

Menu of commitments and actions for Climate Local authorities

Introduction

This menu provides councils with suggestions of commitments and actions that councils can sign up to under Climate Local. It covers their roles as a community leader, a service provider and an estate manager. It also incorporates suggestions for councils 'starting out' in their journey to become a climate-smart council, as well suggestions for commitments and actions to mainstream climate change into the corporate heart of a council.







This list is **not exhaustive**, but instead is intended to provide **examples** across the range of activity that councils can undertake on climate change. Councils are encouraged to adapt these suggestions to suit their own priorities and to create their own locally-determined commitments and actions.





The commitments are split into nine topic areas and broken down into five sub-categories; starting out, corporate commitment and skills, community leader, service provider and estate manager. The key impacts for each commitment are also listed. These categories are not mutually exclusive and some commitments and actions may be applicable across a number of them, although for simplicity they are generally only included in one.




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Mainstreaming climate change








Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Starting out		
Demonstrate political commitment to acting on climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing the public and local stakeholders of our commitment to tackling climate change through Climate Local. • Allocating sufficient human resources, supported by a clear mandate and adequate budget, to enable the council to drive action forward. 	 Corporate strategy and development
Measure energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions on our estate, our services and our local area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking a baseline review of the area’s energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. • Reviewing the area’s potential for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy generation. 	 Measurement / data improvements
Set out a strategy with aspirational and practical targets for managing the causes of climate change across our estate, services and the wider community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a vision for how our local area intends to cut emissions over the next 5 to 10 years. • Producing a strategy for cutting emissions across the council’s estates, services and the wider community. • Establishing clear targets and measures of progress as well as annual reporting processes. • Creating a community-wide forum or partnership to coordinate local action on climate change. This will be underpinned by sufficient resources. 	 Corporate strategy and development  Measurement / data improvements
Corporate commitment and skills		
Secure political commitment and responsibility for taking action on climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing briefing and training to Members and other key decision-makers on the benefits and opportunities of tackling climate change, highlighting the contribution action can make to other council priorities (social, economic, employment, environmental). • Appointing a Lead Member (or Members) with responsibility for climate change. • Developing guidance and training for Members and senior managers on integrating climate change into decision-making. 	 Corporate strategy and development  Building council capacity








Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Integrate climate change into council decision-making processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating climate change priorities and targets into all key corporate projects, programmes and strategies. Integrating climate change into impact & policy appraisal processes. Ensuring climate change is appropriately addressed within our risk management and business continuity processes. 	 Corporate strategy and development
Ensure organisational structures are in place to take forward action across the council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating sufficient human resources, supported by a clear mandate and adequate budget, to enable the council to drive action forward. Establishing a programme board involving of key decision-makers and with a clear mandate for action. Creating working groups constituted of representatives from key departments and stakeholders to undertake delivery of key actions. 	 Corporate strategy and development
Improve the awareness, engagement and knowledge of our staff and service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organising staff awareness campaigns to raise awareness of mitigation measures they can put into practice in the work place or at home. Integrating climate change awareness into induction programmes for Members and staff. Organising targeted staff training for council officers whose jobs have particular relevance to climate change (e.g. planning officers, facilities staff). 	 Building council capacity
Identify and implement ways for our finance department to actively support climate change action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating revolving funds (‘spend to save schemes’) to support projects with large potential energy savings and longer payback periods, reinvesting savings in further energy projects. Sourcing external funding for climate change action (e.g. ECO funding). Establishing arms length delivery vehicles and securing innovative financial arrangements for climate change projects and programmes. Encouraging sustainable procurement. 	 Corporate strategy and development



Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Build support from stakeholders and the wider public</p>	<p>“By...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing and educating stakeholders and the wider public about the benefits and opportunities of taking action on climate change (e.g. through newsletters, events, site visits, websites, social media, etc). • Engaging with stakeholders in the decision-making process (e.g. through running workshops or focus groups, creating or supporting public forums, etc). • Creating/maintaining/developing partnership working on all aspects of climate change action. • Creating a climate change champions programme. • Promoting demonstration projects on climate change adaptation and mitigation (e.g. decentralised energy plants) and reporting successes. • Encourage stakeholders and community groups to develop their own climate change action plans. 	 Corporate strategy and development  Community development and empowerment
<p>Monitor and report on actions and progress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producing an annual report of progress on climate change targets and actions. 	 Corporate strategy and development

Energy





Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Starting Out</p> <p>Measure energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions on our estate, our services and our local area</p>	<p>“By...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantifying the local authority baseline estate emissions if not done so already – this will probably have been done through the CRC or other commitments. • Undertaking a baseline review of the area’s energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. • Reviewing the area’s potential for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy generation. 	 Measurement / data improvements









Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Set out a strategy with clear targets for reducing emissions across our estate, services and the wider community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a vision for how our local area intends to cut emissions over the short to medium term. • Producing a strategy for cutting emissions and across the council’s estates, services and the wider community. • Establishing clear targets and measures of progress as well as annual reporting processes. 	 Corporate strategy and development
Community Leader		
Promote renewable and low carbon energy use and reduce our area’s dependency on finite energy resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating the opportunities for renewable energy deployment in the local area and developing a ‘route map’ to guide action. • Creating an Energy Services Company to provide energy services to our own estate, local businesses and communities. • Exploring the potential for appropriately designed landfill gas and energy from waste schemes. • Assessing the potential for CHP and District Heating scheme developments across the community. • Working with energy companies to ensure that energy systems are resilient to extreme weather, likely climate changes and to energy security challenges. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure  Financial income for councils  Contribution to local economic growth
Promote community action on reducing carbon emissions in our area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing grants or loans for community carbon reduction projects and signposting community groups to external sources of support and funding. • Sharing expertise and advice with community groups. • Developing ‘demonstration’ projects to show what can be done and to inspire others to act. • Training community groups, tenants and other local residents to provide energy advice. • Promoting awareness of FITs and the RHI among the local population. • Encouraging installation of small scale renewable energy devices and CHP/DH schemes by local developers, businesses and individuals, and supporting and advising communities interested in developing renewable energy schemes. 	 Community development and empowerment  Contribution to local economic growth  Improvement to local infrastructure










Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging with energy companies to promote community funds as part of clean energy developments. 	 Financial benefits for local people
Service provider		
Ensure all services commissioned by the council are playing their role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating energy and other sustainability criteria with financial considerations when developing tenders for services. Actively working with service providers to reduce their carbon footprint and to develop local business. 	 Contribution to local economic growth
Using the planning system to promote renewable energy development and a low carbon economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopting planning policies that actively encourage renewable and decentralised energy generation, both large scale (e.g. onshore wind farms) and small scale (e.g. on-site renewable energy requirements for new build). 	 Contribution to local economic growth  Improvement to local infrastructure
Raise awareness and knowledge of ways the public can reduce their greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involving public-facing services (e.g. schools, museums and libraries) in public awareness campaigns on renewable energy. 	 Financial benefits for local people
Estate Manager		
Promote use of sustainable procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a sustainable procurement plan for all council purchasing that encourages low energy and more sustainable options and also promotes local purchasing where possible. Assessing the carbon footprint of the good and services we procure, in order to understand the impacts of our existing procurement and commissioning. Producing a sustainable procurement code of practice. Utilise whole-life costing when assessing all capital projects. Buy 100% renewable energy for our own buildings and operations 	 Contribution to local economic growth  Council money saved











Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Promote the use of clean energy on council land and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing or refreshing a Carbon Management Plan for existing council estate. • Setting targets to boost the amount of energy that is generated on-site from renewables. • Investing in CHP and District Heating schemes for council buildings and social housing and seeking to develop schemes jointly with other large energy users. • Promoting lower energy use in street lighting. 	 Council money saved  Financial income for councils

Finance






Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Community leader		
Promote investment and income opportunities in renewable and low carbon energy use and improve our area’s resilience to future energy prices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating the opportunities for renewable energy deployment in the local area and developing a ‘route map’ to guide action. • Creating an Energy Services Company to provide energy services to our own estate, local businesses and communities. • Exploring the potential for appropriately designed landfill gas and energy from waste schemes. • Assessing the potential for CHP and District Heating scheme developments across the community. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils  Contribution to local economic growth  Financial benefits for local people








Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Support local communities to take advantage of financial opportunities through energy efficiency and generation measures</p>	<p>“By...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signposting community groups to external sources of support and funding. • Promoting awareness of FITs and the RHI among the local population. • Encouraging installation of small scale renewable energy devices and CHP/DH schemes by local developers, businesses and individuals, and supporting and advising communities interested in developing renewable energy schemes. • Engaging with energy companies to promote community funds as part of clean energy developments. 	<p> Contribution to local economic growth</p> <p> Financial benefits for local people</p> <p> Community development and empowerment</p>
<p>Work with households to promote greater energy efficiency and to alleviate fuel poverty.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Green Deal as a partner, provider or advocate (or other mechanisms) to introduce retro-fit schemes, and encourage take-up of renewable energy. Your local authority could consider taking the lead in delivering the Green Deal or working with other councils or partners to develop area wide retrofit schemes at the most appropriate scale. • Promoting awareness of FITs, the RHI and other mechanisms which householders can use to cut carbon. 	<p> Financial benefits for local people</p> <p> Contribution to health and well being</p>
<p>Support local businesses to become more resource efficient and to install renewable energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a business emissions reduction strategy or action plan. • Implementing a support programme for local businesses to improve their competitiveness by improving their resource efficiency. • Working with the Green Deal as a partner, provider or advocate (or other mechanisms) to introduce retro-fit schemes, and encourage take-up of renewable energy, in non-domestic buildings. 	<p> Contribution to local economic growth</p>
Service provider		
<p>Securing investment for energy improvement measures and infrastructure to improve local resilience through the planning system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using S106 or the CIL to promote low carbon and resilient communities. 	<p> Financial income to councils</p> <p> Improvement to local infrastructure</p>

Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Ensuring council services achieve value for money through resource efficiency</p>	<p>“By...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating energy and other sustainability criteria with financial considerations when developing tenders for services. Actively working with service providers to reduce their resource footprint. 	 Council money saved
<p>Estate manager</p>		
<p>Identify opportunities to save money by reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions on our estate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertaking a baseline review of the estate’s energy consumption. Reviewing the estate’s potential for resource efficiency improvements. Creating a revolving loan fund for resource efficiency improvements on the council estate. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils
<p>Identify opportunities to cut fuel bills, improve energy resilience and generate income through the generation of on-site renewable energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify income opportunities for installing microgeneration measures on the council estate e.g. through Feed-in Tariffs and Renewable Heat Incentive. Investing in CHP and District Heating schemes for council buildings and social housing and seeking to develop schemes jointly with other large energy users. Creating a revolving loan fund or accessing prudential borrowing to pay for renewable energy developments that payback over time. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils
<p>Identify opportunities to save money and reduce emissions from our transport fleet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchasing or leasing fuel efficient vehicles. Promoting fuel efficient driving techniques among staff. Reducing fleet travel through the implementation of a council travel plan. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils
<p>Reduce waste-related costs by improving waste minimisation on the council’s own estate and services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing an action plan to reduce waste arisings and increasing reuse & recycling within the council’s buildings and operations. Working with existing and new contractors to reduce waste arisings and increase reuse & recycling from council procured goods and services through specifications and contract management. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils


Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Identify opportunities to save money by reducing non-energy resource consumption on our estate (e.g. water, paper, etc)</p>	<p>“By...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking a baseline review of the estate’s resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. • Reviewing the estate’s potential for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy generation. • Creating a revolving loan fund for energy improvements on the council estate. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils
<p>Achieving value for money through the use of sustainable procurement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a sustainable procurement plan for all council purchasing that encourages low energy and more sustainable options and also promotes local purchasing where possible. • Assessing the carbon footprint of the good and services we procure, in order to understand the impacts of our existing procurement and commissioning. • Producing a sustainable procurement code of practice. • Utilise whole-life costing when assessing all capital projects. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils
<p>Corporate commitment and skills</p>		
<p>Secure commitment and responsibility from financial decision-makers for taking action on climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing briefing and training to financial decision-makers on the benefits and opportunities of tackling climate change, highlighting the financial opportunities that action on climate change present. • Appointing a senior financial decision-making to key programme boards or steering groups on climate change. 	 Building council capacity  Corporate strategy and development
<p>Identify and implement ways for our finance department to actively support climate change action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating revolving funds (‘spend to save schemes’) to support projects with large potential energy savings and longer payback periods, reinvesting savings in further energy projects. • Sourcing external funding for climate change action (e.g. ECO funding). • Establishing arms length delivery vehicles and securing innovative financial arrangements for climate change projects and programmes. • Recording costs from the impact of extreme weather events to inform future planning and service delivery. 	 Council money saved  Financial income to councils  Corporate strategy and development  Measurement / data improvements



Local economic growth

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Community Leader		
<p>Promote a low carbon local economy and encourage investment in green jobs and business in our area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Local Enterprise Partnership to put low carbon growth at the centre of local plans for local economic development. • Developing an action plan to strengthen the area’s digital infrastructure and deliver innovative ICT solutions to save energy within the council and across the community. • Encourage low-carbon business into the area, identifying incentives for them to locate locally. • Create a portfolio of retrofit projects which pilot innovation and support local jobs, skills and training. • Developing a low carbon investment strategy and prospectus for the area. • Working to provide opportunities through Green Deal for local businesses and local job creation. • Encouraging the provision of local training for green skills where required (e.g. insulation installation). • Create a scheme (e.g. loyalty card scheme) to encourage people to support local businesses. 	<p> Contribution to Local Economic Growth</p> <p> Financial benefits to local people</p> <p> Improvement to local infrastructure</p>
<p>Support local businesses to become more energy and resource efficient and to install renewable energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a business emissions reduction strategy or action plan. • Implementing a support programme for local businesses to improve their competitiveness by reduce their energy use. • Working with the Green Deal as a partner, provider or advocate (or other mechanisms) to introduce retro-fit schemes, and encourage take-up of renewable energy, in non-domestic buildings . • Supporting and encouraging local businesses in becoming more environmentally and socially responsible (e.g. green awards, climate change ambassador programme). • Promoting and enforcing energy labelling schemes through trading standards. 	<p> Contribution to Local Economic Growth</p> <p> Financial benefits to local people</p>





Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Promote a food supply chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an action plan for making the area’s food supply sustainable. • Implement a sustainable food procurement policy for food supplied through the council’s estates and services. • Support and extend existing community growing projects and encourage more people to grow food at home. 	 Contribution to Local Economic Growth  Contribution to health and well being  Improvement to local infrastructure
Promote a sustainable tourist industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing planning policies that encourage the location of major tourist attractions and facilities in sites that are accessible to public transport and encourage them to implement green travel plans. • Encouraging tourist attractions, accommodation and services to be more energy efficient. • Encouraging less energy intensive activities such as walking and cycling. • Giving visitors advice on travelling to attractions by means other than a car. 	 Contribution to Local Economic Growth  Financial benefits to local people  Contribution to health and well being  Improvement to local infrastructure







Natural environment


Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Service provider		
Explore opportunities for reducing carbon emissions through the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying opportunities to improve green space and connectivity between sites to promote walking. • Identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources (e.g. wind, hydro) and supporting infrastructure. • Integrating energy and water efficiency into conservation management, planning and practice. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure

Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Estate Manager		
Promote green infrastructure and biodiversity across the Council estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a green infrastructure strategy that enhances biodiversity and ecosystem services and increases access to the natural environment. • Develop a plan for the management of the Council estate that promotes biodiversity, natural habitats and adaptation to climate change. 	 Improvement to public realm  Improvement to local infrastructure




Planning and the built environment








Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Community Leader		
Promote community action on reducing carbon emissions in our area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting community carbon reduction projects and signposting community groups to sources of support and funding. • Sharing expertise and advice with community groups – including in neighbourhood planning. • Developing ‘demonstration’ projects to show what can be done and to inspire others to act. • Training community groups, tenants and other local residents to provide energy advice. • Implementing a behaviour change programme to encourage more efficient use of energy in homes, transport and businesses. 	 Community development and empowerment  Financial benefits to local people
Service provider		
Using the planning system to promote energy efficiency and a low carbon community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure. • Adopting planning policies that actively encourage renewable and decentralised energy generation (e.g. on-site renewable energy). • Using planning policy and building control to encourage or require developers to build homes with high energy standards (e.g. related 	 Improvement to local infrastructure  Contribution to health and well being



Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
	<p>to the Code for Sustainable Homes).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging developers to build homes with low embodied energy. • Using tools such as local development orders to encourage uptake of energy efficient and low carbon development. • Establishing policies that encourage developers to build in locations that will encourage walking, cycling and public transport use. • Establishing policies that help support low carbon heating networks. • Using S106 or the CIL to promote low carbon communities. • Promoting installation of infrastructure required for low carbon vehicles. • Ensuring that building standards on energy efficiency and other climate change issues are properly enforced. 	 Community development and empowerment  Contribution to local economic growth
<p>Work with households to promote greater energy efficiency, reduce energy dependency and alleviate fuel poverty</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Green Deal as a partner, provider or advocate (or other mechanisms) to introduce retro-fit schemes, and encourage take-up of renewable energy. Your local authority could consider taking the lead in delivering the Green Deal or working with other councils or partners to develop area wide retrofit schemes at the appropriate scale. • Promoting awareness of FITs, the RHI and other mechanisms which householders can use to cut carbon. 	 Financial income for councils  Financial benefits for local people
<p>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions generated by buildings* used by council services (directly or through contract specifications)</p> <p>*For example historic buildings, libraries, schools, museums, galleries, social care homes,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring new buildings achieve high standards of energy efficiency (for example BREEAM Excellent) and incorporate renewable energy sources wherever practical. • Refurbishing existing buildings to high efficiency standards, incorporating renewable energy where appropriate. • Ensuring that high energy efficiency standards are integrated into all procurement and purchasing decisions for e.g. computer and office equipment. • Developing and implementing plans to enhance energy 	 Council money saved  Financial income for councils

Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
health service buildings	conservation and involving staff, pupils and other users of Council buildings in energy conservation action.	
Estate Manager		
Promote greater energy efficiency on council land and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing or refreshing a Carbon Management Plan for existing council estate. • Appointing an energy manager and team to work across the local authority on the installation of energy measures, the most efficient use of buildings, and to establish proper monitoring systems. • Setting targets to cut the amount of energy used on the council estate. • Promoting more efficient use of energy by council staff, for example through an energy efficiency awareness programme. 	 = Council money saved






Transport




Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Community Leader		
Work with local organisations to promote sustainable transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging with local employers to encourage them to adopt travel plans that promote walking, cycling and public transport with their staff. • Implementing planning policies that encourage the location of major visitor attractions and facilities in sites that are accessible to public transport and encourage them to implement green travel plans. 	 Contribution to health and well being  Improvement to local infrastructure
Service provider		
Work towards a low carbon transport system that supports our local economy, and delivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting sustainable travel via the Local Transport Plan and Local Plan. • Implementing measures that minimise the need for travel (e.g. 	 Contribution to health and well being

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
multiple benefits: such as reduced carbon emissions, improved air quality, reduced congestion, improved health and road safety.	<p>through the planning system, promoting the use of ICT, promoting car clubs and car pooling).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing measures that promote modal shift away from the private car (e.g. congestion charging, parking management). • Promoting the use of lower carbon vehicles e.g. through policies and pricing that promote electric vehicles and support the development of suitable infrastructure. • Promoting/supporting local car clubs. • Promoting walking and cycling through investment in infrastructure (e.g. cycle paths) and engagement and education with motorists and the wider public. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure
Reduce transport emissions from the services we commission and deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and implementing a travel plan for services, encouraging customer journeys by walking, cycling and public transport and reducing the need to travel by providing services in local neighbourhoods. • Working with our service providers to identify ways in which they can reduce emissions from services commissioned by the council. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure  Contribution to health and well being
Establish planning policies that encourage developers to promote sustainable transport choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing planning policies that encourage developers to build in locations that will encourage walking, cycling and public transport use. • Using planning agreements and the community infrastructure levy to promote sustainable transport infrastructure such as cycle lanes and footpaths. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure  Contribution to health and well being
Raise awareness and knowledge of ways the public can improve their travel choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involving public-facing services (e.g. schools, museums and libraries) in public awareness campaigns on transport, highlighting the financial and health benefits of walking and cycling. 	 Contribution to health and well being
Estate Manager		
Reduce emissions from our transport fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing or leasing fuel efficient vehicles. • Promoting fuel efficient driving techniques among staff. 	 Council money saved




Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Develop a transport plan for your authority</p>	<p>“By...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a transport plan for the local authority that seeks to promote alternative fuels, cut travel and increase use of public transport, walking and cycling through greater use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parking management at Council premises • pool cars • audio & video-conferencing • car-sharing • electric bikes • home-working 	<p> Council money saved</p> <p> Contribution to health and well being</p>







Waste

Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>“We will...”</p> <p>Service provider</p>	<p>“By...”</p>	
<p>Increase levels of recycling and reuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting reuse events and centres to enable goods and materials to be reused, repaired and exchanged. • Identifying ways to further increase household recycling levels and developing appropriate measures. 	<p> Improvement to local infrastructure</p> <p> Contribution to statutory targets</p>
<p>Identify ways to reduce and treat food waste</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing separate collection for food waste. • Increasing opportunities to compost food waste. • Identifying opportunities to convert food waste to biogas (through anaerobic digestion) and developing actions to capture these. 	<p> Contribution to statutory targets</p>
<p>Identify opportunities to generate local sustainable energy from waste</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with waste treatment partners to scope the potential to develop waste-to-energy schemes, and developing appropriate actions. 	<p> Improvement to local infrastructure</p> <p> Contribution to statutory targets</p>







Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Community leader		
Increase resource efficiency in the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating the potential development of performance-related incentives for businesses to divert commercial and industrial waste from landfill to alternative waste management processes such as reuse and recycling. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure
Take action on waste prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising community awareness and education on waste minimisation through a coordinated publicity campaign (e.g. with schools, libraries, etc). Working with the Waste & Resources Action Plan (WRAP) and supporting the Recycle Now and Love Food Hate Waste campaigns. 	 Contribution to statutory targets
Estate manager		
Improve waste minimisation on the council’s own estate and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing an action plan to reduce waste arisings and increasing reuse & recycling within the council’s buildings and operations. Working with existing and new contractors to reduce waste arisings and increase reuse & recycling from council procured goods and services through specifications and contract management. 	 Council money saved








Health and communities










Local Commitment	Local Action	Impacts (direct or indirect)
“We will...”	“By...”	
Community leader		
Promote measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through our health promotion work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offering or referring households to energy and fuel poverty advice. Promoting active lifestyles that also have low energy use, such as walking, cycling and other outdoor activities. Encouraging long-term lifestyle changes which reduce car dependence. 	 Contribution to health and well being  Financial benefits to local people  Improvement to public realm





Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Ensure access to green and open space is maintained and enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retaining and improving existing open spaces, sport and recreation facilities and providing a network of diverse, multi-functional open spaces that is accessible to all. 	 Contribution to health and well being  Improvement to public realm
Promote community awareness, knowledge and education on climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertaking climate change awareness and engagement campaigns for local communities and neighbourhoods. Creating ‘low-carbon and climate change neighbourhood hubs’ in community buildings, such as libraries, schools and community centres, to promote climate-friendly lifestyles and demonstrate low carbon and resilience technologies in action. Developing climate change literacy training in schools, colleges and universities; and make these available for community groups, neighbourhoods and households. 	 Community development and empowerment
Promote community action on acting on climate change in our area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing grants or loans for community carbon reduction and climate resilience projects. Signposting community groups to external sources of support and funding and help build the capacity of voluntary groups to provide support. Developing ‘demonstration’ projects to show what can be done and to inspire others to act. Training community groups, tenants and other local residents to provide advice on climate change-related issues. Implementing a behaviour change programme to encourage more efficient use of energy in homes, transport and businesses. Encouraging, supporting and working with community groups to unlock opportunities to develop community-scale climate change projects, such as on renewable energy, community food growing and community wardens. 	 Community development and empowerment  Financial benefits for local people  Improvement to local infrastructure







Climate change adaptation





Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Starting out		
Understand our vulnerability to the changing climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing future vulnerability to climate impacts. Establish the evidence base by creating a Local Climate Impacts Profile, and by using information from local flood-risk and environmental assessments and national sources such as the Climate Change Risk Assessment (2012). 	 Measurement / data improvements  Corporate strategy and development
Set out a strategy with aspirational and practical targets for managing the impacts of climate change across our estate, services and the wider community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a vision for how our local area intends to manage the impacts of climate change over the next 5 to 10 years. Producing a strategy managing the impacts of climate change across the council’s estates, services and the wider community Establishing clear targets and measures of progress as well as annual reporting processes. Creating a community-wide forum or partnership to coordinate local action on climate change. This will be underpinned by sufficient resources. 	 Corporate strategy and development  Measurement / data improvements
Corporate commitment and skills		
Secure political commitment and responsibility for building resilience to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing briefing and training to Members and other key decision-makers on the council’s vulnerability to climate change and the opportunities it presents, including the contribution action can make to other council priorities (growth, jobs, cost avoidance, protecting vulnerable communities). Appointing a Lead Member (or Members) with responsibility for climate change adaptation. Developing guidance and training for Members and senior managers on integrating climate change adaptation into decision-making. 	 Corporate strategy and development  Building council capacity






Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Integrate climate change adaptation into council decision-making processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating climate resilience priorities and targets into all key corporate projects, programmes and strategies Integrating climate resilience into impact & policy appraisal processes. Ensuring climate change risks and opportunities are appropriately addressed within risk management and business continuity processes. 	 Corporate strategy and development
Improve the awareness, engagement and knowledge of our staff and service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating climate change adaptation awareness into induction programmes for Members and staff. Organising targeted staff training for council officers whose jobs has particular relevance to climate change adaptation (e.g. planning officers). Improving staff preparedness by providing business continuity during service weather events. 	 Building council capacity
Build support from stakeholders and the wider public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informing and educating stakeholders and the wider public about the threats and opportunities of climate change / severe weather (e.g. how to stay staff in a heat wave and signing up to EA flood line) Creating/maintaining/developing partnership working on all aspects of climate change action. Creating a climate change champions programme that incorporates climate change adaptation. Promoting demonstration projects on climate change adaptation and reporting successes. Encourage stakeholders and community groups to develop their own climate resilience plans. 	 Corporate strategy and development  Community development and empowerment
Monitor and report on actions and progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Producing an annual report of progress on climate change targets and actions 	 Corporate strategy and development
Community leader		
Prioritise investment and action to create a more climate-resilient area, thereby reducing the future costs of extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and setting up systems to record the area’s exposure to extreme-weather events and associated costs to services (eg. SWIMS). Ensuring continuity plans are in place so that key services can continue to be provided in the event of extreme weather. 	 Council money saved  Contribution to local economic




Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
<p>weather events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing in preventative measures now, such as improvements to flood defences, to reduce exposure to future climate-related costs. 	<p>growth</p> <p> Financial benefits for local people</p> <p> Improvement to local infrastructure</p>
<p>Work with households to increase resilience to future changes in climate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advising residents on the steps that householders can take to increase their own resilience e.g. signing up to flood warnings, planting and shade coverage and water usage in the home. 	<p> Contribution to health and well being</p> <p> Community development and empowerment</p>
<p>Work with local communities to build resilience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying communities at greatest risk from climate change (particularly flooding) and developing appropriate actions Identifying and mapping existing local groups and interest areas e.g. via councils for the voluntary sector, resilience forum, neighbourhood planning bodies, local environmental action groups. Identifying stakeholders with greatest contact with communities and work with partners to build their capacity to provide the right information on community resilience to severe weather. Supporting and empowering communities to build resilience to the impacts of future climate impacts and severe weather through community-led resilience plans. Supporting community resilience projects and signposting to sources of support and funding. Monitoring involvement of community level groups in resilience. 	<p> Community development and empowerment</p> <p> Financial benefits to local people</p>
<p>Develop our understanding of the local public health and social care impacts of changing climate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing future public health and social care vulnerability to climate impacts (establish the evidence base using Local Climate Impact Profiles, local flood-risk and assessments, information from the national Climate Change Risk Assessment 2012 etc). Identifying and map the locations of vulnerable populations in relation to climate risk (e.g. flooding) and ensure action plans are in place. Integrating climate risks into local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments 	<p> Contribution to health and well being</p> <p> Improvement to public realm</p> <p> Improvement to local infrastructure</p>

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
	<p>and Strategies and the priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Boards and Clinical Commissioning Groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating climate risks into local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. • Working with emergency planning and community resilience fora on planning for extreme weather events. • Identifying and monitoring local health impacts of climate change/ extreme weather events and developing actions accordingly. 	
<p>Support local businesses to become more resilient.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Local Enterprise Partnership to put adaptation at the centre of local plans for local economic development. • Assessing future vulnerability of businesses to climate impacts (establish the evidence base using Local Climate Impact Profiles, information from the Local Plan, local flood-risk assessments, the national Climate Change Risk Assessment etc). • Working with the business community to raise awareness of the risks and opportunities to local businesses of projected climate impacts, including extreme weather events and impacts on resource availability. • Working with businesses to create an action plan to address risks and capture opportunities from future climate changes. • Providing support to businesses on developing business continuity plans and adaptation measures. • Undertaking a review of the risk and opportunities to our local tourist and hospitality industry of projected climate changes. 	 Contribution to local economic growth
<p>Promote a resilient food supply chain</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the impacts of climate change on food security and implement actions where necessary 	 Improvement to local infrastructure
<p>Promote biodiversity, and green infrastructure that helps the area adapt to climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with partners (national agencies, water companies, landowners, businesses and communities, the Local Nature Partnership) to agree an approach to the management of natural resources in your area that is based on the principles of ‘ecosystem services’ and the promotion of green and blue infrastructure. 	 Public realm & infrastructure improvements  Contribution to health and well being

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Service provider		
Ensuring council services achieve value for money through resource efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating climate risks into financial considerations when developing tenders for services. • Actively working with service providers to improve their resilience to current severe weather and future climate change risks. 	 Council money saved
Ensure health and social care services are resilient to climate impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the impacts of climate change on health and social care services and develop actions accordingly. • Identifying and training key frontline service providers in providing advice for coping in severe weather and a changing climate. • Building into contracting arrangements with external social care providers the requirement to have business continuity plans. 	 Contribution to health and well being
Ensure emergency planning and emergency services are resilient to climate impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the emergency services and the Local Resilience Forum to ensure that operations, estates, assets and equipment are resilient to climate change/severe weather and have sufficient capability to respond (including drought, heat waves and wildfires). • Work with communities, voluntary groups, and emergency services members of the Local Resilience Forum, parish/town councils and businesses to promote community resilience and preparedness, response and recovery phases of severe weather events. 	 Community development and empowerment  Contribution to health and well being
Securing investment to improve local resilience through the planning system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using S106 or the CIL to promote resilient communities. 	 Financial income to councils  Improvement to local infrastructure

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Promote the resilience through the Local Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing future vulnerability to climate impacts. Establish the evidence base by creating a Local Climate Impacts Profile, and by using information from local flood-risk and environmental assessments and national sources such as the Climate Change Risk Assessment (2012). • Ensuring that new developments avoid areas prone to flooding where possible; or in instances where development in the floodplain is necessary, that it is safe for its lifetime, resilient and does not increase flood risk elsewhere. • Establishing policies to reduce water use in new and existing buildings. • Establishing policies to protect and enhance biodiversity sites, habitats and species. • Establishing policies that support green and blue infrastructure and sustainable drainage systems and promote green space and biodiversity. • Specifying types of development that may be appropriate in local Nature Improvement Areas to support and enhance biodiversity and habitats. • Working with water companies to ensure that local water supply systems are more resilient to periods of drought. • Promote the use of trees and vegetation that prevent rapid run off and therefore protect areas from flooding. • Monitoring the implementation of these policies e.g. on location of development in flood-risk areas, delivery of SUDS or water efficient development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Improvement to public realm  Contribution to health and well being  Improvement to local infrastructure
Protect and enhance the resilience of area’s biodiversity to projected climate changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing plans to conserve and enhance existing biodiversity. • Working with partners to develop ecologically resilient and varied landscapes. • Establishing ecological networks through habitat protection, restoration and creation. • Integrating adaptation and water efficiency into conservation management, planning and practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Improvement to public realm

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Ensure waste services are resilient to severe weather events and other climate impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring waste disposal arrangements are in place for severe weather events. • Raising public awareness about how to deal with waste during severe weather events. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure
Deliver a more resilient transport network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking a review of the vulnerability of our transport network to different types of climate impacts. • Ensuring that transport-related planning policies are consistent with wider planning policies on future climate change risks. • Incorporating resilient design features into new developments and transport systems. • Incorporating low cost adaptation measures such as provision of shade of cycle routes; resurfacing of roads/ pavements with heat resistant materials. • Developing better contingency planning for the travel network. 	 Improvement to local infrastructure
Estate Manager		
Ensure our estate including parks and recreation facilities are well-adapted to the changing climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring parks and recreational facilities are resilient to projected seasonal changes in ground conditions (e.g. by improving drainage systems to alleviate greater risks of flooding and water-logging in winter). • Adapting traditional and heritage park and garden planting schemes to take account of projected climate changes. • Providing adequate shaded areas to enable use of parks and recreational areas in periods of high temperatures. • Introducing water harvesting and conservation measures to improve the use of scarce water resources. • Ensuring buildings in parks and recreational areas are adapted to climate change (e.g. in relation to flood risks, high temperatures, risk of storm damage). 	 Improvement to public realm  Improvement to local infrastructure  Contribution to health and well being

Local Commitment “We will...”	Local Action “By...”	Impacts (direct or indirect)
Increase the resilience of council land and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing or updating plans to reduce water use across the council estate. • Installing sustainable drainage systems on council land. • Improving council parks and open spaces by providing extra shading and or water storage so that they maximise their role in local green infrastructure. • Ensuring that all buildings can be operated to reduce heat. 	 Council money saved  Improvement to local infrastructure  Contribution to health and well being