

## Appendix 3: Climate Emergency Action Plan – Year 1 (2020/21)

The Council Budget for 2020/21 approved in February 2020 allocated £1.7 million over the 4 year Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), in addition to the £85k allocated to early Climate Emergency investments in October 2019 and investments through the Capital Programme. In addition, funding has been allocated through the Capital Programme to undertake green initiatives that support the Climate Emergency through the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) as well as the proposed Property & Land Investment Fund having a strong focus on non-financial benefits such as carbon offsetting and biodiversity.

In terms of CIL funding, the budget earmarked that £1.5 million is used each year to support the Climate Emergency with an indicative split across the following areas:

- Green Schools £500k
- Green Communities and Open Spaces £500k
- Green Transport £500k

The following table presents a list of priority projects for Year 1 (2020/21) to support the response to the Climate Emergency, over and above, the projects identified in Appendix 2 that already have funding within existing budgets. The projects are grouped according to the priority themes, and the Council’s role of ‘lead’, ‘enable’ and ‘inspire’. The specific project details, including cost implications, will be worked up and matched against the available budget.

The projects shaded grey are Capital Expenditure projects. The rest are Revenue expenditure from the Climate Emergency and/or other service area budgets.

### Climate Emergency Theme: Cross Cutting

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<b>LEAD – in our own operations</b>	
We will seek to use / expand the current Bristol Climate Advisory Board – <b>Purpose:</b> Provides independent assessment of our Climate Emergency Plan and technical support.	DEVELOP
We propose to work through the Local Strategic Partnership to take action on the Climate Emergency liaising with key emitters and influencers and setting up a mechanism for receiving technical advice. <b>Purpose:</b> key area emitters and influencers agree and act on advanced targets for 2030.	IMPLEMENT
We propose building capacity to put in place a Climate Emergency team to co-ordinate, lead and facilitate projects and work on the Climate Emergency. <b>Purpose:</b> Increased capacity required to deliver plan.	PREPARE
We propose developing a communications and stakeholder engagement programme to both inform, share knowledge and facilitate behaviour change in all sectors. E.g ‘Switch to a domestic renewable energy tariff’. <b>Purpose:</b> Area wide engagement and action on Climate Emergency.	IMPLEMENT

To undertake a review of appropriate ISO standards relevant to managing the Council's corporate response to the Climate Emergency and where significant value can be demonstrated, to work toward achieving that standard. <b>Purpose:</b> Bring whole organisation in line with globally recognised sustainability standard.	DEVELOP
We will commission a piece of work to identify the most appropriate carbon assessment tool to help us understand the impact of our projects and services and how to address them. <b>Purpose:</b> To measure progress and inform decision making.	PREPARE
<b>ENABLE – a low carbon South Gloucestershire with our programmes, policies and decisions</b>	
We will update our area wide carbon baseline data and initiate further research work as necessary to help inform our decision making and evaluate progress against the carbon neutral target. <b>Purpose:</b> Further analysis required to inform Years 2-10 plan.	PREPARE
We will provide all staff and members with carbon and ecological literacy training and integrate these principles into staff and member induction and handbook. <b>Purpose:</b> To upskill staff and members in climate emergency principles.	IMPLEMENT
We will explore opportunities for including Climate and Nature emergency messages into our 'One you South Gloucestershire programme (healthy lifestyles) area wide recognising and maximising the co-benefits sustainable/health lifestyles. <b>Purpose:</b> To engage with residents on an area wide basis with complementary messaging to change behaviour.	IMPLEMENT
Set up costs for Green South Gloucestershire Fund – carbon offsetting and natural capital. <b>Purpose:</b> To provide longer term funding for Climate Emergency project delivery.	DEVELOP
<b>INSPIRE – business and residents to take climate action themselves</b>	
We propose to use the South Glos News publication to support the Climate Emergency response. <b>Purpose:</b> To engage with residents on an area wide basis to share knowledge and inspire behaviour change.	IMPLEMENT
We propose to deliver 'Environment and Climate Roadshows' at community events alongside the 'Resources and Waste Roadshow' and hold events at libraries to facilitate behaviour change and to engage with the public on climate actions. <b>Purpose:</b> To engage with residents on an area wide bases with complimentary messaging to change behaviour.	IMPLEMENT
We will support the education sector to develop a Climate Emergency skills strategy. <b>Purpose:</b> To ensure the area has the skills and training available so that the workforce that can take up the jobs that will be created due to the Climate Emergency.	DEVELOP
We will carry out a climate and nature emergency business engagement programme. <b>Purpose:</b> Businesses account for a third of carbon emissions in the area, access to advice and grants will help them reduce their emissions.	IMPLEMENT

## Climate Emergency Theme: Buildings/Built Development

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<b>LEAD – in our own operations</b>	
We propose an in depth council building stock retrofit analysis, including schools, to identify and implement a retrofit work programme. <b>Purpose:</b> To identify energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, cost and feasibility that can be implemented on the council building stock	PREPARE

We will build to high energy efficiency standards, such as Passivhaus, in all council developed schools. E.g. currently planned into the design specification for Elm Park School and Lyde Green School. <b>Purpose:</b> To upgrade the energy efficiency of projects that are already underway where the current budget needs a top up to reach higher energy efficiency/low carbon standards.	IMPLEMENT
We propose SGC led development (e.g. schools, community centres & housing) to be at least net zero carbon and aspire to be carbon negative, apply biodiversity net gain and include adaptive features. <b>Purpose:</b> To upgrade the energy efficiency of projects that are already underway where the current budget needs a top up to reach higher energy efficiency/low carbon standards.	IMPLEMENT
A review of the potential heat that can be used from the Strategic Heat Network. <b>Purpose:</b> To establish the extent of the potential benefit to South Gloucestershire's Climate Emergency aims from the strategic heat network to find out how much heat could be used to retrofit existing housing.	PREPARE
We will explore opportunities to deliver the Emergency Accommodation project on the site at Cranleigh Court Road with improved carbon efficiency. <b>Purpose:</b> To upgrade the energy efficiency of projects that are already underway where the current budget needs a top up to reach higher energy efficiency/low carbon standards.	DEVELOP
<b>ENABLE – a low carbon South Gloucestershire with our programmes, policies and decisions</b>	
We propose to significantly expand existing Warm and Well Scheme to tackle retrofitting on an area focused basis using targeted marketing. Maximise take up of Energy Company Obligation (ECO3) funding by boosting promotion of scheme and making sure that those eligible for government grants get them. <b>Purpose:</b> To scale up support for residents to retrofit their homes with energy efficiency measures by leveraging in government grants.	IMPLEMENT
<b>INSPIRE – business and residents to take climate action themselves</b>	
Set up a network of retrofit demonstration homes across the area to promote retrofitting measures, this could include wildlife friendly gardening and 'green open doors' events. <b>Purpose:</b> To give residents the opportunity to see real houses that have been retrofitted and to speak to residents who have had work carried out to give them confidence to carry out retrofit works.	IMPLEMENT
A deep retrofit demonstrator home for social rented sector/partnership with social rented sector. <b>Purpose:</b> To engage registered social landlords to retrofit social housing stock across the area.	DEVELOP

## Climate Emergency Theme: Transport (& Infrastructure / Highways)

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<b>LEAD – in our own operations</b>	

Assess feasibility to scale up travel plan support for schools including assessing the feasibility of providing infrastructure for SGC schools to have electric mini buses. <b>Purpose:</b> To replicate success of Barley Close Primary School increasing low carbon travel to school and to provide infrastructure for electric buses where suitable.	DEVELOP / IMPLEMENT
South Glos area wide assessment of EV infrastructure need (local authority to identify needs to address market failures and rural EV provision) and policy development. <b>Purpose:</b> To identify gaps in South Gloucestershire wide provision of EV infrastructure.	PREPARE
Immediately implement the new Verge Management Strategy element of the Green Infrastructure Strategy. To move immediately to sustainable verge management supporting nature recovery.	IMPLEMENT
Highways maintenance carbon emission impact assessment carbon emissions of highway maintenance practices and materials to inform opportunities for reduction. <b>Purpose:</b> Current carbon emissions are not measured and are likely to be substantial we need to understand these to manage and reduce these.	PREPARE
<b>ENABLE – a low carbon South Gloucestershire with our programmes, policies and decisions</b>	
Taxis - We will develop a plan to 2030 to transition taxis in South Gloucestershire to low carbon alternatives. <b>Purpose:</b> Taxis make up around 1% of vehicles in the area, they are critical to supporting the shift to low carbon travel options, they are a highly visible and licencing can be used to influence the types of vehicle in use.	PREPARE
<b>INSPIRE – business and residents to take climate action themselves</b>	
We propose to explore an area wide Low Carbon Travel Rewards Scheme and trial measures to deprioritise private car use. <b>Purpose:</b> To decrease car use for short journeys and incentivise low carbon travel options.	IMPLEMENT

## Climate Emergency Theme: Renewable Energy

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<b>LEAD – in our own operations</b>	
We will carry out a study of the opportunities for Solar PV on Schools, and other Council owned buildings and explore use of power purchase agreements. <b>Purpose:</b> To identify energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, cost and feasibility that can be implemented on the council building stock.	PREPARE
We will explore the opportunities for Council-led renewable energy development. <b>Purpose:</b> To increase renewable energy provision and encourage others to do so with their own land.	DEVELOP
<b>ENABLE – a low carbon South Gloucestershire with our programmes, policies and decisions</b>	
We will work with community energy groups to identify and safeguard sites for solar PV and wind, and explore opportunities to set up Power Purchase Agreements to enable them to secure finance. <b>Purpose:</b> To enable increases in renewable energy provision.	DEVELOP

## Climate Emergency Theme: Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<b>LEAD – in our own operations</b>	
<p><b>TREE PLANTING Programme to Double Tree Cover by 2030</b>            Create capacity and capability to double tree cover (plus replacement planting due to Ash dieback losses) in South Gloucestershire through a programme of tree planting on council and third party land. Programme of tree planting on council land and highway verges. Co-ordination of tree planting projects, offset/mitigation/sponsorship planting and hedgerow restoration. First projects to be used for case studies and showcase work to engage potential tree planting investors leveraging future income. <b>Purpose:</b> To work towards doubling tree canopy cover by 2030 and ensure there is the right planting in the right place with appropriate after care, aligned with our nature recovery network priorities.</p>	DEVELOP/IMPLEMENT
<p><b>TREE PLANTING MANAGER</b>  <b>Purpose:</b> To co-ordinate and deliver work towards doubling tree canopy cover by 2030.</p>	DEVELOP/IMPLEMENT
<b>ENABLE – a low carbon South Gloucestershire with our programmes, policies and decisions</b>	
<p><b>NEW SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS SPD</b>            Adopt a suite of SPDs covering: Sustainable drainage and watercourse management; Biodiversity Net Gain; Trees on development sites; Green Infrastructure; Public Rights of Way.            Documents will influence all future development approaches to green infrastructure. <b>Purpose:</b> To provide a clear position, requirements and guidance for working with developers to protect and enhance biodiversity and nature recovery.</p>	DEVELOP
<p><b>GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING AND NATURAL CAPITAL ASSESSMENT OF SGC GI ASSETS</b>            Natural capital value assessment of all council owned and managed Green Infrastructure Assets to inform decision making and future asset management. Enable natural capital valuation by identifying and mapping key current ecosystem services and new opportunities including: contribution to carbon sequestration, sustainable drainage, cooling, shading, drought resilience, air quality, community, health and well-being etc...</p>	DEVELOP

<p><b>Purpose:</b> Natural Capital Assessment - to assess financial contribution and value of green infrastructure to inform decision making, application of mitigation hierarchy methodology, new natural capital investment opportunities and full capture replacement costs for any losses. Mapping to protect, and enhance existing resource.</p> <p><b>HABITAT SURVEYS FOR KEY SITES</b> Current data is 30 years old. We propose phase 1 habitat surveys for key sites in scope along our nature recovery network/GI corridors and designated sites, including resurveying Sites of Nature Conservation Interest, to inform and underpin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculation of natural capital value of assets to inform decision making.</li> <li>• Work to improve and increase our Nature Recovery Network – bigger, better, more and joined habitat</li> <li>• Application of Biodiversity Net Gain.</li> </ul> <p><b>Purpose:</b> We cannot protect and enhance our existing priority sites and nature recovery network without up to date information.</p>	
<p><b>S GLOS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY &amp; ACTION PLAN</b> We will deliver, the South Gloucestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy and Action Plan, after consulting and adopting, to optimise GI asset management for climate change, nature recovery, health and community adaptation and resilience. <b>Purpose:</b> Enact plan to deliver GI, nature recovery, biodiversity and Climate Emergency goals.</p>	DEVELOP/IMPLEMENT
<p><b>INSPIRE – business and residents to take climate action themselves</b></p>	
<p><b>NATURE RECOVERY AND HABITAT EXAMPLAR BEST PRACTICE SHOWCASES ON OPEN SPACES</b> Create exemplar nature recovery and habitat creation and restoration showcase examples of best practice including on key roadside verges and open spaces to inspire communities, individuals and businesses to adopt similar on their land and/or partner with the council to fund habitat projects. Combined with education and information programme and crowd funding for donations. <b>Purpose:</b> To inspire, raise awareness, inform and empower residents, businesses and organisations across South Gloucestershire in practical ways they can help nature and wildlife at home, work places and communities.</p>	IMPLEMENT

## Climate Emergency Theme: Resources and Waste

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<p><b>LEAD – in our own operations</b></p>	
<p><b>On Street Recycling</b> We will provide on street recycling on high streets and high footfall areas. <b>Purpose:</b> Reduce emissions of waste to landfill, increase public engagement in waste reduction and awareness of waste as source of emissions.</p>	IMPLEMENT

## Climate Emergency Theme: Adaptation and Resilience

PLANNED ACTIONS (2020/21)	PROJECT STAGE
<b>LEAD – in our own operations</b>	
We propose to work with the Carbon Trust Pathfinder Programme to develop a systematic approach to Adaptation and Resilience in South Gloucestershire. <b>Purpose:</b> Independent verification that SGC is taking necessary steps across all service areas to adapt and make South Gloucestershire resilient to the local impacts of climate change.	DEVELOP
Highways Network Weather Resilience Risk Review. Quantify and qualify the weather resilience risk to highways infrastructure. Update of 2014 (UKCP09) work against new climate predictions. Using Highways Infrastructure Resilience Assessment Modelling Tool and latest UK Climate Projections 2018 (UKCP18). Stress test Street Care emergency weather response plans.	IMPLEMENT
<b>ENABLE – a low carbon South Gloucestershire with our programmes, policies and decisions</b>	
We will use our communications channels to help our partners, residents and businesses to adapt and prepare for the likely local impacts of climate change. <b>Purpose:</b> Duty to communicate likely local impacts and steps that can be taken to prepare homes, business and protect health.	IMPLEMENT