward trend (see Figure 2).

- 2.4. From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 the Council's electricity supply moved from a standard energy mix to Green electricity. The move to Green electricity was responsible for 77 tonnes of the 95 tonne reduction seen last year or 3.6% of the overall 4.5% reduction.
- 2.5. The Climate Change and Nature Action Plan contains 52 current actions plus 2 new actions to be added (Appendix 1). The progress of each individual action has been assessed and given a RAG rating. Actions shaded in GREY are not yet due to start. Newly added actions have not been rated. Progress can be summarised as follows:
  - GREEN – 46 actions
  - RED – 4 actions
  - GREY – 2 actions
  - Newly added – 2 actions
- 2.6. The completed actions are listed in Appendix 2.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1. East Staffordshire Borough Council declared a 'Climate Emergency' in August 2020 and has pledged to make the Council's operations and activities carbon neutral by 2040 and aspires to make the Borough carbon neutral by 2050.
- 3.2. In February 2022, Cabinet agreed to extend the 'Climate Emergency' declaration to a 'Climate & Ecological Emergency' declaration to acknowledge the global, national and local loss of biodiversity. In March 2022, Council approved a Nature Recovery motion presented by the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

### **4. Contribution to Corporate Priorities**

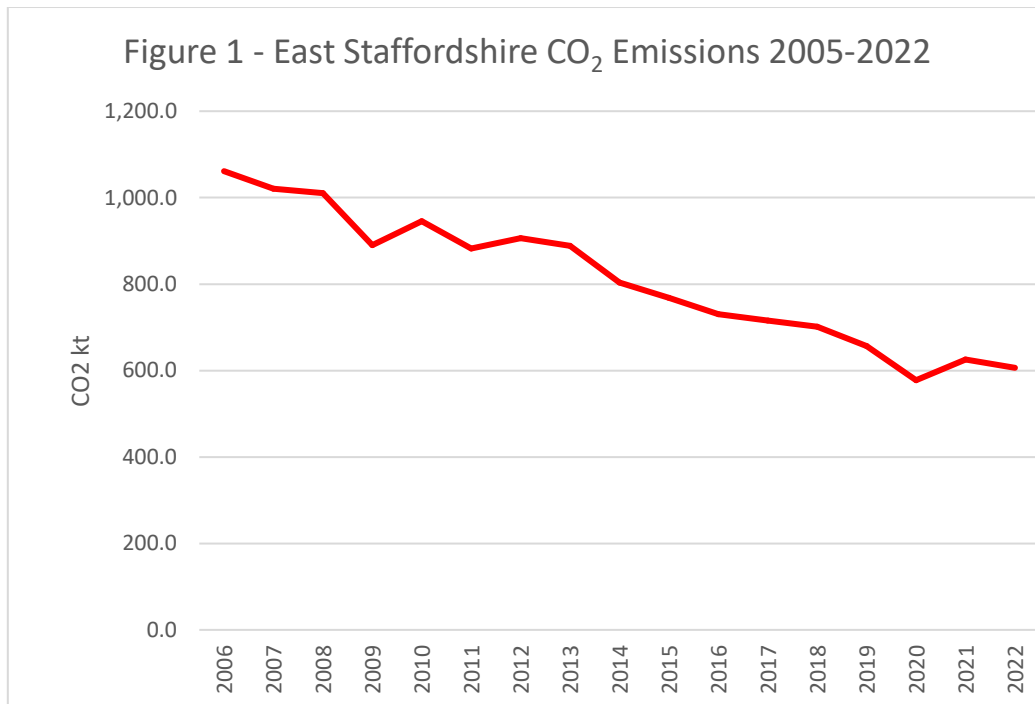
- 4.1. Protecting the climate, adapting to the future consequences of climate change and supporting nature's recovery will contribute to work in the Environment and Climate Change portfolio and towards developing a Green New Deal for East Staffordshire.
- 4.2. This report meets the requirement of the Corporate Plan target GND18 to deliver an annual review of the Climate Change and Nature Action Plan.

### **5. Main Report**

#### **5.1. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for East Staffordshire**

5.1.1. In 2022, data provided by BEIS<sup>2</sup> showed that the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Borough were 606.5 kilotonnes. This represents a 42.1% reduction from 1047.5 kilotonnes in 2005. There was also a decrease of 3% from 625.4 kilotonnes in 2021 (see Figure 1).

5.1.2. Between 2021 and 2022, greenhouse gas emissions decreased in 346 out of 361 local authorities in the UK (96%). This is consistent with overall UK emissions which decreased by 5%, largely due to a reduction in fuel use to heat buildings.



5.1.3. Table 1 shows the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by sector for 2022. Transport, domestic energy use and industry & commerce account for approximately 98% of emissions.

5.1.4. There are actions in the Climate Change and Nature Action Plan (Appendix 1) to address the various sources of emissions. They include actions to address emissions from residential buildings and road transport, and across several sectors through the Local Plan and regeneration projects.

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<sup>2</sup> [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics, 2005 to 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

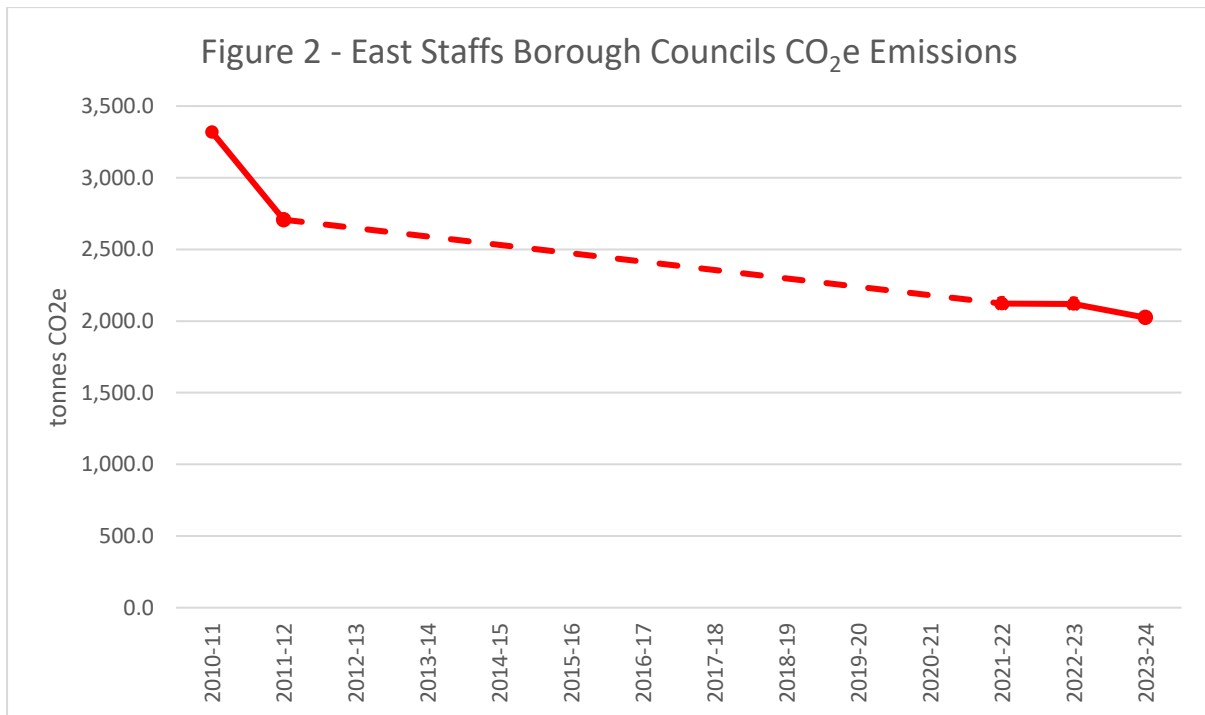
Table 1 – East Staffordshire CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions for 2022 by Sector

<b>Sector</b>	<b>ktCO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>%</b>
Transport	229.3	37.8%
Domestic	148.4	24.5%
Industry	118.2	19.5%
Commercial	101.2	16.7%
Agriculture	19.2	3.2%
Public sector	15.9	2.6%
Waste management	0.1	0%
Land use, land use change and forestry	-26	-4.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>606.5</b>	<b>100%</b>

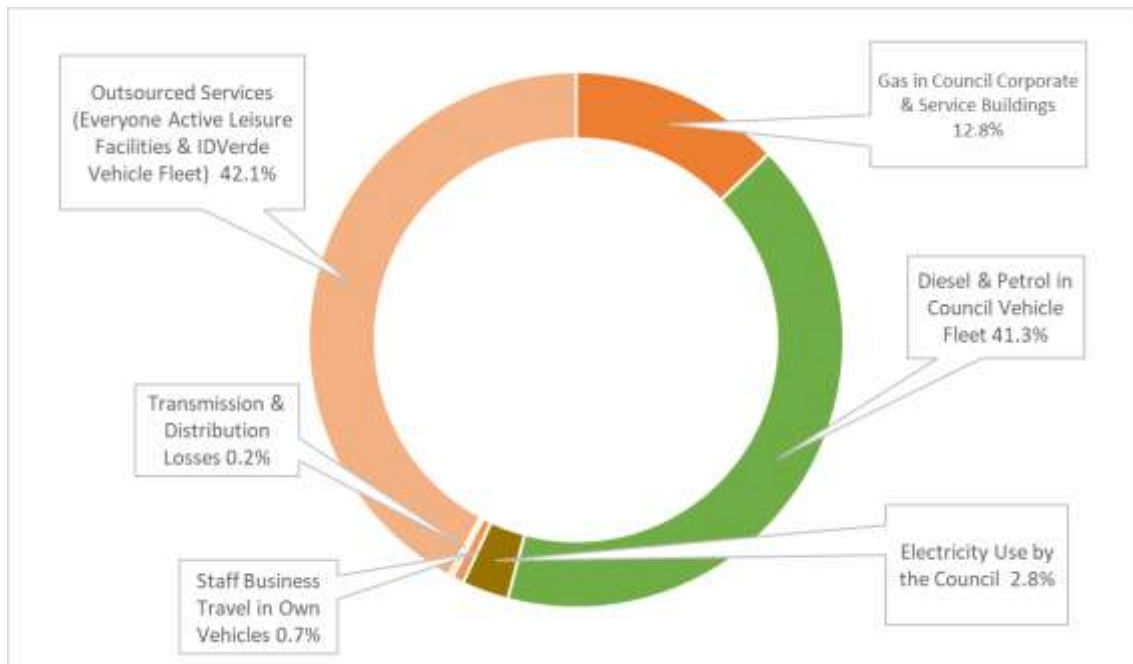
## 5.2. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Council (including leisure facilities and idverde vehicle fleet)

- 5.2.1. In 2009/10, the Council produced a total of 3547 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e. In 2023/24, that amount had reduced to 2024 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e. This represents a welcome 43% reduction since 2009/10 (Figure 2).
- 5.2.2. Between 2022/23 and 2023/24 the Council's emissions went down by approximately 95 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e. This represents a 4.5% reduction in the last year.
- 5.2.3. Most of the reduction in the last year was because the Council was using Green electricity. From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 the electricity supply moved from a standard energy mix to Green electricity (see Action 1.7.2). The move to Green electricity was responsible for 77 tonnes of the 95 tonne reduction or 3.6% of the overall 4.5% reduction. In June the Council received renewal information for the Green tariffs for 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.
- 5.2.4. The Council's emissions are broken down in Figure 3. The Council's outsourced services accounted for 42.1% of the emissions. These include the leisure facilities at Meadowside, Uttoxeter and Shobnall and the fuel used by the landscape contractor (idverde) vehicle fleet. The Council's vehicle fleet accounted for a further 41.3%. Gas use in corporate and service buildings

accounted for 12.8%. Electricity use by the Council accounted for 2.8%. The move to Green electricity described above reduced this figure from 4.5% last year.



**Figure 3 - East Staffs Borough Council's CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions for 2023/24 by Source**





- 5.2.5. Going forward the Council's emissions will not show a gradual decline but reductions will happen in large steps as the buildings and vehicle fleets are decarbonised.
- 5.2.6. Consultants have already completed a high-level Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the Town Hall, Brewhouse, Stapenhill Cemetery and Market Hall (see Action 1.7.4) and a bid has been submitted to the government's Low Carbon Skills Fund for £70k to progress the work to scheme feasibility/concept design stage for the Town Hall, Brewhouse and Market Hall.
- 5.2.7. Everyone Active appointed consultants to produce high-level Heat Decarbonisation Plans for the leisure facilities and these are in draft form. A successful application for £530k was also made to Phase 2 of the Swimming Pool Support Fund for Meadowside Leisure Centre. LED lighting and PV panels will be installed. The deadline for completion is March 2025.
- 5.2.8. Corporate Plan target GND19 requires an options appraisal for the decarbonisation of the Council's built estate ready for Cabinet in December. The appraisal will draw on the work described above.
- 5.2.9. Consultants have also been commissioned to undertake a long-term fleet decarbonisation and infrastructure plan for the waste depot (see Action 1.7.7). The work is on-going with outcomes due in the autumn.
- 5.2.10. Since April the Council's refuse collection vehicles (RCVs), road sweepers and miscellaneous street cleaning vehicles have been using hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) as an alternative to regular diesel. HVO can reduce net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 90%. It can be used in vehicles equipped with Euro 6 diesel engines. Only the Council's smaller mechanical road sweepers will continue to run on regular diesel.

### **5.3. Climate Change and Nature Action Plan - Progress with existing actions**

- 5.3.1. The Climate Change and Nature Action Plan contains 52 current actions plus 2 new actions to be added (Appendix 1).
- 5.3.2. The progress has been assessed and given a RAG rating. Actions shaded in GREY are not yet due to start. Newly added actions have not been rated.
- 5.3.3. Progress can be summarised as follows:
- GREEN – 46 actions
  - RED – 4 actions
  - GREY – 2 actions
  - Newly added - 2 actions
- 5.3.4. The completed actions are listed in Appendix 2.
- 5.3.5. Notable outcomes since the last monitoring report include:

### **Action 1.3.2 – Partnership working with Staffordshire Warmer Homes**

Energy efficiency improvements for vulnerable households in the Borough have continued during 23/24. The work is delivered through a number of schemes such as LAD3 (Local Authority Delivery Phase 3), HUG2 (Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2), ECO4 LA Flex (Energy Company Obligation Phase 4, Local Authority Flex) and the GBIS (Great British Insulation Scheme). An additional £50k has been contributed from ESBC's share of the 'Contain Outbreak Management Fund' (COMF). In total, 61 households have received improvements such as insulation upgrades, new heating systems or renewable energy installations or will receive them in the near future.

### **Action 1.3.3 – Partnership working with Beat The Cold**

The ongoing partnership with Beat The Cold to provide an energy efficiency advice service to vulnerable households has provided advice and support to 339 households in 2023/24. It has created an estimated £4,039 worth of savings from tariff advice and £29,050 worth of savings from referrals to water tariff support. In addition, 134 households have also been referred for heat grants up to £450 per household with potential savings totalling £60,300.

### **Action 1.4.4 – Cycle path and infrastructure improvements**

Through the Burton Towns Fund programme, the Borough Council is working with the County Council to bring forward a number of improvements to the cycle network in Burton through the implementation of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. The £1.6 million Station Street cycleway project commenced in 22/23 and completed during 23/24. The £2 million improvement to a five-and-a-half mile stretch of Trent & Mersey Canal towpath will benefit walkers, boaters and cyclists. It was completed in Spring 2024.

### **Action 1.7.2 – Green energy tariff for the Council**

As described in paragraph 5.2.3, the Council is now using Green electricity through until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. This reduced emissions last year by 77 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e. Going forward, Green electricity will be fundamental to achieving the carbon neutral by 2040 target for the Council's operations and activities as the organisation moves towards decarbonised heat and transport. In June 2024 the Council received renewal information for the Green tariffs for 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Total Energies, the Council's energy provider, use Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certificates administered by Ofgem and Guarantee of Origin (GoO) certificates from the EU. This is to evidence the supply is renewable-sourced.

### **Action 1.7.4 - Plan for Council buildings to reduce energy consumption**

As described in paragraph 5.2.7, Everyone Active made a successful bid to Phase 2 of the Swimming Pool Support Fund for Meadowside Leisure Centre for £530k. LED lighting and PV panels will be installed. The deadline for spending the funding is March 2025.

As described in paragraph 5.2.6, consultants have completed a high-level Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the Town Hall, Brewhouse, Stapenhill

Cemetery and Market Hall in March and Everyone Active have appointed consultants to produce a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the leisure facilities.

A bid also has been submitted to the Low Carbon Skills Fund for £70k to progress the work on the Town Hall, Brewhouse and Market Hall to feasibility/concept design.

**Action 1.7.7 – Options appraisal low emission waste collection vehicles**

Hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) is an alternative to regular diesel that can reduce net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 90%. It can be used in vehicles equipped with Euro 6 diesel engines. This includes all the Council's refuse collection vehicles (RCVs), road sweepers and miscellaneous street cleaning vehicles. These vehicles have been using HVO since April. Tests carried out reveal no reduction in fuel economy. Only the Council's smaller mechanical road sweepers will continue to run on regular diesel.

**Action 3.4 – Relaxed mowing regimes to enhance biodiversity**

Relaxed mowing and/or wildflower planting is being introduced incrementally across Council sites in the Borough with different mowing regimes, planting regimes and mixes trialled to achieve maximum effect. During 2023/24, relaxed mowing was expanded to a total of 20 sites.

**Action 3.8 – Network of community orchards and wildlife corridors**

A trial community orchard has been planted at Newton Road Park in Burton. The orchard has established well and there has been no vandalism. When the fruit is ready to harvest the aim is to provide the produce to Winshill Resource Centre for use in healthy meals.

**Action 4.3.2 – Air Quality Management Plan**

The Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) has been updated to incorporate new actions. This is primarily to address NO<sub>2</sub> within Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) 1 located around the Derby turn roundabout and associated road network. AQMA 2 at the St Peters Bridge roundabout has been revoked. The AQAP will also ensure a more strategic approach to reducing emissions of NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> across the whole Borough.

Alongside the updated AQAP, the Council has also reviewed the 2015 Air Quality Strategy to produce the new 2024-2029 Air Quality Strategy. This sets out the overarching framework through which air quality will be managed within the Borough and includes the Council's responsibilities under Local Air Quality Management.

These documents have been approved internally through Cabinet and by Defra and are due to go out for public consultation during summer 2024.

**Action 4.3.4 – Encourage less polluting models of bus**

ESBC and Staffordshire County Council's Connectivity and Sustainability Team successfully applied for a joint Defra air quality grant to fund additional electric buses and associated electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure to

complement the electric buses already secured through Levelling Up funding. The buses will operate on services 8 and 9 which traverse AQMA 1 and connect to South Derbyshire and beyond. Carbon reduction benefits of £3,156,278 or 12,319 tonnes of carbon are expected from this scheme. Funds have since been released and the scheme is expected to be implemented over the coming year. To complement the Air Quality Grant application, Staffordshire County Council's Connectivity and Sustainability Team and Diamond Bus ('Bus Operator') submitted a joint bid to fund further electric buses for service 9. This application was submitted in December 2023 and a letter of support was provided by ESBC. This bid was submitted through the DfT Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) 2 scheme and was successful in April 2024.

### **Action 6.3 – Public awareness of Council projects through events**

During the Great Big Green Week (8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June) a programme of over 20 climate and nature themed events, activities, walks and educational opportunities took place. It was delivered in a fun and accessible way that was designed to engage local residents and visitors of all ages and interests. During the week, the Council held 2 green networking events that offered local businesses, voluntary services and venues the opportunity to learn about 'going green' and highlight grants that would enable them to pursue their goals. As well as fun days, creative art sessions and more, Green Week also saw 4 schools and the De Ferrers trust sign up to be part of next year's initiative and Burton College pledge to make large changes in the way they procure, resource and even plan the curriculum as well as pledging 2000 students to 'go green'.

5.3.6. Four actions in the Action Plan have been rated as Red:

### **Action 1.3.4 – Energy efficiency measures in properties with an EPC of D or below where the occupant is on Council tax reduction**

During the reporting period, 25 properties received energy efficiency measures at an average cost of £70 per property. The target was 150 properties. Fewer properties were completed than planned because a significant number were in very poor condition and prioritised through enforcement action. The budget has been carried forward to continue delivery in 24/25. **It is recommended that the target date is revised to Q4 2024/25.**

### **Action 1.7.10 – Review and improve all shower facilities and drying rooms in Council buildings**

The review of shower facilities and drying rooms will take place following the adoption of the revised Sustainable Staff Travel Plan (see action 1.7.9). **It is recommended that the target date is revised to Q3 2024/25.**

### **Action 1.7.14 – Review the recycling provision in Council buildings**

It is proposed that the review of recycling provision starts at the end of this year following discussion regarding office moves. **It is recommended that the target date is revised to Q4 2024/25.**

#### **Action 4.1.2 – Review the Climate Change and Sustainability section of the ESBC Procurement Policy**

With the new Procurement Act being implemented from October 2024, the Procurement Policy and Contract Procedure Rules will be reviewed to align to the new requirements arising from the Act. **It is recommended that the target date is revised to Q3 2024/25.**

### **5.4. Climate Change and Nature Action Plan - Revised actions**

5.4.1. It is recommended that seven actions in the Action Plan are revised:

#### **Action 1.4.5 – Promote increased use of sustainable transport including public transport and active travel**

The action wording has been revised to broaden out from solely public transport to active travel such as walking and cycling. **It is recommended that this action wording is revised.**

#### **Action 1.4.6 – Investigation of a solution to promote and encourage walking and cycling**

Initial work with local cycle firms to provide affordable bike rental for visitors and residents (former Corporate Plan GD06) will be incorporated into this revised action to align with Corporate Plan PES05. **It is recommended that the action wording is revised to reflect the Corporate Plan.**

#### **Action 1.6.1 – Plant Carbon Capture Areas with native tree species**

It is recommended that the target date for this action is revised from Q4 2023/24 to ongoing to reflect the introduction of tree planting, relaxed mowing and wildflower planting across numerous sites incrementally over more than one year. **It is recommended that the action target date is revised to ongoing.**

#### **Action 1.7.3 – Investigate energy generation options across the Council estate and work with external organisations to consider the use of heat energy networks and renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power.**

It is recommended that the target date for this action is revised from Q4 2023/24 to Q4 2026/27. This is to allow time for the Council to consider how it might input into the government's new policy agenda on energy generation and the creation of Great British Energy. **It is recommended that the action target date is revised to Q4 2026/27.**

#### **Action 1.7.4 – Develop and deliver an improvement plan for all Council buildings to reduce energy consumption**

Corporate Plan target GND19 requires an options appraisal for the decarbonisation of the Council's built estate to be presented to Cabinet in December. The appraisal will build on the work already completed but also take a broader view of the Council's built estate and the significant decarbonisation challenges.

**It is recommended that the target date is revised to Q3 2024/25 to reflect the Corporate Plan.**

**Action 3.1 – Map Nature Recovery Networks in the Borough and contribute to development of the county-wide Nature Recovery Strategy**

It is recommended that the target date for this action is revised from Q3 2023/24 to ongoing to reflect the contribution that the Council will make to the delivery of the Nature Recovery Strategy going forward. **It is recommended that the action target date is revised to ongoing.**

**Action 3.4 – Expand relaxed mowing regimes by establishing Biodiversity Enhancement Areas**

It is recommended that the target date for this action is revised from Q1 2023/24 to ongoing to reflect the expansion of relaxed mowing across numerous sites incrementally over more than one year. **It is recommended that the action target date is revised to ongoing.**

**5.5. Climate Change and Nature Action Plan – Deleted Actions**

- 5.5.1. **Section 6, Communication and Engagement** - It is recommended that six actions are deleted from the Action Plan. These actions were all included in Section 6, Communication and Engagement. The initial work has been completed and the actions are now ongoing activities. The actions include (6.1) updating the climate change webpage (6.2) maintaining the map of stakeholders (6.6) updating the communications calendar (6.8) updating the press release calendar (6.13) keeping staff informed of key climate change initiatives (6.15) maintain the library of climate change resources. **It is recommended that actions 6.1, 6.2, 6.6, 6.8, 6.13 and 6.15 are removed from the Communication and Engagement section of the Action Plan but will continue as ongoing activity.**

**5.6. Climate Change and Nature Action Plan – Additional Actions**

- 5.6.1. Two actions have been added to the Plan:

**Action 3.9 – Produce the format for a strategic nature recovery document that will meet the Council’s reporting obligations under the ‘Strengthened Biodiversity Duty’**

The [‘Strengthened Biodiversity Duty’](#) introduced by the Environment Act (2021) requires the Council to:

1. Manage its land to improve biodiversity
2. Educate, advise and raise awareness
3. Review internal policies and processes to help nature recover
4. Deliver Biodiversity Net Gain

Progress will need to be reported to government. The end of the first reporting period should be no later than 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan 2026. If the Council chooses to submit an annual report then the latest the reporting period can start is 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan 2025. After this, the end date of each reporting period must be within 5 years of the end date of the previous reporting period.

**Action 4.3.5 – Develop a pathway to support decarbonisation of the taxi fleet in line with the work of the Staffordshire Working Group.**

The decarbonisation of the taxi fleet in East Staffordshire is important for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and improving local air quality. Taxis contribute a significant emissions so it is important to transition to more environmentally friendly options. By collaborating with the newly established Staffordshire Sustainability Board: Taxi Decarbonisation Working Group, the Council can address challenges like cross-border licensing while supporting the UK government's 2035 goal for ending new petrol and diesel vehicle sales.

The Council will engage with the taxi trade through the existing Taxi forum and partner with the Energy Saving Trust to survey EV usage, and understand driver demographics, vehicle types, and attitudes towards EVs. This will inform future licensing policies, identify adoption barriers, and help develop incentives for EV uptake.

**6. Financial Considerations**

*This section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit: PF/AB/Daniel Binks*

The main financial issues arising from this Report are as follows:

- 6.1. There are potentially significant financial issues arising from the proposals identified within the action plan. These are likely to have financial implications in the medium to long term. Where projects are underway provision has been made within the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 6.2. Going forward, each action will need to be costed on a case by case basis and affordability will be considered as part of the annual review of the MTFs /or funded using existing budgets, in accordance with financial regulations.

Revenue	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
N/A			

Capital	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
N/A			

**7. Risk Assessment and Management**

- 7.1. There are numerous risks associated with actions detailed in the action plan, however these will be considered for each individual action. The main risks to this Report and the Council achieving its objectives are as follows:
- 7.2. **Positive** (Opportunities/Benefits):

- 7.2.1. Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to protect the climate from man-made climate change
- 7.2.2. Possible financial benefits and energy security through energy conservation and/or self-sufficient energy generation
- 7.2.3. Adaptation to the consequences of climate change
- 7.2.4. Nature recovery
- 7.2.5. Wise use of resources and reduced waste and pollution
- 7.3. **Negative** (Threats):
  - 7.3.1. Insufficient capacity and funding to deliver the change necessary
  - 7.3.2. Profound consequences of climate change and biodiversity loss
- 7.4. The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

## 8. **Legal Considerations**

*This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team:  
John Teasdale*

The main legal issues arising from this Report are as follows:

- 8.1. In 2008, the government set a target for the UK to reduce its greenhouse emissions in 2050 by 80% compared with 1990 levels (the Climate Change Act 2008) and, in June 2019, the government passed legislation committing it to achieving 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (the Climate Change Act 2008 (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019).
- 8.2. The individual actions detailed within the action plan may have their own legal implications and will therefore be considered as part of the approval process for each action.

## 9. **Equalities and Health**

- 9.1. **Equality impacts:** The subject of this Report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality and health impact assessment is not required at this stage but may be needed for specific policies and actions undertaken as part of the action plan.
- 9.2. **Health impacts:** The actions outlined in the Action Plan will result in improved health outcomes. Assessments will be completed on a case by case basis. An equality and health impact assessment is not required at this stage.



## **10. Data Protection Implications – Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)**

10.1. A DPIA must be completed where there are plans to:

- use systematic and extensive profiling with significant effects;
- process special category or criminal offence data on a large scale; or
- systematically monitor publicly accessible places on a large scale
- use new technologies;
- use profiling or special category data to decide on access to services;
- profile individuals on a large scale;
- process biometric data;
- process genetic data;
- match data or combine datasets from different sources;
- collect personal data from a source other than the individual without providing them with a privacy notice ('invisible processing');
- track individuals' location or behaviour;
- profile children or target marketing or online services at them; or
- process data that might endanger the individual's physical health or safety in the event of a security breach

10.2 Following consideration of the above, there are no Data Protection implications arising from this report which would require a DPIA.

## **11. Human Rights**

11.1. There are no Human Rights issues arising from this Report.

## **12. Environmental Impacts**

12.1. Does the proposal have any positive or negative environmental impacts? Yes

12.2. If so, are these impacts **significant**? Yes

12.3. Please detail the positive/negative environmental impacts and any mitigation:

### **Positive environmental impacts (Benefits/Opportunities)**

The Climate Change and Nature Action Plan contains actions that contribute to meeting the aims of the four Climate Change & Nature Strategy:

- Aim 1. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions (climate change mitigation)
- Aim 2. Preparing for future climate change (adaptation)
- Aim 3. Protecting and enhancing nature
- Aim 4. Using resources wisely and minimising waste and pollution

Monitoring and reporting the Borough and Council CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is important for assessing progress and informing plan development.

## **Negative environmental impacts (Threats/Mitigation)**

There are no negative environmental impacts associated with this report.

### **13. Recommendation(s)**

13.1. The report makes the following recommendations:

- a) The overall downward trend in annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for both the Borough and the Council are noted;
- b) The overall positive progress with the implementation of the Climate Change and Nature Action Plan is noted;
- c) The proposed changes to the target dates for the actions rated Red (section 5.3.6) are approved;
- d) The recommendations for revised, deleted and new actions (sections 5.4, 5.5 and 5.6) are approved.

### **14. Background Papers**

Climate Change Declaration and Action Plan, Cabinet 17<sup>th</sup> Aug 2020.

Nature Recovery motion approved by Council, March 7<sup>th</sup> 2022.

Climate Change Communications and Engagement Action Plan.

[East Staffordshire Borough Council Climate Change and Nature Strategy](#)

### **15. Appendices**

Appendix 1: The Climate Change and Nature Action Plan - Progress end 23-24

Appendix 2: The Climate Change and Nature Action Plan - Completed Actions end 23-24