

# Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

**Date: Monday, 24th January, 2022**

**Time: 4.00 pm**

**Venue: Virtual Meeting - Zoom - Public Access via  
YouTube**

**<https://www.youtube.com/bathnescouncil>**

**Councillors:** Karen Walker, Joel Hirst, Shelley Bromley, Paul Crossley,  
Grant Johnson, Ruth Malloy, Lisa O'Brien and Ryan Wills



**Michaela Gay**

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## NOTES:

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Papers are available for inspection as follows:

Council's website: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

Paper copies are available for inspection at the Guildhall - Bath.

2. **Details of decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, details can be obtained by contacting as above.

3. **Recording at Meetings:-**

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Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we require the consent of parents or guardians before filming children or young people. For more information, please speak to the camera operator.

The Council will broadcast the images and sound live via the internet [www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast) An archived recording of the proceedings will also be available for viewing after the meeting. The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

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Further details of the scheme can be found at:

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=12942>

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<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13505>

**Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel - Monday,  
24th January, 2022**

**at 4.00 pm in the Virtual Meeting - Zoom - Public Access via YouTube  
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**AGENDA**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

- (a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.
- (b) The nature of their interest.
- (c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** *or* **an other interest**,  
(as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

4. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
5. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

At the time of publication no notifications had been received.

6. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 will be circulated at a later date.

7. AIR QUALITY UPDATE (Pages 7 - 12)
8. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT - CLIMATE EMERGENCY (Pages 13 - 28)
9. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 29 - 34)

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel. Any suggestions for further items or amendments to the current programme will be logged and scheduled in consultation with the Panel's Chair and supporting senior officers.

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<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>		
MEETING:	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development &amp; Scrutiny Panel</b>	
MEETING DATE:	<b>24 January 2022</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		<b>E</b>
TITLE:	<b>Air Quality update</b>	
WARD:	All	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<p><b>List of attachments to this report:</b></p> <p><a href="#"><u>2021 Air Quality Annual Status Report</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Bath CAZ Quarterly Monitoring Report April- June 2021</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Bath CAZ Quarterly Monitoring Report July- September 2021</u></a></p>		

## 1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 Poor air quality is the largest known environmental risk to public health in the UK. Investing in cleaner air and doing more to tackle air pollution are priorities for the UK government, as well as for Bath and North East Somerset Council (B&NES). B&NES has monitored and endeavoured to address air quality in Bath, and the wider B&NES area, since 2002. The pollutants of concern remain Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM) and despite efforts made, Bath and areas in Temple Cloud have ongoing exceedances of the legal limits for NO<sub>2</sub>.
- 1.2 In 2017 the Council was directed to introduce a Clean Air Zone to expedite the reduction of nitrogen dioxide levels in the centre of Bath and this was launched on 15 March 2021.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel is asked to:

- 2.1 Note the report and accompanying presentation at the Panel, and discuss the update to air quality monitoring throughout B&NES.

### 3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 Since 2002, the Council has developed an extensive network of monitoring sites throughout the district for the main pollutants of concern- nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter, both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. More detail on the pollutants which are monitored in B&NES can be found in the Annual Status Report, Section 3.2.
- 3.2 The main source of these pollutants is vehicles and areas where exceedances occur tend to be where there is a concentration of traffic in streets with high buildings, where the pollution is unable to disperse easily. This is explained in further detail in the [Quarterly Performance Report April- June 2021, pages 10-11.](#)
- 3.3 Two monitoring methods are used to measure NO<sub>2</sub> and particulate matter in accordance with government guidance; diffusion tubes, which are relatively easy to deploy and are typically mounted at above head-height on building facades or street furniture and continuous monitors, which are permanently located, taking readings on an hourly basis and thus providing greater accuracy than diffusion tubes. Further explanation of how we monitor air quality can be found in the [Quarterly Performance Report April- June 2021 pages 19-20.](#)
- 3.4 As of 2021 Q3, there are a total of 162 monitoring sites across Bath and North East Somerset, with 65 located in the Clean Air Zone, 57 located in the city's urban area outside of the zone's boundary and the remaining 40 located throughout the rest of the district. The location of these monitoring sites can be viewed in the [Quarterly Performance Report July- September page 25, Figure 3.](#)
- 3.5 Historic air quality data can be viewed using an interactive map located at <https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/environment/pollution-noise-nuisance/air-quality/air-quality-data-long-term> This will provide information on trends in individual locations depending on how long the monitoring site has been in operation.
- 3.6 More recent air quality data can be viewed at <https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/environment/pollution-noise-nuisance/air-quality/live-air-quality-data> . This webpage is under development as part of the wider project to update the Council's website, as our ambition is to show this data in a visually impactful, interactive way to improve wider understanding of how air quality levels can change.
- 3.7 Explanation of current air quality levels in B&NES using bias corrected and peer reviewed data can be found in the [2021 Air Quality Annual Status Report.](#) This reviews data collected during 2020 which would have been significantly impacted by the pandemic.
- (1) Bath & North East Somerset has monitored NO<sub>2</sub> at 161 locations with 50 of these locations using triplicate diffusion tubes in 2020.
  - (2) The average decrease across the long-term sites was 20% compared with 2019 monitoring data.

- (3) Bath – despite the effects of the 2 lockdown periods in 2020, 3 sites remain above the annual average objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> across Bath in 2020 (DT198 – Walcot Parade, DT222 – Anglo Terrace Façade and DT224 – Walcot Parade 2).
- (4) Keynsham – Monitoring continues to show a reduction in the NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations following the start of the trial for a one-way system in Keynsham. All sites were below the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2020.
- (5) Saltford – All sites were below the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2020.
- (6) Temple Cloud – Monitoring remains above the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at 2 locations with concentrations reducing at all other locations.
- (7) Farrington Gurney – All sites were below the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2020.
- (8) Pensford – Monitoring in Pensford on the A37 has remained below the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- (9) Whitchurch – Monitoring in Whitchurch was below the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- (10) Batheaston/Bathampton – monitoring remains below 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at all locations.
- (11) Radstock/Westfield - monitoring remains below 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at these locations.
- (12) Peasedown St John - New monitoring in Peasedown St John was well below the objective of 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- (13) 1-hour objective – All sites in Bath & North East Somerset are below 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> – this suggests that the 1-hour NO<sub>2</sub> objective is unlikely to be exceeded.

3.8 Since the launch of the CAZ in Bath the Council has committed to providing provisional air quality data in Quarterly Performance Reports, two of which have now been published and are appended to this report. The key headlines from the last report covering [July- September 2021](#) are:

- (1) Average nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) concentrations within the CAZ are 14 per cent lower than the same period in 2019 (Q3), representing a reduction of - 4.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. This is the average reading from a total of 35 monitoring sites within the CAZ that recorded full quarterly data from July to September in both 2019 and 2021.

(Note: This is in the context of national traffic levels in this quarter returning to pre-pandemic levels with usage of LGV's and HGV's exceeding pre-pandemic levels (Department of Transport).

- (2) Acknowledging this general improvement, quarterly average concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> at nine monitoring sites still record results greater than 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The average change between these nine sites was 0.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> or a 1.6 per cent increase.

- (3) Of the nine sites which recorded an average NO<sub>2</sub> concentration greater than 40 µg/m<sup>3</sup> during the current quarter, four sites (Gay Street Lower, Walcot Parade 2, Gay Street 2 and Upper Bristol Road 4) recorded lower average NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. One site (Dorchester Street) remained the same. The four remaining sites (Wells Road, Victoria Buildings, Broad Street 4 and Chapel Row 2) recorded an increase in NO<sub>2</sub> concentration.
- (4) Some of these sites are located on, or impacted by, diversion routes for the Cleveland Bridge closure. We are monitoring at these locations and it is anticipated that these concentrations will stabilise once the bridge reopens to most traffic.
- 3.9 The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recently published ambitious guidelines for nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter which are much lower than the current, legal objective threshold limits. A central government consultation will be taking place in 2022 on how these guidelines will may be enshrined into UK legislation, which will inform future thinking on how the Council will continue to achieve and maintain success with the Ministerial Directions . The Council is keen to continue to be ambitious about improving air quality and a recent Cabinet report has tasked officers with looking at further options for achieving this  
<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/g6105/Public%20minutes%2015th-Dec-2021%2018.30%20Cabinet.pdf?T=11>
- 3.10 Looking to the future, the Council will continue to develop it's monitoring network and explore ways of improving understanding and awareness of the impacts of poor air quality. Officers will also be collaborating with the Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) teams to ensure that the effects on local air quality within and around the schemes are understood.

## **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 The Council is required to fulfil the requirements of Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) as set out in Part IV of the Environment Act (1995) and the associated Policy and Technical Guidance documents to this Act.
- 4.2 The Act places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas, and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives are likely to be achieved. Where an exceedance is considered likely the local authority must declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives. So far, AQMA's have been declared in Bath, Saltford, Keynsham, Temple Cloud and Farrington Gurney, although the AQMA's in Saltford and Keynsham are due to be revoked in 2022 due to 3 years of achieving no exceedances in these areas.
- 4.3 This Annual Status Report (ASR) is an annual requirement showing the strategies employed by the Council to improve air quality and any progress that has been made. The statutory air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in England are presented in the table below.

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective: Concentration	Air Quality Objective: Measured as
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	200µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual mean
Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )	50µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean
Particulate Matter (PM <sub>10</sub> )	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual mean
Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	350µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean
Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	125µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean
Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	266µg/m <sup>3</sup> , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean

## 5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

5.1 The cost of air quality monitoring is funded from existing Council budgets which have been supplemented with government funding awarded through the CAZ Business Case development process, in view of the expansion of the monitoring network in and around the CAZ.

## 6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations will be undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

## 7 CLIMATE CHANGE

7.1 Whilst CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) is currently regarded as a climate change gas rather than a pollutant, it is anticipated that improving awareness about vehicle emissions will help facilitate the outcomes of local transport policies, reducing vehicle-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as well as NO<sub>2</sub> and particulate matter pollution.

## 8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None.

## 9 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Council's S151 Officers, Director of Place Management, as well as the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainability.

<b>Contact person</b>	<i>Cathryn Brown, Clean Air Zone Manager 01225 477645</i>
<b>Background papers</b>	
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	



<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>		
<b>MEETING</b>	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development &amp; Scrutiny Panel</b>	
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	<b>24 January 2022</b>	
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Climate Emergency Annual Action Plan Update Report</b>	
<b>WARD:</b>	All	
<b>1 AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>		
APPENDIX 1 Climate Emergency Highlight report		

## **1 THE ISSUE**

- 1.1 The council declared a Climate Emergency in March 2019, committing the it to provide the leadership to enable Bath and North East Somerset to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.
- 1.2 Work is underway developing the Ecological Emergency Action Plan which will be available later in 2022.
- 1.3 A refreshed Climate Emergency Strategy, Highlight Report 2021 and Action Plan 2022/23 will be taken to Full Council in March 2022.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

## **The Panel is asked to:**

### 2.1 To note:

- i. Progress on the delivery of the Year 2 (2021) Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- ii. The extensive and wide-ranging action being taken across the council to tackle the climate emergency

### To review:

- i. The Council's performance against to LGA 10-point climate checklist for scrutiny panels.
- ii. The latest available data relating to carbon emissions (District wide and from council operations).
- iii. Initial proposals for Year 3 (2022/23) in response to the Climate Emergency.
- iv. The draft Highlight Report Appendix 1, which will be taken to Full Council in March 2022.

## **3 THE REPORT**

### 3.1 This report provides an update on progress made in Year 2 of the Climate Emergency Action Plan. It has been prepared in the following context:

- The Covid pandemic and the resulting economic crisis, continued to affect business and life, in 2021. The council with partners has continued to play key roles in the pandemic response, including the vaccination programme. This has involved a co-ordinated response across all the council's services, including public health, social care, community wellbeing and support, enforcement, Business support and communications.
- In August 2021, the International Panel on Climate Change released its 6th Report Sixth Assessment Report.
- In November 2021, the global 'conference of the parties' (COP26) took place in Glasgow which further focused citizen awareness on the climate emergency and the need for action at local, national and global levels. The council's contribution to COP26 is outlined below. We will also be closely monitoring changes in central government policies and programmes resulting from commitments made at the conference.

### 3.2 The Centre for Public Scrutiny, Local Government Association (LGA) has provided 10 Questions to scrutinize climate action. It provides a practical approach for scrutineers to understand and seek oversight on climate action in their localities. The table below outlines how B&NES is performing against the 10 LGA Scrutiny questions.

<b>LGA 10 Questions for Scrutineers of Climate Emergency Strategies and Plans</b>		<b>B&amp;NES Council activity and action</b>
1	How well does the council understand the need to take action locally?	The Council's detailed research and analysis undertaken in 2019 identified the sources of carbon emissions, priority areas for action and modelling about the scale of action required to meet the zero carbon by 2030 ambition. Council scope of influence and Just Transition are also considered.
2	How does the council's leadership champion and direct action on climate change?	Climate Emergency Cabinet position created 2019 and Deputy Leader position created 2021. The Council is active in leading debate in various national lobbying groups including Deputy Leader speaking at: Manchester Air Quality News Conference Sept 21, the ADEPT conference Nov 21, UK100's Clean Air Frameworks webinar Sept 21, as witness at Bristol Airport Expansion Enquiry. Leader actively championing and directing action with WECA
3	How is the council adopting a clear and detailed strategic plan, and how is it mainstreaming climate change mitigation and adaptation?	Tacking the climate and nature emergencies is one of the Council's two core policies in the Corporate Plan. It is being mainstreamed through Service Planning process and in-depth work underway across Services to align policies and strategies. Also, through partnerships and work with stakeholders, such as One Shared Vision to enable district-wide action towards zero carbon by 2030, and the related partnership development. The Council leads the Public Services Climate Emergency Group, whose member organisations all have climate action underway.
4	Has the council reviewed its investment strategy, supply chains and procurement models to give due consideration to climate change impacts?	Treasury Management Strategy reviewed and Treasury funds being invested into Environmental, Social and Governance Funds. Avon Pension Fund have a climate emergency strategy in place and are divesting from fossil fuels. The recently adopted ' <i>Procurement Strategy 2021-2024, Think Local, Think Climate, Think Innovation</i> ', has been aligned with the Council's commitments.
5	How is the council integrating sustainability and resilience into its transport and energy plans?	Council Sustainable Transport Team, Journey to Net Zero Active Travel fund, and City Region Sustainable Transport Fund. Council buys 100% renewable energy for its buildings and we are increasing renewables capacity on Council buildings. Local Plan planning policy has been updated ahead of schedule to align with Climate Emergency.

6	How is the council planning to understand and act on the need to adapt existing properties and estates to address the impacts of climate change – and to plan for new housing stock which is resilient to these impacts?	Any Council specified housing will be designed to meet the highest energy efficiency standards and where new-build the AECB (or similar) standard for energy efficiency. Pipeline developed of carbon reduction refurbishments of Council-owned residential properties including 3 care homes. Each due to cut energy/carbon usage by 40%- 50% compared to the current baseline. The new build shared-ownership properties delivered by Aequus at St Joseph's Terrace, Sladebrook Road, have achieved an EPC A rating and predicted to be carbon neutral in use. Planning Policy updated. Supplementary Planning Document on Retrofit recast to positively encourage retrofit.
7	How is the council promoting climate education, diversifying the labour market and focusing on sectors that are sustainable?	Renewed B&NES Economic Strategy will have key focus on green economy and skills. Work underway through WECA and with Bath College. Range of WECA and Business sector projects to support business through green grants and business support to begin low carbon transition.
8	What measures are being taken to ensure that health and social care systems will be resilient with the extra pressures they will come under due to climate change?	<i>The response will be developed once the Public Health Team have emerged from the COVID pandemic.</i>
9	How does the council identify those who are most at risk from the impacts of climate change, and what is being done to assist the most vulnerable?	Research and analysis undertaken in 2019 about of carbon emissions by household income and a Just Transition identifies different community needs. Able to focus and target some measures through Business Intelligence and JSNA, Energy Performance Certificate rating data. E.g. government and locally supported Green Home Grant scheme accessed via Energy at Home. These grants being targeted at those on low incomes.
10	How is the council supporting and working with all relevant private and civic actors in the area towards climate change mitigation and adaptation?	One Shared Vision partnership development, Civic agreement and partnership with the Unis, Public Services and Business Leaders. Community Forum and Climate Community Engagement Programme providing support and connections with civic actors.

3.3 A benchmarking exercise against other Local Authorities will be carried out by Audit West and will inform the reporting to full Council in March on the revised Climate Emergency strategy, action plan and route map.

3.4 Progress and actions during 2021

- See draft Highlight Report, Appendix 1 for summary of what is set out in the section below.
- This section (3.5 – 3.9) covers an update for the Panel on strategic commitments made in the original action plan, staffing, community engagement and the council’s leadership role.

3.5 Table: Activity against strategic commitments made in the original Action Plan

Action Plan		Progress
Review Council strategies and plans to re-align to the Climate Emergency	✓	<p>Strategy Alignment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First local authority outside of London to introduce a charging Clean Air Zone</li> <li>• First local authority to enact a Local Plan Partial Update to respond to the climate emergency – due for adoption 2022</li> <li>• Procurement &amp; Commissioning Strategy – adopted</li> <li>• Woodland and Tree Planting Delivery Plan- adopted</li> <li>• Treasury Management strategy reviewed Avon Pension Fund have a climate emergency strategy in place.</li> <li>• Economic Strategy – in progress. Providing the opportunity to look at ways to decarbonise the economy (due for adoption Summer 2022)</li> <li>• Journey to Net Zero – Transport Strategy- revised timetable, due for adoption and implementation during 2022</li> <li>• Liveable Neighbourhoods programme- in progress</li> </ul>
Developing a new Climate Emergency Commissioning and Procurement Strategy to ensure all future contracts deliver against the declaration	✓	<p>Procurement &amp; Commissioning Strategy 2021-2024- <i>Think Climate, Think Local, Think Innovation</i>. Approved by Cabinet September 2021. This provides a framework for the Council to make future purchasing and commissioning decisions aligned with carbon neutrality ambition.</p>
The Planning service has begun a Partial Update of the Local Plan (coming into force in 2022) to fast track climate and ecological emergency policy updates in	✓	<p>Draft Policy consultation completed October 2021. The next stage is the Examination, prior to adoption. Additionally, it Includes a revised and updated Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Retrofitting.</p>

advance of a full Local Plan review (2023).		
Creating a new Climate Emergency website to improve advice and support across the community	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Climate Emergency webpages have been completely revised and updated to provide clear information and signposting. Phase 2 of this revision is scheduled for Spring 2022.</li> <li>• To support, share and connect, the online 'Zero Carbon, Nature Positive Network' has been developed to enable more detailed sharing and conversation.</li> </ul>
A climate literacy training programme rollout to staff later in the year. This includes a day long climate leadership course for members and senior managers in March	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An e-learning course has been developed and launched on the Staff Learning Zone.</li> <li>• A day-long course has been adapted for virtual delivery and roll-out is underway. This will continue throughout 2022.</li> <li>• A day-long leadership and elected members' course was held in March 2021.</li> </ul>
A review of the value of Citizens' Juries will be conducted in early 2021, as part of the development of the next phase of the Community Engagement Programme	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Citizen's transport panel will run this quarter, looking at transport options for travel to the university, as well as wider questions of transport policy</li> <li>• The Community Engagement Programme has covered a range of activity, including online discussions, webinars, forums and community meetings and social media. The first B&amp;NES Climate and Biodiversity Festival was held in September, when over 35 in-person and virtual events took place, the majority were community organised.</li> </ul>
Develop a robust performance monitoring framework to record and monitor actions and progress taking place to tackle the climate and ecological emergencies across all service areas.	✓	Tackling the climate and ecological emergencies and driving down carbon emissions is one of the Council's two key priorities in the Corporate Plan. This priority has been introduced for consideration for all council decision-making. Tackling the Climate & Ecological Emergencies has been built into the Service Planning process ensuring all service areas are aligning their work to the commitments. The Integrated Performance Framework includes monitoring metrics that will help us to monitor progress. Refer to Highlight report for key numbers and sections 3.10 and 3.11 below.

3.6 Organisational and staffing changes have been made to align and prioritise Council policy and service delivery.

- Appointment of a new Sustainable Communities Director role and the recruitment of two Head of Service roles for Sustainable Transport and Green Transformation. The Climate and Ecological Emergency work will report to the Head of Service for Green Transformation.
- 3 new officers were recruited to the Climate and Sustainability Team in the last quarter of 2021. Four more new posts will be recruited to in the first half of 2022.
- One Shared Vision, the Future Ambition Board's cross-district local strategic vision and partnership development includes a new Green Theme Partnership. The Green Theme Partnership enabling action across the community will be set up during 2022.

### 3.7 Community engagement activity

- Questions relating to tackling the Climate Emergency were included in the Council's Voicebox 2021 Survey. Voicebox is a survey mailed to a random sample of 3,875 residential addresses in the local authority area to find out how satisfied residents are with their local area as a place to live and the services currently provided by the Council. The report on responses and feedback is due in January/February 2022
- A summary of how we are supporting community climate engagement and action, against the key principles of informing, sharing, leading, connecting, enabling and inspiring is set out in the Highlight Report Appendix 1

### 3.8 Leadership, lobbying and shaping national policy.

- The council leader, supported by the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainable Transport, called for WECA's proposed Climate Emergency Strategy, to include for more significant strategic ambition to enable the region to lead a zero carbon transition.
- The Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainable Transport spoke as a witness at the Bristol Airport Expansion Enquiry
- Responses submitted to Government Consultations including to the Waste and Resources Strategy – polluter pays and deposit return scheme, BEIS greenhouse gas dataset, Heat Decarbonisation Strategy, Transport Strategy, Planning Policy White Paper.
- The council attended the UK100 Leaders' Summit and is a signatory of UK100's COP26 Letter calling for stronger climate leadership from the Government.
- In addition to the two-week long programme of Climate and Biodiversity Festival events, the Council participated in COP26 in a number of ways. The Local Government Association (LGA) were provided with six case

studies showing positive, proactive climate action from Bath and North Somerset; Bath & North East Somerset Council are signatories of the C40 Race to Zero; promotion of the Together for our Planet engagement campaign including partner contributions from the Climate & Biodiversity Festival and entries created for the mass participation art installation.

### 3.9 Planned action for 2022/23 that will form the Action Plan presented to full Council in March 2022.

- Leadership, Vision and Plan
  - Develop and refresh Climate Emergency strategy and longer term action plan, including clearer timeline and milestones to 2025 and 2030. Audit West will provide support and benchmarking against other local authorities.
  - Green Partnership development ensuring that climate is a cross-cutting theme in all One Shared Vision partnerships.
  - Working with WECA and West of England councils on a collaborative and regional Climate Emergency action plan and Green Recovery Fund to ensure action against the key B&NES climate priorities: home energy efficiency retrofit and local renewable energy development (alongside existing funding for transport and green infrastructure initiatives).
  - Continue to lobby and input into regional and national policy development.
  - Continue the work to revise and align council plans and policy with the council's climate commitments.
- Leading carbon reduction in buildings
  - Develop area-wide retrofit approach to address skills, supply chain and delivery aspects.
  - Implementation of project on minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for private Landlords.
  - Working with WECA and partners to support business to decarbonise and transition to low carbon economy.
  - Deliver pipeline of Council residential building refurbishments
  - Local Plan Partial update adoption and implementation. Begin full Local Plan update.
- Leading carbon reduction in transport
  - Implementation of Journey to Net Zero plan
  - Implementation of first schemes of Liveable Neighbourhoods
  - Completion of final phase of Go Ultra Low West funded electric vehicle charging projects
  - Begin delivery of projects funded through City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement 2022-2027
- Increasing renewable energy generation
  - Allocate next tranche of renewables capital for solar installations on further two care homes, as the first step in development of longer term pipeline of projects

- Business case development for commissioning further installations of renewable energy and storage on council assets.
- Developing leadership role in partnership, including with the community energy sector, to accelerate renewable energy delivery across the district in line with the 2030 net zero target.
- Community engagement including a second community-led festival, building a community network, implement a regular campaign programme and further webpage development.
- Developing interactive online carbon emission inventory in the JSNA.

### 3.10 Carbon emissions inventory

The carbon emissions inventory is updated each year to monitor and report progress against the commitments in the Climate Emergency declaration, to lead the district to carbon neutrality by 2030. The inventory captures scope 1 and 2 emissions. Scope 1 is defined as carbon emissions directly from the burning of fossil fuels for heating and transport: gas, coal and vehicle fuel. Scope 2 emissions are indirect carbon emissions calculated through the consumption of electricity for heating, cooling, equipment and lighting. The carbon emissions inventory report is also used to submit the council's annual returns to the Covenant of Mayors and CDP reporting programmes. The inventory monitors carbon emissions:

- Area-wide
- Council buildings and operations

In summary, area wide emissions continue to reduce in a downward trend (BEIS annual data). Total emissions for **2019** are **671.3 ktCO<sub>2</sub>**, down from 695.6ktCO<sub>2</sub> the previous year. A reduction of 63% when compared to 2005 the baseline year of 1,063.3ktCO<sub>2</sub>.

Emissions from council buildings and operations for the year **2020/21** are **3,031.53 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** similar to 2019/20. It should be noted that the council has achieved a substantial cut in its emissions by two thirds (66%) compared to the baseline year of 2009. Achieved through a range of mitigation measures, covering building measures, street lighting, technology upgrades, greater efficiency and renewable energy installation.

See Appendix 1.

### 3.11 Monitoring progress

The carbon emission monitoring and inventory outlined in 3.13 is due for inclusion in the Joint Spatial Needs Assessment (JSNA) refresh. Following testing this should be made available on the council's website mid-2022.

The council's Integrated Reporting Framework has been developed by the Business Intelligence Team. This includes monitoring of council service actions addressing the climate and ecological emergency. Services with direct or partial influence on the main sources of carbon emissions were

prioritised by the Data Intelligence Team for the first phase of this project. A set of indicators has been established with further work ongoing. In some cases, this will require identifying new data sources that can be collected with accuracy and in a timely way.

### 3.12 Draft Route map

A draft route map is in development that will form part of the revised Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan to be presented to full Council in March 2022. The route map will outline the key national climate and carbon emission policy context alongside area-wide milestones. In collaboration with other local stakeholders and citizens, the council will play a range of roles to lead, facilitate or enable area-wide emissions to be cut and targets achieved.

To note, the route mapping exercise planned for 2021 has been delayed due to prioritisation of resource and capacity in response to COVID and to allow for staff capacity building. Therefore this action has been carried forward to the Action Plan for 2022/23.

## **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 The activity outlined in this report is fully in line with the expectation on local authorities to take local action on the climate issue contained in the Climate Change Act 2008. And, further, is in line with the 2018 UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report on the need to reduce carbon emissions more quickly in order to prevent the world from warming by more than 1.5°C.

## **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

- 5.1 The recruitment programme underway to expand capacity in the Climate and sustainability Team are budgeted for.

## **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance.

## **7 CLIMATE CHANGE**

- 7.1 This report updates on the corporate effort to drive, coordinate and support action across the Council and the area in pursuit of the commitments made in the Climate Emergency Progress Report to Council in October 2020, to enable delivery of the March 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration.

## 8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The Council's approach to tackling the Climate Emergency referred to in this report was developed and determined following discussions at senior officer and Cabinet member level, informed by specialist consultants, who conducted the first stage of evidence gathering and research during the summer of 2019.

## 9 CONSULTATION

9.1 The report has been reviewed by the Sustainable Communities Leadership Team, Corporate Management Team, Chief Executive, the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

<b>Contact person</b>	Jane Wildblood, Strategic Manager: Climate & Environmental Sustainability
<b>Background papers</b>	<i>Climate Emergency background papers are available via the following link to the Council's website:</i> <a href="https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/climate-emergency">https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/climate-emergency</a>
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	

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# Climate Emergency

## Highlight Report

**32%**

of residential properties with **EPC\*** rating **A-C** in B&NES

**1.5K**

**Homeowners** interested in joining Solar Together group buy offer

**£82.5K**

**Energy** efficiency grant awarded to 10 SMEs

**22.5MW**

**Installed** renewable energy capacity

**£421,544**

**Green Homes Grant** (LAD\*) spent on home energy retrofit

**66%**

**Cut** in carbon emissions from Council estate since 2010.

**Area wide carbon emissions**

**63%**

**1,063 ktCO<sub>2</sub>**

**2005**



**671 ktCO<sub>2</sub>**

**2021**

**33**

**Business Carbon Surveys**



**29**



**Parish & Town Councils** actively working on climate and nature issues

**831**

**cyclists** on average used the Bristol to Bath cycle path daily in 2021

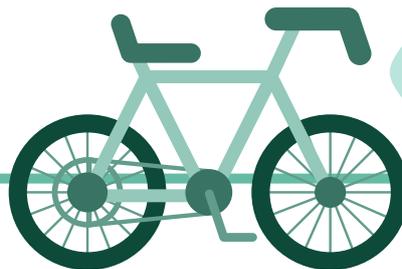
**13.6K**

**Trees** planted on Council and private land since 2020

**League tables for recycling**

**4th** out of 92 unitary local authorities

**15th** out of all 338 local authorities



**69**

**Public EV Charging Devices**

**90%**

of HGVs, coaches, buses and taxis entering the **CAZ** are now compliant



**59.2%**

**Waste** reused, recycled and composted in 2021



**15%**

**2020**

**Reducing waste** sent to landfill

**3%**

**2021**



# Delivery of 2021 Action Plan

## Key Outcomes

### Leadership and Strategy

The first Local Authority to enact a Local Plan Partial Update to respond to the climate emergency – due for adoption 2022

First Local Authority outside of London to introduce a charging Clean Air Zone

Strategy and Plan alignment continued, including:

Economic Strategy - realignment in progress due for adoption Summer 2022

Procurement & Commissioning Strategy 2021-2024 - "Think Climate, Think Local, Think Innovation" adopted

Woodland and Tree planting Delivery Plan – developed and adopted

Journey to Net Zero – Transport Plan with a revised timetable, due for adoption Spring 2022

Development of performance monitoring on climate and nature activity across key service areas, as part of the Council's Integrated Performance Reporting and Joint Spatial Needs Assessment

Low carbon new build: Sladebrook Road & Bath Quays

Retrofit & renewable energy: Charlton House Care Home & Grosvenor Place

Tranche two active travel schemes on Upper Bristol Rd and Beckford Rd constructed by summer.



### Engagement

The Climate Emergency webpages have been updated with phase 2 revision scheduled for Spring 2022

The Zero Carbon Nature Positive Network microsite developed to enable more detailed sharing and conversation between community groups

An E-learning climate literacy course

Staff climate literacy programme being rolled out and adapted for virtual delivery.

Inaugural Climate & Biodiversity Festival, 35+ events over two weeks, covering broad range topics. Majority of events were community led. Over 500 people took part.

A day-long Leadership and elected members Climate Literacy course was held in March 2021

The Community Engagement Programme is ongoing

Liveable Neighbourhoods scheme is now under consultation

# Carbon Emissions

## Progress Update

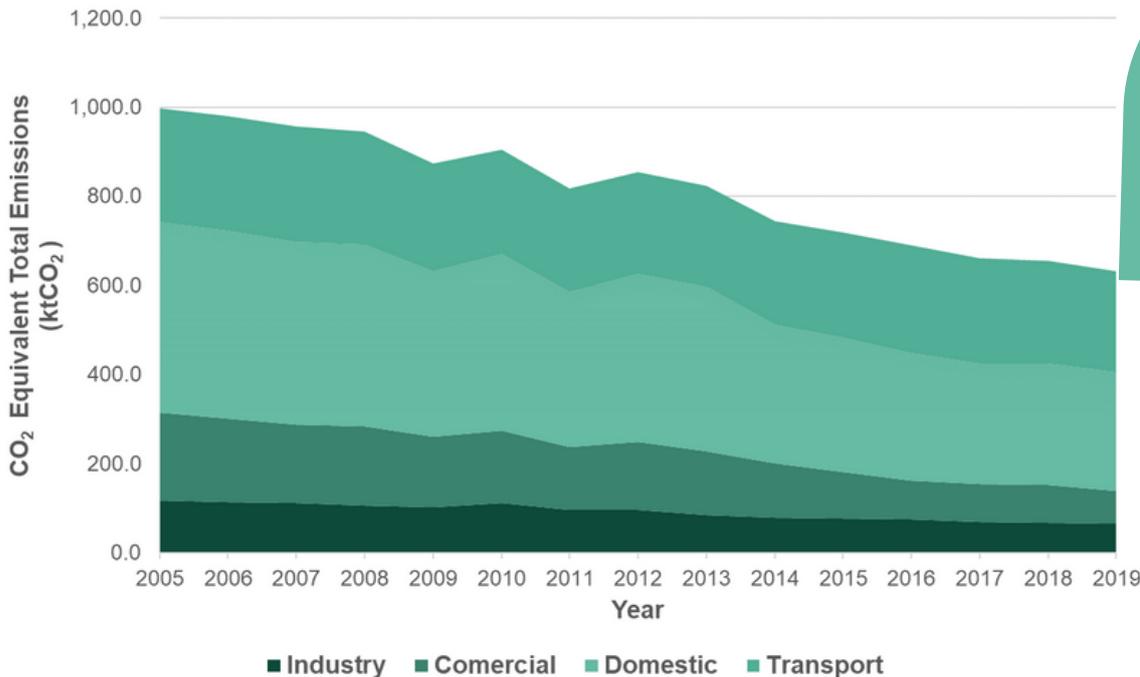
### Council Managed Carbon Emissions



In 2021 our total emissions have dropped to 2,699 Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>\*

Since 2010 Council carbon emissions have decreased by 66%

### Area Wide Carbon Emissions by Sector



In 2019 our total emissions dropped to 671.3 ktCO<sub>2</sub>

Since 2005 emissions have reduced by 63%

\*Provisional data

# Community Engagement

## Progress Update

### Council Communication Channels

Regular news and opportunities are added to the Climate and Ecological Emergency newsroom. Opportunities are shared via Community mailing lists.

### Social media

Maintained regular climate and carbon reduction content on main Council and dedicated GreenBathnes social media channels. Video content is also available on Council Youtube Climate playlist.

### Website

Climate Emergency webpages have been refreshed, including specific pages on 'what you can do' for residents and businesses.

### Zero Carbon, Nature Positive Community Network

Virtual network microsite launched for citizens, community groups and parish/town councils. The site will support sharing resources, Promoting events and providing a platform for local climate action.

### Participation Events

Inaugural Climate and Biodiversity Festival held in the run up to COP26. Other events incorporating climate and nature included: Kurk Jackson VAG exhibition, Summer Reading Challenge, Festival of Nature & Communicate, Tree Planting, Tree Weekender, Somer Valley and Bathscape Walking Festivals.

### Parish and Town Council partnership working

Comprehensive mapping of Parish climate declarations and actions and summary published. Parish Council Toolkit updated. One-to-one and Forum-level support provided to Parishes. Annual Climate and Nature Parish network meet up held in September.

## CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best assessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

*Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or, Democratic Services (). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.*

*Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website.*

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
<b>17TH JANUARY 2022</b>				
17 Jan 2022	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Council House Building Programme</b>	Graham Sabourn Tel: 01225 477949	Chief Operating Officer
17 Jan 2022	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Council Budget</b>		Chief Finance Officer (S151)
<b>24TH JANUARY 2022</b>				
24 Jan 2022	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Air Quality Data</b>		Chief Operating Officer

<b>Ref Date</b>	<b>Decision Maker/s</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Report Author Contact</b>	<b>Director Lead</b>
24 Jan 2022 24 Mar 2022	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel  Council</b>	<b>Annual Report - Climate Emergency</b>	Jane Wildblood Tel: 01225 477685	Director of Sustainable Communities
<b>14TH MARCH 2022</b>				
14 Mar 2022  Page 29	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Liveable Neighbourhoods</b>	Chris Major Tel: 01225 39 4231	Chief Operating Officer
14 Mar 2022	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Cleansing</b>	Carol Maclellan Tel: 01225 394106	Director of Sustainable Communities

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
14 Mar 2022	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Journey to Net Zero: Reducing the Environmental Impact of Transport in Bath	Nick Simons Tel: 01225 39 4185	Director of Sustainable Communities
<b>16TH MAY 2022</b>				
<b>18TH JULY 2022</b>				
<b>19TH SEPTEMBER 2022</b>				
<b>14TH NOVEMBER 2022</b>				
<b>ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED:</b>				
Page 30	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Electric Vehicle Charging Points	Chris Major Tel: 01225 39 4231	Chief Operating Officer
	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Energy Efficiency Retro-fitting Bids	Chris Mordaunt Tel: 01225 396282	Chief Operating Officer

<b>Ref Date</b>	<b>Decision Maker/s</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Report Author Contact</b>	<b>Director Lead</b>
	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Waste Centres</b>	Carol Maclellan Tel: 01225 394106	Director of Public Health and Prevention
	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Littering Review (progress report)</b>	Carol Maclellan Tel: 01225 394106	Director of Sustainable Communities
Page 31	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Discovery Card Review</b>		Director of Sustainable Communities
	<b>Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Bath Quays North Regeneration</b>		Chief Operating Officer

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