

CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

INTRODUCTION FROM CLLR EMMA CRANE, CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPION

We are facing a crisis. Human activity is changing the climate in unprecedented and sometimes irreversible ways. Just this month, the World Meteorological Organization's annual state of the Global Climate report confirmed that the past 7 years have been the warmest 7 years on record and that greenhouse gas parts per million hit a record high of 420.23.

Last year, the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, defined this crisis as a code red for humanity, stating that:

"The alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk"

Climate change will affect all of us. We must act now and we must act quickly to protect the future for our children and grandchildren. We, in Rugby, must do our part to address the global crisis through the actions which we can all take at a local level.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to introduce this Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

Following the declaration of a climate emergency in 2019 the Council, through a cross party member working group, began the development of this strategy with a view to achieving its ambitious goal of achieving Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

In the course of developing this strategy, the working group also identified that we are facing a nature crisis, with species, habitats and biodiversity already being in a state of decline and at risk of further diminishment.

The climate and nature crises are inextricably linked, with climate change contributing to nature's decline and the loss of nature reducing our abilities to reduce carbon and adapt to climate change. It is for this reason that this strategy seeks to address the climate and nature crises together, providing a holistic response to both crises. Tackling the twin crises can also bring co-benefits such as skilled jobs, warmer homes that are cheaper to heat, more green spaces to enjoy, cleaner air and active transport.

This strategy is not intended to be a static and definitive document. The actions, and in some cases our objectives, will evolve as we learn more about the best ways to address the challenges. However, this strategy allows us, for the first time, to set out a longer term vision for reducing emissions and improving the Borough's natural environment and to lay the foundations which will ensure that climate change and our natural environment are a green thread running through all of the Council's business now and into the future.

In addition to setting out what the Council can do to deliver and effect change - this strategy is a call to action to Rugby. We call on all of our local partners and residents from businesses, local community groups and voluntary organisations, parish councils and civic society to join us in recognising the global climate and nature crises and the need for urgent action.

This strategy gives the Borough a strategic direction and provides the framework within which we can collectively take responsibility and work together to deliver our Net Zero Vision.

Together, we can ensure that our Borough has a greener and more resilient future and is a place where future generations can truly thrive.

Together, we can ensure that Rugby Borough plays its part in addressing a global emergency.

Together, we must all take action now.

**Cllr Emma Crane
Climate Champion
Rugby Borough Council**

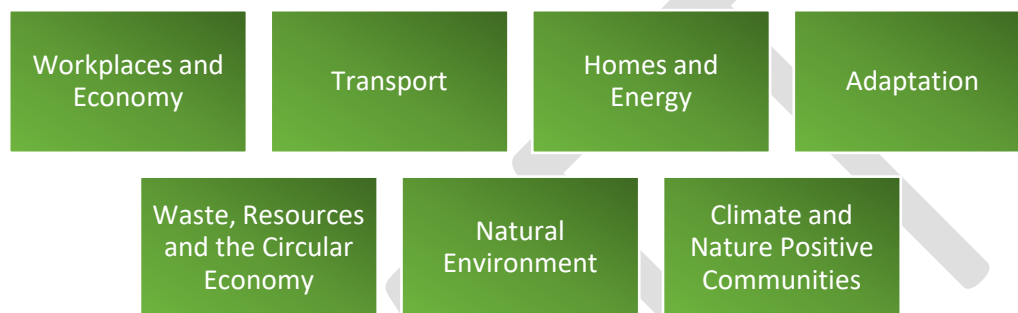
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OUR NET ZERO VISION

'Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change, transitioning Rugby to a low carbon and nature positive place.'

OUR STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

This Net Zero Strategy and Action Plan sets out the approach and actions that Rugby Borough Council will need to take to meet our ambitious net zero by 2030 target. It sets out how the Council will respond to the climate and nature emergencies and how we will work together with all stakeholders to tackle climate change and nature loss. We will use the tools, levers and powers available to the Council and will focus on 7 themes in our Action Plan.



THE CHALLENGE

“The IPCC Climate Report is a code red for humanity. The alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk. Global heating is affecting every region on Earth, with many of the changes becoming irreversible”.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres, August 2021

Climate change is the changes in global weather patterns that are driven by global heating which will increasingly affect all of us, including here in Rugby.

Greenhouse gasses are released as part of many of the things we all do on a day-to-day basis such as heating our homes or driving petrol and diesel cars, vans or lorries. It is also released through industrial processes. Specifically, it happens as a result of burning fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal and they absorb radiation from the sun in the form of heat, which is circulated in the atmosphere. They accumulate as an insulating blanket around the Earth, trapping more of the Sun’s heat in our atmosphere.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) is the most abundant greenhouse gas. The amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere has increased sharply since the industrial revolution due to human activity and is now at its highest in several million years, and research shows that the heat trapped by CO₂ and other greenhouse gasses is increasing the average global temperature. This is often referred to as global warming or global heating.

Global warming raises the risk of extreme weather events, environmental damage and habitat loss, economic damage, further sea level rises, risks to health and wellbeing and severe impacts on the world's poorest and most vulnerable populations.

The World Economic Forum has identified the top 5 global risks based on their likelihood of happening as being: extreme weather, climate action failure, natural disasters, biodiversity loss and human-made environmental disasters.

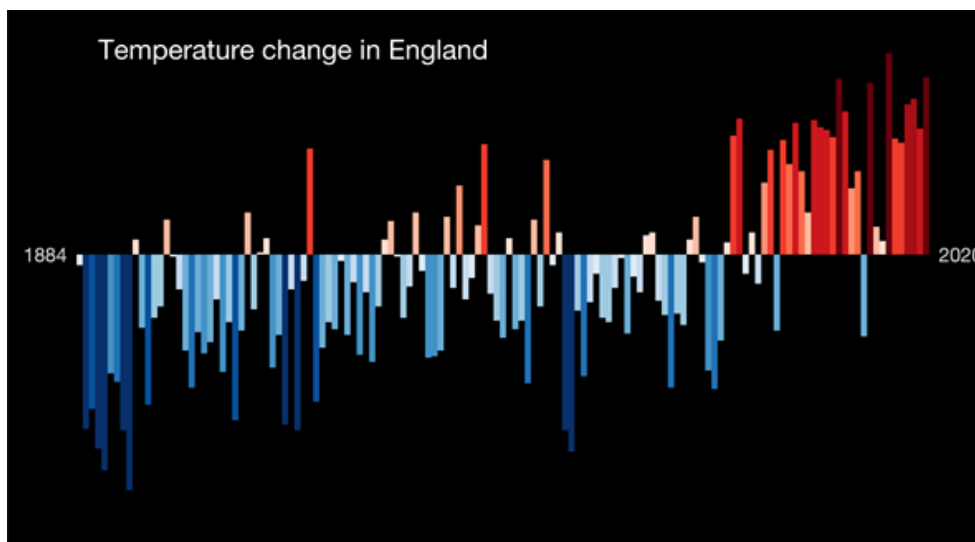
The greater the temperature rise, the greater the risks we face.

The Paris Agreement – a legally binding international treaty on climate change – was adopted in 2015 and it aims to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

The temperature is rising in the UK, with the ten warmest years on record having occurred since 2002 and seven of the ten wettest years having happened since 1998.

We've already seen increased flooding across the UK, and indeed in Rugby Borough, with many of our rural villages and urban areas experiencing flooding events. It is not just extreme rainfall which will affect the UK, but the Met Office predict that heatwaves in the UK can be expected to happen every other year by 2050 and that winter storms are at least 40% more likely because of climate change.

Increasingly frequent heatwaves and flooding will disrupt local farmers impacting food production and severe storms impact our transport networks and cause property damage.



Ed Hawkins "Earth Warming Stripes"- temperature change in England 1884 - 2020

These stark warnings cannot be ignored which is why Rugby Borough Council is committed to taking action to reduce emissions

Carbon Emissions in Rugby

During 2021, the Council commissioned a study of its existing carbon footprint which calculated the emissions relating to our council buildings, leisure centre, fleet vehicles and other sources, identifying a carbon footprint over 2020/21 of 2,402 tCO₂e. These emissions were made up as follows:

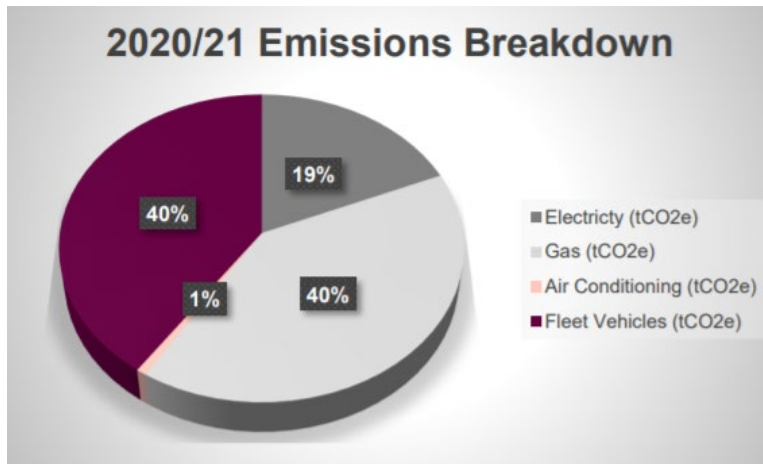


Figure 1. Rugby Borough Council Carbon Emissions 2020/21

Reducing this to net zero presents a significant challenge, but one which the whole Council fully embraces. The actions needed to achieve this are set out in this Strategy and Action Plan.

The emissions set out in table 1 relate to Scopes 1 and 2, which can be summarised as direct emissions from owned or controlled sources and indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, heating and cooling. The Council recognises the importance of tackling all other indirect emissions that occur through our business (Scope 3 emissions) and has already begun work to understand and reduce these.

As a Council, we have direct control of a very small proportion, less than 1%, of carbon emissions produced in the Borough, however, there is a lot we can do to influence the remaining emissions reductions through local leadership and partnership working.

“More than half the emissions cuts needed rely on people and businesses taking up low-carbon solutions – decisions that are made at a local and individual level. Many of these decisions depend on having supporting infrastructure and systems in place. Local authorities have powers or influence over roughly a third of emissions in their local areas”.

Climate Change Committee, Local Authorities and the Sixth Carbon Budget, December 2020

In addition to putting our own house in order, we will lead the transition for the Borough of Rugby to become net zero, ensuring that it has a rich biodiversity where people can easily access nature, enjoy clean air, travel by using low carbon transport and heat buildings by using renewable energy.

In terms of Rugby Borough as a whole, recent data ¹ suggests an approximate carbon footprint of 1,791,000 tCO₂ for the Borough in 2019, made up as follows.

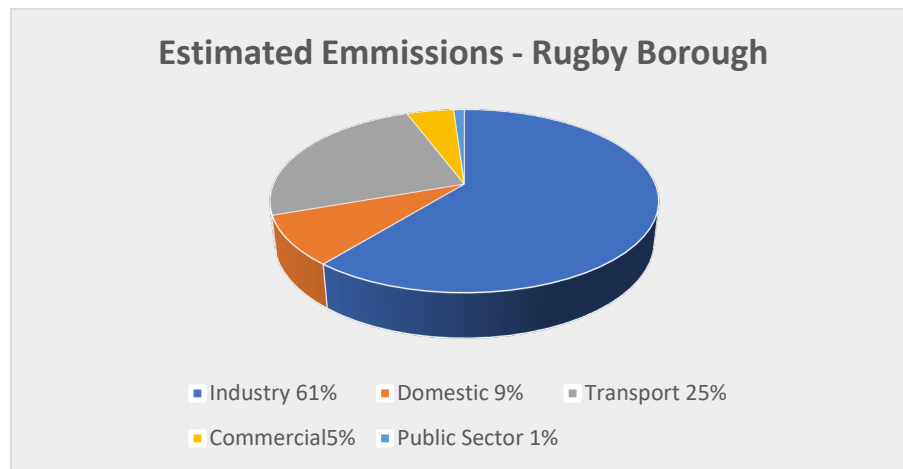


Figure 2. Rugby Borough Estimated Carbon Emissions (source: BEIS)

Rugby Borough's overall emissions are high compared to similar District/ Borough areas – as measured by emissions per head of population. The most significant contributor is industry which is responsible for 61% of emissions in Rugby.

We are committed to gaining a more accurate and detailed understanding of the Borough's carbon footprint by working closely with local businesses, partner organisations, schools, community groups, parish councils and individuals to deliver urgent and transformative action and help all residents and businesses on the journey towards a net zero future.

What We Have Done So Far

Rugby Borough Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, and committed to:

- Move the Council's operations towards Carbon Neutrality by 2030.
- Establish action to tackle climate change as a key driver of all decision-making.
- Provide community leadership in reducing the impact of Climate Change.
- Take action to reduce the impact of climate change on a Borough wide basis and beyond, through adaptation.

The Council set aside an earmarked reserve of £0.500m to support the initial stages of our net zero journey but recognise that the long-term financial commitment required to delivering against the 2019 declaration will be significantly higher. The work being undertaken this year to develop the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will identify measures which will be included in our financial planning, including the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy – for example, an additional £1m has been set aside to progress the decarbonisation of our housing stock.

¹ National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory <https://naei.beis.gov.uk/laco2app/> data sourced from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2019>

The Council also established a cross party member working group who were tasked with reporting on the initial steps required to begin addressing the Climate Emergency.

The Council adopted a new Corporate Strategy in 2021 which expanded on our climate change commitments and prioritised action to:

- As an organisation, be net zero by 2030.
- Work together to further improve the borough's connectivity and encourage greener travel.
- Reduce residents' and businesses' impact on the environment and help them adapt to the consequences of climate change.
- Promote and encourage green and sustainable businesses within the borough.
- Build environmentally sustainable homes, including within our own housing stock.
- Link places together with good quality green infrastructure and improve biodiversity across the borough.
- Reduce the carbon footprint of our council housing stock by 2027.

Since adopting our Corporate Strategy, we have surveyed residents to better understand their hopes of this Climate Change Strategy and how the Council can support them to live more sustainably.

- 94% of respondents were concerned about the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss.
- 47% of respondents felt that they understood climate change either a little or not at all.
- 89% of respondents stated that climate change affected their everyday decisions.
- The key areas where respondents felt that climate change informed their choices were waste management; managing their homes; travel choices and shopping
- Across all areas, a lack of suitable information and a lack of viable sustainable options were identified as key barriers.

In 2021, The Council appointed a councillor Climate Change Champion who is a member of the Council's cabinet and is able to advocate for positive action towards addressing the Climate Emergency in all Council business.

In 2021, the Council hosted the Borough's first Climate Summit to better understand the Climate Change aspirations of our partners and how can work together to achieve our mutual goals.

As an outcome of the Climate Summit, and to facilitate future joint action, the Council has developed and launched a standalone website at www.rugbynetzero.co.uk to provide information and suggested actions that Rugby residents can take to help reduce emissions.

The Council has also used the summit to develop partnership arrangements with other organisations such as Transition Town Rugby, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Sustrans.

More recently, the Council has adopted a Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment to ensure that Climate Change and Environmental Impact is a key consideration in all future decisions across all departments.

What We Are Going To Do

Our Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan sets out our approach to championing and leading the transition to net zero in Rugby Borough and how we will deliver on our commitments. It is a framework for working with all our partners including residents in the Borough and takes a view of the key areas where local action can have the biggest impact.

In delivering the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, we will review our actions annually identifying the expected costs, ownership and performance indicators for monitoring.

Every Council strategy and policy will reflect our net zero target, having been the subject of a Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment prior to adoption. This will ensure that action on climate change is a green thread through all Council business, decisions and actions.

Local authorities have many levers (such as planning powers, enforcement of building regulations and duties to protect our environment and collect waste) which can be used to deliver wider local action to reduce emissions and to help the borough to adapt to a changing climate. We are committed to leading by example and to facilitate the degree and speed of change required, we are committed to changing our day to day working by:

- Upskilling Officers and Councillors with the knowledge and necessary support to deliver our climate change commitments
- Transforming how we work, maximising opportunities to reduce staff and councillor travel, encourage agile working and promote the efficient use of resources.
- Ensuring that sustainability is built into our procurement practice, in doing so ensuring that our suppliers methodologies are aligned to our climate change ambitions.
- Ensuring that climate change is embedded across the whole organisation and is a priority within each team, engendering a culture of shared responsibility and ownership.
- Establishing a clear performance framework that links climate change to every decision made, making it a “green thread” running through the organisation.

The UK Government has committed to a national target of net zero emissions by 2050 (which is legally binding under the Climate Change Act 2008) and the Government and local authorities share a common goal to deliver on net zero targets. We'll also work closely with our neighbouring local authorities Stratford District Council, Warwick District Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, North Warwickshire Borough Council, Warwickshire County Council and the West Midlands Combined Authority. Without this joined up working and collaboration we won't be able to achieve our net zero targets.



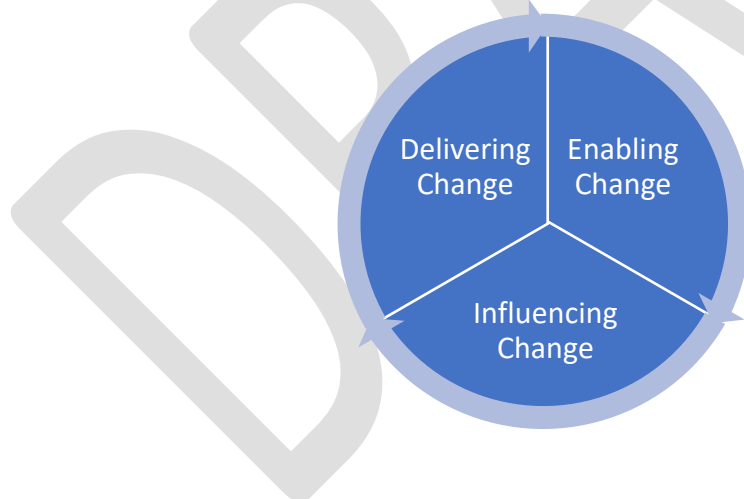
Cllr Emma Crane speaking at the Coventry and Warwickshire Climate Change Conference

There are many elements of the climate change agenda which require action, shifts in policy and new funding at a national, regional or sub-regional level. It is therefore important that we can accurately convey the Borough's priorities and needs to national, regional and sub-regional government bodies. In doing so, we will:

- Ensure that clear communications are maintained with relevant government departments, local Members of Parliament, ministers and civil servants.
- Work with national bodies such as the Local Government Association and the District Councils Network to maximise our collective voice.
- Understand central government policy changes and disseminate key messages at a local level.
- Work across the broader geographies, advocating for the Borough and ensuring that the Borough's interests are acted upon at these levels.

This strategy recognises that the Council has multiple roles in addressing the Climate Emergency and delivering net zero, which are:

- Delivering Change:** Those factors within the Council's direct control, where the Council can lead by example.
- Enabling Change:** Those factors which the Council can facilitate by working with others for example by using our policies and procurement practices.
- Influencing Change:** Those factors outside of our control, where the Council will seek to influence and support delivery through partnerships across the borough and engagement with central government.



Our Call to Action

We extend an invitation to all of our local partners and residents from businesses, local community groups and voluntary organisations, parish councils and civic society to join us in recognising the global climate emergency and the need for urgent action to help Rugby to become a net zero borough.

How We Will Monitor and Report Progress

We will integrate climate change targets into our performance reporting system by publishing on our dedicated climate site www.rugbynetzero.co.uk a performance dashboard which reflects progress against this Strategy and Action Plan in a clear and transparent manner. In addition to this performance dashboard, we will take every opportunity to report progress, for example using community events, reports to Council and via Council communications channels.

Monitoring of progress will be managed by the Deputy Executive Director and the Councillor Champion for Climate Change, who together will provide regular update reports to Cabinet. Annual reporting against delivery of the Action Plan will be made to Cabinet and Full Council.

Reviewing Our Approach

It is recognised that the climate change and adaptation landscape is continually developing, and it is anticipated that changes in technology, risks, opportunities and national policy will impact on the relevance and suitability of this strategy. With this in mind, the strategy will be formally reviewed every three years or sooner if required.

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

The following Action Plan provides a clear statement of our 2030 goals and how we will deliver them. These goals will be integrated into all aspects of the work we deliver ourselves, the changes we enable others to make and the steps we take to influence change on a broader scale. The Action Plan covers the 7 themes:

- a) Workplaces and the Economy
- b) Transport
- c) Natural Environment
- d) Homes and Energy
- e) Waste, Resources and the Circular Economy
- f) Climate and Nature Positive Communities
- g) Adaptation

a. Workplaces and the Economy

Around 17% of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions come from our businesses and industrial processes. These emissions are produced in different ways, including from industrial processes or from heating, and cooling, office buildings. Recent data suggest that industry and workplaces are the most significant contributor to the Borough's Carbon Footprint.

Local businesses have performed strongly in the past and have given rise to low unemployment levels, with strong businesses in the fields of engineering, scientific, technical, logistics, agricultural and independent sectors. They have worked to overcome many challenges including recessions, the pandemic and legislative changes – innovating to thrive through the most challenging of times. We must now work to support our local businesses to understand and address the climate challenge and support them take action to ensure a sustainable future.

The Council must lead by example and, through its own business, take advantage of the opportunities to reduce emissions and embed sustainable environmental principles in all aspects of our day-to-day work.

WORKPLACES AND THE ECONOMY

Our 2030 Goals:

- The Borough will benefit from environmentally friendly workplaces, where businesses play their part in helping the Borough become net zero by 2050.
- The Borough will benefit from non-residential buildings reaching net zero by 2030.
- The Borough will benefit from an economy that has adapted to climate change and is maximising the opportunities to become a hub for green businesses.
- The Borough will benefit from workplaces which are able to adapt and become resilient to future climate change.
- We will lead by example by ensuring that the Council's operations are net zero by 2030.

1.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							
1.1	Upskill the Council's workforce and Councillors to deliver a carbon literate organisation	<p>We will achieve bronze level carbon literacy</p> <p>We will roll out a comprehensive Climate Change learning programme.</p> <p>We will ensure that Climate Change and Environmental Impact are considered in all council decisions</p>	August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze Level Carbon Literacy achieved • Learning Programme in place • Number of participants in Climate Change Training learning packages • Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessments complete 	Deputy Executive Director	<p>AimHi package offered to all Councillors</p> <p>Initial cohort of three officers have completed carbon literacy training</p> <p>Climate Change and Environmental Impact Assessment agreed</p>	1a 4a 4d
1.2	Year on year, reduce the Council's Carbon Footprint	<p>We will baseline the Council's Carbon Footprint</p> <p>We will agree and resource a corporate carbon management plan.</p>	August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon baselining complete 	Chief Officer – Homes and Communities	<p>Year 1 baselining complete</p> <p>Draft Carbon Management Plan received</p>	1a 3f
1.3	Reduce the reliance on fossil fuel-based energy in all Council operations by switching to renewable energy.	<p>We will agree and resource a corporate carbon management plan.</p>	August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon management plan agreed 	Chief Officer – Homes and Communities	<p>Draft Carbon Management Plan received</p>	1a 3f

1.4	Embed sustainable practices and increased climate resilience into all Council business, ensuring transparency through reporting as we do.	<p>We will strengthen the Council's procurement policies ensuring that we purchase energy efficient and low carbon materials, services and technologies where possible and use suppliers who are either achieving or working towards net zero.</p> <p>We will reconsider the use of our own offices and public buildings, maximising opportunities for sharing space and agile working.</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>April 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised procurement policies agreed. Agile working policy agreed and implemented 	<p>Chief Officer – Finance and Performance</p> <p>Chief Officer – Legal and Governance</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>4a</p> <p>4d</p>
1.5	Improve the energy efficiency of our buildings by undertaking fabric upgrades, lighting retrofits and heating system replacement to low carbon alternatives such as a ground source heat pump.	We will agree and resource a corporate carbon management plan.	August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon management plan agreed 	Chief Officer – Homes and Communities	Draft Carbon Management Plan received	1a
Enabling Change							
1.6	Support local businesses (particularly SMEs) to become net zero carbon organisations, by ensuring that they have access to the advice, guidance and support they need.	<p>We will produce a net zero toolkit to support businesses to become net zero</p> <p>We will promote opportunities for learning and sharing resources via a learning hub on our climate microsite.</p> <p>We will develop new relationships with the agricultural sector and rural businesses to join up and assist in delivering net zero.</p>	<p>August 2022</p> <p>August 2022</p> <p>August 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net zero toolkit produced Learning hub developed Number of new partner organisations engaged 	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Chief Officer – Digital and Communications</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p>		<p>1e</p> <p>1c</p> <p>2b</p> <p>2c</p> <p>2f</p>
1.7	Work with local businesses to encourage greener travel, promoting low emission	We will deliver campaigns aimed at encouraging greener travel within the Borough's workplaces	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of travel campaigns delivered 	Deputy Executive Director		<p>1e</p> <p>1c</p> <p>1b</p>

	commuting schemes and agile working.	We will work with Warwickshire County Council in developing the local transport plan.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transport Plan agreed 			2b 2c 2f
1.8	Support local businesses to understand the risks arising from climate change and support them to adapt and become more resilient to increasing extreme weather.	We will commission the production of a local climate change risk assessment.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Risk Assessment Produced 	Deputy Executive Director		1e 1c 2b 2c 2f
Influencing Change							
1.9	Support the delivery of a green economy, promoting green industries within the Borough	We will engage with education providers and businesses to support the upskilling and retraining of residents to work in green industries.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed priorities and delivery plans with local education providers 	Chief Officer – Growth and Investment		1e 1c 2a 2b 2c 2f
1.10	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for net zero workplaces in the Borough.	We will advocate for appropriate funding and policy changes to support the delivery of a net zero Council by 2030 and a net zero Borough by 2050.	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1e 1c 2a 2b 2c 2f
1.11	Maximise the potential of our financial decisions to support our net zero ambitions.	<p>We will explore the issuing of a Council Climate Bond, enabling investors to grow their money while making a positive environmental impact in Rugby borough.</p> <p>Investigate opportunities to redirect pensions and investments towards in net zero funds.</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility report produced % of investments in net zero funds 	Chief Officer – Finance and Performance		1a

b. Transport

In the UK, Domestic transport accounts for 24% of UK greenhouse gas emissions. The vast majority of this comes from the use of petrol and diesel in road transport, in particular passenger cars.

Recent figures confirm that transport accounts for 25% of all carbon emissions in Rugby Borough. The future mobility needs of the Borough must met in a manner that reduces these emissions and that is the least damaging to the environment.

Public transport, active travel and zero emissions vehicles will become a cornerstone of our work with partners and communities, promoting behavioural change by creating environments where active travel becomes a viable, affordable and desirable norm.

Additionally, transport related air pollution is associated with a number of adverse health impacts, and it is recognised that air pollution disproportionately affects the most vulnerable in society.

TRANSPORT							
Our 2030 Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Borough will benefit from an integrated and affordable sustainable transport system, where public transport is a viable and affordable option. • The Borough will benefit from infrastructure which enables residents and visitors to make more journeys by active transport such as walking and cycling. • The Borough will benefit from a transport system that is resilient to the changing climate. • We will lead by example by transitioning the Council’s own fleet to low/ zero emissions alternatives by 2030. 							
2.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							
2.1	Work to decarbonise the Council’s fleet by 2030.	We will move the Mayor’s Car to an electric vehicle.	April 2023	• Electric vehicle procured	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1a 1b 4a 4d

		We will commission a report to define the stages and milestones for moving the council's fleet to low and zero carbon alternatives and will work towards a target of decarbonising the fleet by 2030 or earlier.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report produced and agreed 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		
2.2	Reduce emissions from commuting to work and staff journeys by improving the provision and uptake of more active, public transport and low emissions travel options.	<p>We will investigate and if appropriate establish a car sharing/car club scheme for council employees.</p> <p>We will promote 'Cyclescheme' throughout the workforce</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>August 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car club / sharing scheme agreed and implemented Cyclescheme promoted to all staff 	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>1b</p> <p>4a</p> <p>4d</p>
2.3	Develop the Council's own estate charging infrastructure by installing EV charging points to ensure that business journeys can be supported by suitable electric vehicle charging.	We will develop and agree an EV Charging Strategy and we will have installed at least 3 EV charging points on council owned land.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EV Charging Strategy agreed Number of EV charging points installed 	Deputy Executive Director		<p>1a</p> <p>1b</p>
2.4	We will work in partnership to improve air quality in the Borough, with a focus on Air Quality Management Areas	Specific actions set out in Air Quality Status Report	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual mean nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) will be reduced 	Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety		<p>1a</p> <p>1b</p> <p>1c</p> <p>2d</p> <p>3e</p>
Enabling Change							
2.5	Maximise the opportunities arising from our Town Centre Regeneration work, to deliver a sustainable transport network which is fit for the future.	<p>We will agree a town centre regeneration plan</p> <p>We will review our taxi licensing policies and support taxi operators to switch to electric vehicles</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>April 2023/ Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town centre regeneration plan agreed Revised taxi licencing policies agreed 	<p>Chief Officer – Growth and Investment</p> <p>Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety</p>		<p>1b</p> <p>1c</p> <p>1e</p> <p>2b</p> <p>2d</p> <p>3b</p> <p>3e</p>
2.6	Encourage decrease in car usage and increase in active travel such as walking and cycling by providing safe routes and working with partners to improve infrastructure.	Work with WCC to deliver a Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan developed and agreed 	Chief Officer – Growth and Investment		<p>1b</p> <p>1c</p> <p>2b</p> <p>2d</p>

2.7	Work with partners to deliver electric vehicle charging infrastructure which meets the needs of residents now and into the future.	We will produce and agree an EV Charging Strategy	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EV Charging Strategy developed and agreed 	Deputy Executive Director		1b 1c 2b 2d
2.8	Ensure that future developments create better connected communities which reduce the need for travel and are close to the services and amenities which they need to thrive.	<p>Review local plan policies which can be used to encourage better connected communities</p> <p>We will work with Parish Councils in the Borough to find ways of improving the connectivity in and around our rural areas.</p>	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised policies agreed Number of Parish Councils engaged 	<p>Chief Officer – Growth and Investment</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p>		1b 1c 1d 1f 1g 2b
Influencing Change							
2.9	Develop new partnerships to ensure the appropriate infrastructure is in place to enable sustainable travel.	<p>We will work in partnership with other organisations to encourage improvements to local rail infrastructure.</p> <p>We will work with local schools to encourage walking to school and the provision of cycling workshops.</p> <p>We will work with Warwickshire County Council to ensure that the Local Transport Planning places sustainable travel at the front of the agenda</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>April 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear plans agreed for the improvement of local rail infrastructure. Number of campaigns delivered Local Transport Plan Agreed 	<p>Chief Officer – Growth and Investment</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Chief Officer – Growth and Investment</p>		1b 1c 1e 2b 3e
2.10	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for low carbon travel in the Borough.	We will advocate for appropriate policy and funding to support modal shift including electric vehicles, sustainable public transport and active travel.	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1b 1c 2b 3e

c. Natural Environment

The way in which we use our land has an important impact on the UK's greenhouse gas emissions. The agricultural sector was responsible for 11% of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions in 2020, most of which come from livestock, fertilisers and fuel use in farming.

Land use and land management will also have an important impact on carbon balances, for example in soils and forests. Alongside agriculture, other uses of land such as afforestation and agroecology have the potential to make a positive difference, absorbing carbon dioxide, improving biodiversity and countering the harmful impact of emissions from other sectors.

Our Borough benefits from wonderfully diverse habitats, with numerous designated sites of special scientific interest, local nature reserves and conservation sites. We know of the physical and mental health benefits which access to good quality green spaces and nature provides. However, significant proportions of our local species of birds, mammals, plants and insects are declining and at further risk.

It is imperative that we work with our communities and partners to halt the declines which we are already seeing and take measures to protect and improve our natural environment. By doing so, we can not only protect and restore local biodiversity, but we can also help to mitigate some of the future impacts of climate change. In addition, planting trees, restoring habitats and working towards sustainable land management practices will help to capture carbon.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Our 2030 Goals:

- **The Borough will benefit from a natural environment that is protected against future climate change, enhanced wherever possible and supported to recover from biodiversity loss.**
- **The Borough will benefit from 30% of the land area being utilised to support nature's recovery**
- **The Borough will benefit from nature based solutions which limit the impacts of a changing climate**
- **We will lead by example by reconsidering management regimes of the Council's own land holdings to the benefit of nature's recovery, for example by planting more trees or by rewilding**

3.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							
3.1	Reconsider, and in where appropriate change, the management of the Council's own land holdings to benefit nature's recovery, for example by planting more trees, hedgerows or by re-wilding.	<p>We will develop and implement a Community Orchard Scheme.</p> <p>We will engage local communities in the management and long-term care of Council owned green spaces.</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Orchard Scheme developed and launched Volunteer hours on Council owned sites 	<p>Chief Officer - Leisure and Wellbeing</p> <p>Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>1c</p> <p>1f</p> <p>3b</p> <p>3e</p>
3.2	Partner with the Wildlife Trust to deliver nature-based solutions on council owned land to help reduce, and adapt to, the risks associated with climate change.	<p>We will commission the production of a local climate change risk assessment.</p> <p>We will work with the Wildlife Trust to identify 'quick wins' which address more immediate risks</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>April 2023</p> <p>April 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Risk Assessment produced and agreed Initial programme of work agreed 	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>1c</p> <p>1f</p> <p>3b</p> <p>3e</p>
3.3	Increase tree cover, and improve wildlife habitats and biodiversity across the Borough	<p>We will commission a 'state of nature in Rugby' report to guide further actions</p> <p>We will develop a Biodiversity and Tree Planting Strategy for the Borough and ensure that this is supported in the Local Plan.</p> <p>We will develop new relationships with the</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>April 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State of Nature report developed and agreed Biodiversity Strategy agreed <p>N/A</p>	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>1c</p> <p>1f</p> <p>2b</p> <p>2g</p> <p>3b</p> <p>3e</p>

		agricultural sector to maximise biodiversity benefits on agricultural land.			Chief Officer – Leisure and Wellbeing		
Enabling Change							
3.4	Enable change at a local level by empowering and supporting parish councils and communities to improve and enhance their local natural environment	Develop and provide a climate change toolkit for parish councils and community groups.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Toolkit produced 	Deputy Executive Director		1c 1f 2g 3b 3e
3.5	We will maximise opportunities for using the planning system to facilitate benefits to the natural environment.	<p>We will revisit local planning policies with a view to maximising opportunities for green space and nature’s recovery through protecting green space and clarifying green space requirements for development in the Local Plan, for example through a development plan document (DPD)</p> <p>We will ensure that our planning policies set developments and land use standards that reduce carbon and increase sustainability.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised policies adopted Revised policies adopted 	Chief Officer – Growth and Investment		1b 1c 1d 1f 2b 2g 3e
3.6	We will work with partners towards a target of at least 17% of land area being covered by Woodland by 2050, in line with recommendations by the UK Climate Change Committee.	<p>We will partner with the Woodland Trust to support tree planting schemes throughout the Borough</p> <p>We will seek to identify one tree planting scheme per ward in 2022/23.</p>	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase to woodland coverage (%) Number of tree planting schemes agreed 	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Chief Officer Leisure and Wellbeing</p>		1c 1f 2b 3e
Influencing Change							

3.7	Develop new partnerships to benefit the Borough's natural environment.	<p>We will work with partners to influence the agricultural sector and other external landholders to reconsider land use and management practices, for the benefit of nature's recovery</p> <p>We will engage with local farmers and land owners to distribute information on improving and maintaining soil health for carbon storage</p>		<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p>		<p>1c 1f 3b 3e</p>
3.8	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for enhancing the natural environment in the Borough.	We will advocate for appropriate policy and funding to support natures recovery and investment in nature-based solutions.	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		<p>1c 1f 2b 2g 3b 3e</p>

d. Homes and Energy

The UK’s 26 million homes are responsible for 14% of its greenhouse gas emissions. The majority of these emissions are as a result of burning fossil fuels. In particular, gas use dominates domestic sector energy consumption, making up 81% of consumption for heat purposes and 68% of overall domestic consumption.

With an estimated 158,000 tCO2e emissions arising from home energy in Rugby, there is an increasing need to ensure that all homes in the Borough can become more energy efficient and transition to more sustainable sources of energy.

The Borough’s existing homes and associated energy uses will need to be significantly changed to reduce their impact on the environment and to ensure that they are resilient to the impacts of future climate change. Equally, new housing in the Borough will need to be delivered from developments which are energy efficient and climate resilient.

HOMES AND ENERGY							
Our 2030 Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Borough will benefit from energy efficient homes which utilise sustainable energy sources, leading to a reduction in residential related carbon emissions. • The Borough will benefit from homes which are more resilient to climate change and in particular, extreme weather events. • The Borough will benefit from new developments where homes have high levels of energy efficiency, minimise carbon emissions and are resilient to climate change. • We will lead by example by ensuring that the Council’s own housing stock has a reduced carbon footprint by 2027, with action being accelerated wherever possible. 							
4.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							
4.1	Implement action to reduce the carbon impact of our housing stock	We will carry out an audit of existing housing stock		• Audit complete and agreed	Chief Officer - Homes and Communities		1a 1c 1g

		<p>Our carbon management plan will determine the steps need to be taken to make our homes more energy efficient and to instal low carbon alternatives to fossil fuel heating such as heat pumps.</p> <p>We will develop an Energy Efficiency and Retrofit Strategy to decarbonise Council owned housing.</p> <p>We will develop and implement education programmes to ensure that our tenants understand how to use new technologies that are introduced.</p> <p>We will consider, and where appropriate act on, opportunities for green energy supply to Council owned housing, for example through the installation of solar photovoltaic cells.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Management Plan agreed • Number of adaptations made • Carbon footprint of our housing stock decreasing (tCO2e) • Education programme designed and delivered <p>N/A</p>	<p>Chief Officer - Homes and Communities</p> <p>Chief Officer - Homes and Communities</p> <p>Chief Officer - Homes and Communities</p>		<p>4a 3f</p>
4.2	We will ensure that new Council housing stock is built in the most sustainable and low carbon manner possible, beyond Building Regulation standards and supporting our net zero vision.	We will develop a roadmap to achieve net zero carbon new housing.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Management Plan agreed • Carbon footprint of new housing 	Chief Officer - Homes and Communities		<p>1a 1c 1d 1g 2b 3f</p>
Enabling Change							
4.4	Ensure that our planning policies support the council's commitment of net zero by 2030 and will support sustainable design	We will bring forward a sustainable design and construction supplementary planning document	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPD adopted 	Chief Officer – Growth and Investment		<p>1a, 1c, 1d, 1g 2b, 3f</p>

	and construction using low carbon materials.						
4.5	We will share appropriate information, advice and initiatives with owner occupiers in the Borough, supporting them to improve energy efficiency.	We will invest in education campaigns which support residents to make changes to their own homes and energy supplies, maximising the affordable warmth benefits associated with these changes. We will invest in initiatives which seek to reduce fuel poverty within the Borough	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised policies adopted New initiatives delivered 	Chief Officer – Homes and Communities		1c 3f
4.6	We will engage with, and work with, the private rented sector, to deliver more energy efficient rented homes, for example to deliver EPC C as a minimum standard.	We will review the Council’s landlords charter to include a greater emphasis on improving energy efficiency in privately rented housing.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landlords Charter reviewed and updated 	Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety		1c 3f
4.7	We will work with partners to move all homes away from gas central heating systems, maximising the opportunities of non-fossil fuel heat sources, in particular heat pumps and will facilitate district heating opportunities for new developments.	We will work with partners to investigate options and bring forward a feasibility report	April 2023	N/A	Chief Officer – Homes and Communities		1c 2b 3f
Influencing Change							
4.7	Develop new partnerships to support the transition to zero carbon homes.	Work with local, national and regional partners to ensure that opportunities for education, attracting funding and delivering change are maximised.	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1a 1c 1d 1g 2b 3f
4.8	Investigate and where appropriate take action to increase green energy production within the Borough.	We will work with partners to investigate options and bring forward recommendations as they become apparent	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1a, 1c, 1d, 1g 3f

4.9	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for low carbon homes in the Borough.	We will advocate for appropriate funding schemes to support householders to switch to renewable energy sources and implement energy efficiency measures.	Ongoing	N/A	Chief Officer – Homes and Communities		1a 1c 1d 1g 2b 3f
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e. Waste, Resources and the Circular Economy

3% of the UK's total greenhouse gas emissions come from waste. Approximately 89% of these emissions come from landfill sites where biodegradable wastes decompose to produce methane and carbon dioxide gas. In the UK, it is estimated that households produce around 9.5 million tonnes of food waste, the majority of which was intended to be consumed by people. More than 25 million tonnes of greenhouse gases are emitted by the food that the country wastes every year, contributing 5.5% to the country's total emissions.

In 2020/21 households in Rugby produced an average 870kg of household waste, of which 479kg was 'residual waste' which is disposed of to landfill or incineration. The remaining 45% of the Borough's household waste was either recycled, reused, or composted.

Our priority must be to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill in the first place, moving from a throwaway culture and towards a circular economy where we eliminate waste, re-use resources, and adopt nature positive, low carbon, resource-efficient systems.

We must reconsider our use of natural resources, focusing on sustainable consumption, production and materials management. The circular model redefines the economy around principles of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible.

WASTE, RESOURCES AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Our 2030 Goals:

- The Borough will benefit from a resources and waste economy, which is focused on elimination of waste, re-use of goods, recycling of materials and recovery of energy.
- The Borough will benefit from a significantly reduced amount of residual waste going to landfill.
- The Borough will benefit from a waste management regime which generates reduced or zero carbon.
- We will lead by example by reducing the Council's own waste output year on year.

5.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							
5.1	Measure, report and reduce the Council's own waste output, ensuring that more of the materials we use can be re-used or recycled.	<p>We will audit all RBC Waste, identifying volumes and nature of waste arisings</p> <p>We will develop and agree an action plan to reduce RBC waste output</p>	<p>August 2022</p> <p>April 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit complete and agreed • Action plan agreed 	<p>Chief Officer - Operations and Traded Services</p> <p>Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>4a</p> <p>4d</p>
5.2	Configure and deliver our waste collection rounds in the most efficient way possible, considering factors including the frequency of collection.	<p>We will review current configuration of waste and recycling rounds in light of governments waste and resources strategy, bringing forward recommendations for any changes</p> <p>We will work with the waste disposal authority to understand and ensure that waste management streams are as efficient and low carbon as possible.</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review complete • Decreased carbon emissions relating to waste and recycling collections • Baseline position agreed • Decrease in carbon emissions generated through waste management streams 	<p>Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services</p> <p>Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services</p>		<p>1a</p> <p>4a</p> <p>4d</p>

Enabling Change							
5.3	Deliver campaigns, initiatives and information that supports behavioural change to minimise the generation of waste and shares best practice.	We will work across communities to embed the principles of responsible consumption, using and buying less and buying carbon neutral goods and services.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of campaigns/ events supported 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1a 1c 3b 4a
		We will support local initiatives relating to sustainable consumption such as food growing and distribution and repair and reuse shops.	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of initiatives supported 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		
		We will work with Warwickshire County Council to provide information to residents on minimising waste of water.	Ongoing	N/A	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		
		We will work with schools and local businesses to provide advice on waste elimination and the responsible management of resources.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of schools and businesses engaged 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		
5.4	Work with the Warwickshire Waste Partnership to encourage greater recycling	We will work with partners to increase the range of materials that can be recycled or reused, while raising awareness of recycling opportunities, with a focus on hard to recycle goods such as electricals and clothing.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased recycling rates Decreased residual waste rates 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1a 1c 3b
		We will set ambitious targets regarding recycling rates through the Warwickshire Joint Municipal Waste Strategy	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of joint municipal waste strategy 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		

5.5	Where waste arisings are unavoidable, we will work with partners to develop practical, innovative and effective methods for increasing reuse, for example by supporting the establishment of refill, re-use and recycling shops.	We will identify suitable projects and initiatives, investigating opportunities for greater collaboration	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of initiatives engaged 	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1a 1c 3b
5.6	Lead and support a Borough wide reduction in food waste, recognising both the environmental and financial benefits of doing so.	<p>We will undertake a feasibility study regarding the introduction of food waste collections.</p> <p>We will work with partners to promote the benefits of home composting.</p> <p>We will support and promote the Warwickshire ‘Love Food, Hate Waste’ initiative</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>August 2022</p> <p>August 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility study produced Awareness campaign delivered <p>N/A</p>	<p>Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services</p> <p>Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services</p>		1a 1c 3b
Influencing Change							
5.7	Develop new local and national partnerships to support the transition towards a circular economy zero carbon homes.	<p>We will work with local, national and regional partners to ensure that opportunities for education, attracting funding and delivering change are maximised.</p> <p>We will work with the national leaders such as the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) to inform and deliver local support to the Borough.</p>	Ongoing	N/A	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1a 1c 3b
5.9	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for low carbon homes in the Borough.	We will seek to influence government policy relating to waste, to ensure that future policy reflects and enables our climate ambitions. Our initial focus will be towards the UK Resources and Waste Strategy	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1a 1c 2b 3b

f. Climate and Nature Positive Communities

We recognise that achieving the levels of change which are required to address the climate emergency is not possible without the meaningful engagement and involvement of our residents and the local community. We need to collectively identify the issues and co-design and co-deliver sustainable solutions.

The third sector is particularly strong within our Borough and brings a wealth of knowledge, expertise and passion. Equally, the Parish Councils of the Borough have a strong history of delivering meaningful change at a local level. The Council must work effectively with third sector organisations and parish councils as equal partners, aligning our shared priorities to deliver joint action.

On an individual basis, our residents must have easy access to good quality information that enables them to make informed choices in areas such as home energy, transport options, shopping and waste management. We must listen to feedback from residents to better understand how we can support sustainable options to become more desirable and more viable.

CLIMATE AND NATURE POSITIVE COMMUNITIES							
<p>Our 2030 Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Borough will benefit from clear, accessible information relating to climate change, enabling residents to take individual action to live more sustainably. • The Borough will benefit from empowered Third Sector Organisations and Parish Councils who act as agents for change. • The Borough will benefit from a collective voice which engages with, and influences, all levels of government. • We will lead by example by maintaining meaningful engagement with our communities in all aspects of our climate change work, co-designing solutions with stakeholders. 							
6.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							

6.1	Work with communities in co-designing and co-delivering shared solutions to deliver our net zero vision.	<p>We will develop a network of Community Climate Champions to support the delivery of neighbourhood level action throughout the Borough.</p> <p>We will ensure equality through all aspects of our climate change work, engaging with all sections of society through the design and delivery of our actions.</p> <p>We will support our Councillors to take action in the wards they represent, acting as agents of change and community leaders.</p>	<p>August 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>April 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Climate Champions Scheme Agreed Number of Climate Community Champions enrolled % of climate change projects with a complete Equality Impact Assessment Number of Councillors undertaking Climate Change Training 	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Chief Officer – Legal and Governance</p> <p>Chief Officer - Legal and Governance</p>		<p>1a 1b 1c 3b 3e 3g</p>
6.2	Work with our third sector partners and parish councils, treating them as equal partners in the delivery of this Climate Change Strategy.	<p>We will host an annual climate summit to engage partners and review progress in the delivery of this strategy</p> <p>We will work with Warwickshire CAVA to understand and offer the support required by Voluntary Groups in the Borough</p> <p>We will provide parish councils, community groups and individuals with free to use resources such as carbon calculators and toolkits for change on rugbynetzero.co.uk</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>April 2023</p> <p>August 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit delivered Number of groups supported to deliver climate change/ environmental projects Resources available on website 	<p>Deputy Executive Director</p> <p>Chief Officer – Homes and Communities</p> <p>Deputy Executive Director</p>		<p>1a 1b 1c 4c 3b 3e</p>

6.3	Ensure that good quality information is readily available for residents through our climate microsite, regarding the causes and effects of climate change, supporting them to live more sustainably	We will maintain the rugbynetzero.co.uk website as a single source of information for residents	Ongoing	N/A	Chief Officer – Digital and Communications		1a 1b 1c 3b 3e
6.4	Support local projects which seek to address broader climate change objectives, such as the provision of locally grown food or the development of local re-use shops.	We will map all known projects in the Borough, establish links with these projects and promote them via rugbynetzero.co.uk and supporting them as required		• Number of projects/ initiatives supported	Deputy Executive Director		1a 1b 1c 2c 2f 3b
Enabling Change							
6.5	Partner with voluntary and community sector groups and parish councils to initiate new projects to address climate change and biodiversity loss at a local level.	We will map all known projects in the Borough, establish links with these projects and understand the support which they require.	April 2023	• Number of campaigns/ events supported	Deputy Executive Director		1b 1c 3b 3e
6.6	Support communities to address food poverty and access sustainably sourced foods through community food growing and cooking projects.	We will engage partners including Garden Organic and seek to work with them to understand how we can best support community food projects.	Ongoing	• Number of projects supported	Deputy Executive Director		1c 3b 3e
6.7	Support residents, parish councils and community groups to take action to reduce the risks of climate change and extreme weather events.	We will commission the production of a local climate change risk assessment. We will share the outcomes of the climate change risk assessment with parish councils and community groups	April 2023	• Local Climate Change Risk Assessment produced	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1c 2b 2g 3b 3e
Influencing Change							
6.8	Develop new local and national partnerships to support climate and nature positive communities.	We will work with local, national and regional partners to ensure that opportunities for education, attracting funding and delivering change are maximised.	Ongoing	N/A	Chief Officer – Operations and Traded Services		1c 1e 3b 3e

		We will work with the national leaders such as the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) to inform and deliver local support to the Borough.					
6.9	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for Climate and Nature Positive Communities	<p>We will ensure that our negotiations with sub-regional, regional and national government are reflective of the aspirations and concerns of local residents.</p> <p>We will advocate for appropriate grant funding schemes to support third sector organisations and parish councils to deliver change on a local basis.</p> <p>We will advocate for national policy changes which supports empowered communities being at the fore of Climate Change action.</p>	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1c 1e 3b 3e

g. Adaptation

The impacts of climate change are already being seen, with changes in average temperature, shifts in the seasons and an increasing frequency of extreme weather events. Current predictions suggest the need to prepare for a minimum of 2 degrees warming, but there is potential for a greater degree of change to be needed.

Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climate change, such as those described. Adapting to climate change will require collaboration across the whole community, with local authorities, private and public sectors, infrastructure providers and communities all playing a part.

Through this strategy and Action Plan, we will focus on the adaptation measures which can be best facilitated at a local level. By doing so, we hope to support increased resilience to climate change and, in particular the effects of extreme weather events.

ADAPTATION							
<p>Our 2030 Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Borough will benefit from an increased understanding of the local risks posed by climate change and extreme weather events. • The Borough will benefit from increased resilience to climate change and, the weather changes associated with it. • We will lead by example by understanding the climate related risks which Council’s buildings, assets and services face and taking action to reduce that risk. 							
7.	What we will do	How we will progress this in 2022/23	By When	Measures of success	Responsible Officer	Progress	Corporate Strategy Reference
Delivering Change							
7.1	Gain an in depth understanding of the main climate change risks facing the Borough	<p>We will commission the production of a local climate change risk assessment.</p> <p>We will engage third sector organisations and parish</p>	April 2023	Climate Change Risk Assessment Produced	Deputy Executive Director		1c

		<p>councils to ensure that we have the best community intelligence relating to climate change vulnerability and work with them to implement measures to increase resilience.</p> <p>We will use the the West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021-2026 as an initial basis for our adaptation work.</p>					
7.2	Ensure that all Council assets and services are designed and delivered in a way that increases resilience to future climate change.	Following the production of a local climate change risk assessment, we will produce a Council adaptation action plan.	tbc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local adaptation plan produced and agreed 	Deputy Executive Director		1a 1c 4a 4d
7.3	Through our communications, we will ensure an increased understanding of the risks of climate change within our residents and business communities.	Following the production of a local climate change risk assessment, we will communicate the specific risks faced by the Borough, including flood risk	tbc	N/A	Chief Officer – Digital and Communications		1c 2b 2c
Enabling Change							
7.4	Work with a network of organisations to develop flood mitigation and other adaptation measures across the Borough.	<p>We will engage Warwickshire County Council, utilities companies and other key stakeholders to understand adaptation plans which are already in place.</p> <p>We will work with our neighbouring District Councils and Warwickshire County Council, recognising those risks which are best managed by coordinated action across administrative boundaries.</p>	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local adaptation plan produced and agreed 	Deputy Executive Director		1c 2b 2c

7.6	Support businesses, parish councils and third sector organisations to consider and implement adaptation measures at a local level.	Following the production of a local climate change risk assessment, we will communicate the specific risks faced by the Borough	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1c 2b 3b 3e
7.7	Work with developers to strengthen climate change adaptation into their plans, ensuring the delivery of climate resilient developments.	<p>We will proactively engage with developers to understand their current approach to climate resilience</p> <p>We will review existing planning policies relating to climate change adaptation measures, such as use of green sustainable drainage systems and other nature-based solutions and measures to protect against overheating and water leakage.</p>	April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of developers proactively engaged Policies reviewed and agreed 	<p>Chief Officer – Growth and Investment</p> <p>Chief Officer – Growth and Investment</p>		2b 2g 3b 3e
Influencing Change							
7.9	Lobby central and regional government to create the conditions for increased climate resilience within the Borough	<p>Advocate for national policy which reduces the local risks associated with climate change and extreme weather events.</p> <p>Advocate for appropriate policy and funding to support the delivery of adaptation measures throughout the Borough.</p> <p>Actively participate on a regional basis, specifically in relation to the West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021-2026</p>	Ongoing	N/A	Deputy Executive Director		1c 2b 3b 3e

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APPENDIX A - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adaptation - The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects

COP – Conference of the Parties - For nearly three decades the UN has been bringing together almost every country on earth for global climate summits – called COPs – which stands for ‘Conference of the Parties’.

IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - the United Nations body responsible for assessing the science related to climate change.

ktCO₂ – kilotons of Carbon Dioxide.

Modal Shift - A change from one form of transportation to another.

Mitigation - A human intervention to reduce emissions or enhance the sinks of *greenhouse gases*.

Paris Agreement/ Paris Accords - The Paris Agreement under the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* was adopted in 2015 in Paris, France, at COP21. One of the goals of the Paris Agreement is ‘Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels’

Net Zero - Net zero carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions are achieved when human related CO₂ emissions are balanced globally by human related CO₂ removals over a specified period. Net zero CO₂ emissions are also referred to as carbon neutrality.

Scope 1 – Direct emissions from operations that are owned or controlled by the reporting company.

Scope 2 – Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased or acquired electricity, steam, heating, or cooling consumed by the reporting company.

Scope 3 - All indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions.

tCO₂e - Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent - a standard unit for counting greenhouse gas emissions regardless of whether they're from carbon dioxide or another gas, such as methane.

CCC/ UKCCC – Climate Change Committee - The Climate Change Committee (CCC) is an independent, statutory body established under the Climate Change Act 2008.

APPENDIX B – CORPORATE STRATEGY REFERENCES

Outcome 1: “Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place, where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change”	
1a	As an organisation be net zero by 2030.
1b	Work together to further improve the borough’s connectivity and encourage greener travel.
1c	Reduce residents' and businesses’ impact on the environment and help them adapt to the consequences of climate change.
1d	Build environmentally sustainable homes, including within our own housing stock.
1e	Promote and encourage green and sustainable businesses within the borough.
1f	Link places together with good quality green infrastructure and improve biodiversity across the borough.
1g	We will reduce the carbon footprint of our council housing stock by 2027
Outcome 2: “Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits all residents”	
2a	Promote the borough of Rugby as a place to do business
2b	Encourage and support sustainable economic growth, consistent with our social and environmental priorities.
2c	Help businesses thrive and provide jobs for our residents.
2d	Develop and promote our town centre as a place to live, socialise and work.
2e	Make sure that residents have the skills they need to meet local demand.
2f	Nurture and support independent shops.
2g	Regenerate neighbourhoods that need support and build communities that sustain change.
Outcome 3: “Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected”	
3a	Invest in the mental health and wellbeing of our residents and communities, closing the health inequality gap.
3b	Make sure that residents are proud of their community and their borough
3c	Develop and tailor services to meet local needs, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.
3d	Support residents who are, or are at risk of being, homeless or sleeping rough.
3e	Support residents to lead active lives, with high quality, accessible green space and recreational facilities.
3f	Make sure that residents of Rugby have access to high quality, affordable, and environmentally sustainable homes.
3g	Promote, encourage and celebrate diversity and inclusion, to ensure that Rugby is a place where everyone feels welcome.
3h	Make sure that our communities are safe.
3i	Invest in extra support for families and young people.
Outcome 4: “Rugby Borough Council is a responsible, effective and efficient organisation”	
4a	Embrace digital opportunities and nurture a culture of innovation.
4b	Set robust, comprehensive and achievable budgets, exploring all avenues of income to meet our financial targets.
4c	Maintain robust systems of governance that ensure fairness, accountability, and transparency.
4d	Ensure that our organisational structure and methods of working are agile, efficient and effective.
4e	Undertake commercial activities in the open market, where it is sustainable and responsible to do so.
4f	Treat taxpayers’ money with respect and ensure that our high-quality services demonstrate value for money.
4g	Provide residents with the service they need when they need it
4h	Make best use of data and customer insight to design services and interventions.

APPENDIX 3 – REFERENCE AND FURTHER READING

APSE Energy - <https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/index.cfm/local-authority-energy-collaboration/>

National Atmospheric Inventory Service - <https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/local-authority?view=la-co2>

National Food Strategy - <https://www.nationalfoodstrategy.org/the-report/>

UK Government, 25-year environment plan - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan>

UK Government, Climate Change Risk Assessment - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1047003/climate-change-risk-assessment-2022.pdf

UK Climate Change Committee - <https://www.theccc.org.uk/uk-action-on-climate-change/>

UK Government, Net Zero Strategy - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-strategy>

UK 100 - <https://www.uk100.org/>

WMCA, The West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021-2026 - <https://www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/West-Midlands-Climate-Change-Risk-Assmt-Adaptation-Plan-2021-26-Final.pdf>

World Economic Forum, Global Risks Report 2022 - <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/01/global-risks-report-climate-change-covid19/>