

Appendix 1: The Climate Change and Nature Action Plan - Progress end 2023-24

| Ref | Action | Measure/ Target | Working with | Timescale | Responsible Service | RAG | Update |
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| 1. Climate Change & Nature Strategy Aim 1 - Protect climate from man-made climate change | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 Energy generation for users in the Borough | | | | | | | |
| 1.3 Domestic energy use in the Borough | | | | | | | |
| 1.3.1 (9.1) ¹ | Investigation and enforcement of the minimum energy efficiency standards in private rented accommodation | Reduction of the number of properties with an EPC of band E or below | Council & Partners | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | <p>Enforcement is taken against properties that do not meet the energy efficiency standards set out in the Council's housing enforcement policy. The Council do however support properties that are likely to have poor energy performance through the Staffordshire Warmer Homes scheme to proactively improve the energy efficiency standards in properties (see action 1.3.2).</p> <p>Enforcement action was taken against 13 properties in 23/24.</p> |
| 1.3.2 (9.2) | Partnership working with Staffordshire Warmer Homes to target fuel poor or vulnerable households with energy efficiency measures using government funding including ECO, ECO Flex, HUGS and LADS. | 100 households provided with energy efficiency measures to reduce fuel poverty | Council & Partners | Q4 2024/25 | Env Health | On Track | <p>Energy efficiency improvements for vulnerable households in the Borough have continued during 23/24. The Staffordshire Warmer Homes work is delivered through a number of schemes such as LAD3 (Local Authority Delivery Phase 3), HUG2 (Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2), ECO4 LA Flex (Energy Company Obligation Phase 4, Local Authority Flex) and the GBIS (Great British Insulation Scheme). An additional £50k has been contributed from ESBC's share of the 'Contain</p> |

¹ action plan number before restructure in brackets

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| | | | | | | <p>Outbreak Management Fund' (COMF). In total, 61 households have received improvements such as insulation upgrades, new heating systems or renewable energy installations or expect to receive them in the near future.</p> <p>LAD3: Third phase of Local Authority Delivery: The scheme closed in September 2023. LADS implemented energy efficiency measures in 44 properties in East Staffordshire with an EPC of E or below, spending around £9k per property (about £412k in total).</p> <p>HUG2: Home Upgrade Grant (Phase 2): The Scheme provides funding for low-income non-gas households with Energy Performance Ratings of D, E, F, or G. Available for just homeowners, it covers various energy efficiency improvements such as loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, low carbon heating, or solar panels. Through our delivery partners Community Home Solutions (CHS), there are 18 households in the process of receiving funding through this scheme, with an overall target to complete 43 households before the end of the funding window in March 2025, each with an average funding amount of £18,000.</p> <p>ECO4 LA Flex: Energy Company Obligation (Phase 4, Local Authority Flex): The scheme aims to improve energy efficiency and address fuel poverty for eligible households owning or renting their homes. From 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, through our delivery partners, Beat the Cold, the Council has produced declarations for a total of 38 households. The average funding value per household is £28,000 with an average annual bill savings for households of £1442.00.</p> |
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| | | | | | | | <p>GBIS: Great British Insulation Scheme: The GBIS initiative is a government initiative that focuses on providing single insulation measures like loft and wall insulation. It is often used alongside Eco4 Flex funding. The Council's delivery partner, Community Home Solutions, currently have 17 applications in progress, with 9 already installed and completed. The average funding value per household is £1236, and households are saving an average of £103.00 on their annual bills.</p> <p>Top Up Funding: An additional £50k from ESBC's share for the 'Contain Outbreak Management Fund' (COMF) has been used to deliver further energy efficiency measures, with £32,910 spent so far on 11 properties, and an additional £17,035 approved for 3 more properties in the pipeline.</p> |
| 1.3.3 (9.3) | Partnership working with Beat the Cold to target fuel poor or vulnerable households with energy efficiency measures using government funding including ECO, ECO Flex, HUGS and LADS. | Baseline and set annual targets for the amount of households supported to improve energy efficiency and/or reduce fuel poverty through measures installed and advice provided | Council & Partners | Q4 2025/26 | Env Health | On Track | Ongoing partnership working with Beat The Cold to provide an energy efficiency advice service. This has provided energy advice support to 339 households in 2023/24. It has created an estimated £4,039 worth of savings from tariff advice and £29,050 worth of savings from referrals to water tariff support. In addition, 134 households have also been referred for heat grants up to £450 per household with potential savings totalling £60,300. |
| 1.3.4 | Offer a range of energy efficiency measures, including insulation, to reduce fuel poverty in properties with an EPC of D or below where the | 150 properties with an EPC of D or below where the occupant is on Council tax reduction | Council & Partners | Q4 2023/24 | Env Health | Off Target | 25 properties received energy efficiency measures in 23/24 at an average cost of £70 per property. The budget has been carried forward to continue delivery in 24/25. |

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| | occupant is on Council tax reduction | | | | | | | |
| 1.4 Transport & travel for people in the Borough | | | | | | | | |
| 1.4.1 (7.1) | Develop an action plan for the introduction of electric charging points in Council car parks and implementation of Council incentives to increase usage. | Increased number of charge points & Increased usage of electric charging points | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/31 | Env Health & CCEO | On Track | <p>Three dual floor mounted Electric Vehicle Charge Points have already been installed in Coopers Square Car Park.</p> <p>Additional locations were identified in a report approved by Cabinet in November 2023 which also recommended a business case to be developed in introduce a pop-up solar car park and electric vehicle charging hub on site in the Maltings car park (see Corporate Plan target GND16).</p> <p>Further locations have been put forward to be included in the LEVI project soft market testing which is being led by Staffordshire County Council. This will expand EV charging to additional sites within East Staffordshire.</p> | |
| 1.4.2 (7.2) | Support the improvement of electric vehicle infrastructure across the Borough | Increase in the amount of electric charging points | Council & Partners | Q4 2025/26 | Env Health & Enterprise | On Track | <p>An EV strategy has been developed and approved which sets out how East Staffordshire Borough Council will support the uptake of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles by facilitating the growth of electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the District.</p> <p>It supports Staffordshire County Council's Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy to ensure that a consistent approach is taken across Staffordshire and to help guide the way a charging network should be developed.</p> <p>The strategy contains an overview of why it is important for East Staffordshire Borough Council to</p> | |

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| | | | | | | | <p>support EV infrastructure and identifies 7 key actions to achieve the objectives which include:</p> <p>Action 1- Work with SCC as the Highway Authority on the provision of additional locations for public charge points.</p> <p>Action 2- Raise awareness of the EV market</p> <p>Action 3- Increase publically available EV infrastructure at locations owned by ESBC</p> <p>Action 4- Bid for third-party funding opportunities to secure delivery of EV charging infrastructure</p> <p>Action 5- To support and encourage parish councils and the public and private sector partners to install charging points on their estates</p> <p>Action 6- Consider the use of planning conditions to ensure delivery of EV charging points on new development</p> <p>Action 7- Assess opportunities to encourage the uptake of electric-powered public transport services such as taxis.</p> |
| 1.4.3 (7.3) | Continue to secure public transport improvements through the planning application process as part of all major redevelopment schemes | Increased public transport provision-measure to include increased passenger numbers | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/31 | Planning | On Track | <p>In process, but reliant on comments from Staffordshire County Council on planning applications. A new statutory consultee, Active Travel England (ATE) in place from June 2023. They will comment on cycling and walking access considerations of planning applications.</p> <p>The County Council have commenced work on the revised Local Transport Plan and ESBC have been involved in suggesting measures to increase participation in sustainable modes of transport.</p> |

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| 1.4.4 (7.4) | Develop a sustainable cycling strategy and encourage cycle path improvements and on street infrastructure to facilitate more cycling | Increased amount of cycle pathways | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/32 | Env Health & Enterprise | On Track | Through the Burton Towns Fund programme, the Borough Council is working with the County Council to bring forward a number of improvements to the cycle network in Burton through the implementation of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. The Station Street cycleway project commenced in 22/23 and completed during 23/24. The £2 million improvement to a five-and-a-half mile stretch of Trent & Mersey Canal towpath will benefit walkers, boaters and cyclists. It was completed in Spring 2024. |
| 1.4.5 | Promote increased use of sustainable transport including public transport and active travel | Number of promotional activities | Council | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | <p>A detailed section on sustainable transport is being incorporated into the Climate Change Communications and Engagement Action Plan. This promotes existing options like the £2 bus fare cap, new electric buses (see action 4.3.4), routes, timetables etc.</p> <p>The Climate Change Officer is actively monitoring the development of Staffordshire County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), which aims to improve bus services across Staffordshire.</p> <p>Data and insights gathered from Staffordshire County Council's recent county-wide household travel survey are being analysed to understand barriers, challenges and opportunities to increase bus usage in East Staffordshire.</p> |
| 1.4.6 | Investigation of a solution to promote and encourage walking and cycling | Investigation complete | Council | Q4 2024/25 | Tourism and Cultural Development & Env Health | On Track | Initial work with local cycle firms to provide affordable bike rental for visitors and residents (former Corporate Plan GD06) will be incorporated into this revised action to align with Corporate Plan PES05. |
| 1.5 Work with industry, commerce, institutions and agriculture in the Borough | | | | | | | |
| 1.5.1 | Environmental support for businesses in partnership with the County Council | Baseline and set targets for number of | Council & Partners | Q4 2024/25 | Enterprise | On Track | Green Solutions is delivered by the County Council and is an affiliation with the Business Energy Advice Service. The Green Solutions team attended |

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| | | businesses supported with carbon reduction measures | | | | | two Business Engagement events to promote the scheme, which were particularly well received. The Business Development Officer signposts businesses enquiring about green solutions to Staffordshire County Council as part of the business support packages. | |
| 1.6 Carbon sequestration and off-setting | | | | | | | | |
| 1.6.1 (6.12) | Plant Carbon Capture Areas with native tree species | Number Carbon Capture Areas planted | Council | Ongoing | Open Spaces & Env Health | On Track | <p>At Ox Hay Meadows on the Washlands a grassland management regime for “coastal and floodplain grazing marsh” has been adopted to improve the existing habitat quality. This will enhance biodiversity and increase carbon capture.</p> <p>On Vancouver Drive, Edgehill Park, Heath Road Park and Waterside Road a combination of relaxed mowing, wildflower seeding and tree planting is being adopted to capture carbon and enhance biodiversity. This approach being introduced incrementally over more than one year and additional sites will be added.</p> <p>Fifty two trees have already been planted at Vancouver Drive and locations for tree planting have been chosen at Edgehill Park.</p> | |
| 1.6.2 (6.7) | Monitor and encourage tree planting in the Borough working in partnership with the National Forest. | Increased number of trees planted. | Council & Partners | 2030/31 | Open Spaces | On Track | Trees have been provided to parish councils and work continues with Winshill Parish Council and Uttoxeter Town Council as part of “In Bloom”. | |
| 1.7 Council's own estate and operations (covering energy supply, built assets, staff travel & transport, water and waste) | | | | | | | | |
| 1.7.1 (2.1) | Annual monitoring of carbon emissions from all Council Buildings and assets to monitor carbon reduction. | Annual Monitoring completed | Council | Annually | Env Health | On Track | This was completed for 2023-24. | |

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| 1.7.2 (3.7) | Consolidate and review the Councils energy tariff with a view to using a green renewable energy tariff. | All Council energy tariffs consolidated All Council energy supplied using a green energy tariff Review tenants contracts to ensure energy is supplied using a green energy tariff | Council | Ongoing Q4 2025/26 | Programmes and Trans Facilities Management & Estates | On Track | <p>Work is ongoing to consolidate energy contracts to the Council's single supplier with the majority of electricity meters already moving over. Work to move the remaining three meters is ongoing.</p> <p>The Council's electricity supply moved from a standard energy mix to Green electricity for the contract period 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024. In June 2024 the Council received renewal information for the Green tariffs for 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025.</p> <p>Total Energies, the Council's energy provider, use Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certificates administered by Ofgem and Guarantee of Origin (GoO) certificates from the EU. This is to evidence the supply is renewable-sourced.</p> |
| 1.7.3 (3.4) | Investigate energy generation options across the Council estate and work with external organisations to consider the use of heat energy networks and renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power. | Report developed for the consideration of energy generation in Council buildings. | Council & Partners | Q4 2026/27 | Facilities Management | On Track | <p>A report to consider options for ESBC to develop community wealth-building energy projects (see former Corporate Plan PB05) was approved by Cabinet in March 2024. The report recommended the Council explore working with Staffordshire Community Energy to develop a community solar project, utilising any suitable council rooftops/assets.</p> <p>A desktop scoping exercise is now underway to identify suitable sites within the council's property portfolio, including Uttoxeter and Shobnall leisure facilities.</p> |
| 1.7.4 (3.6) | Develop and deliver an improvement plan for all Council buildings to reduce energy consumption. | Improvement plans developed Improvement plans successfully implemented | Council | Q3 2024/25 | Facilities Management & Env Health | On Track | <p>Consultants completed a high-level Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the Town Hall, Brewhouse, Stapenhill Cemetery and Market Hall in March.</p> <p>A bid has been submitted to the Low Carbon Skills Fund for funding to progress this work to the</p> |

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| | | | | | | <p>feasibility/concept design stage for the Town Hall, Brewhouse and Market Hall.</p> <p>Everyone Active have appointed consultants to produce a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the leisure centres.</p> <p>A successful bid was also made for Meadowside Leisure Centre (£530k) to Phase 2 of the Swimming Pool Support Fund. LED lighting and PV panels will be installed. The deadline for completion is March 2025.</p> <p>Corporate Plan target GND19 requires an options appraisal for the decarbonisation of the Council's built estate ready for Cabinet in December. The options appraisal will build on the work described above but also take a broader view of the Council's built estate and the significant decarbonisation challenges.</p> <p>See also Corporate Plan targets that relate to work on Council buildings. These include the Maltings, Yeoman's Industrial Estate, Elms Lodge, the Market Hall, the Brewhouse and the Brewing Centre. Decarbonisation considerations are being integrated into all of these projects were possible.</p> | |
| 1.7.5 (6.6) | Identify and implement water saving and water reuse measures that can be put in place across the organisation | Options investigated and developed Use of grey water for street cleaning vehicles | Council & Partners | Q4 2025/26 2025/26 to 2030/31 | Facilities Management & Waste Management & Open Spaces | On Track | <p>Work being carried out by consultants to review the depot will include options for water re-use.</p> <p>In 2023, 340 "cup and saucer" hanging baskets with a water retention reservoir were purchased to reduce water usage. Presently, it is estimated that water usage has reduced by 50%.</p> |
| 1.7.6 (4.1) | Develop a plan for all non-waste collection Council vehicles to be powered by | All Council vehicles replaced with electric vehicles | Council & Partners | 2025/26+ years | Waste Management & Facilities | On Track | <p>Vehicle demonstrations are continuing with a view to further consideration as part of the next fleet replacement programme.</p> |

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| | electric or renewable fuel sources | | | | Management & CCEO's | | |
| 1.7.7 (4.2) | Develop an options appraisal to replace all waste collection Council vehicles with low emission fleet vehicles | Options appraisal for the procurement of low emission fleet vehicles Replacement of waste collection vehicles with low emission fleet vehicles | Council & Partners | 2025/26 to 2027/28 2030/31 | Waste Management | On Track | Hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) is an alternative to regular diesel that can reduce net CO2 emissions by up to 90%. It can be used in vehicles equipped with Euro 6 diesel engines. This includes all the Council's refuse collection vehicles (RCVs), road sweepers and miscellaneous street cleaning vehicles. These vehicles have been using HVO since April. In addition, consultants have been commissioned to undertake a longer-term fleet decarbonisation and infrastructure plan for the waste depot. The work is on-going with outcomes due in the autumn. See Corporate Plan target COM14. |
| 1.7.8 (5.1) | Consider the use of staff incentives to promote the use of electric vehicles | Increase % of staff using electric vehicles | Council | Q4 2024/25 | HR | On Track | EDR approved in June to pilot a car salary sacrifice scheme for Chief Officers to improve access to a fully electric and hybrid vehicles with the intention of reviewing and rolling out further. See Corporate Plan target GND17. |
| 1.7.9 (5.2) | Review the staff travel plan to promote alternative modes of transport to work conducting a staff survey to enable monitoring of effectiveness | Increase % of staff commuting to work by sustainable modes of transport | Council | Q4 2023/24 | HR & Env Health | On Track | A revised Sustainable Staff Travel Plan is in draft form. It includes enhanced facilities for active transport, increased use of public transport and encourages carpooling. It is anticipated that the Travel Plan will be approved by EDR before the Cabinet meeting on September 16th. |
| 1.7.10 (5.3) | Review and improve all shower facilities and drying rooms in Council Buildings | Increase % of staff commuting to work by sustainable modes of transport | Council | Q4 2023/24 | Facilities Management | Off Target | The review of shower facilities and drying rooms will take place following the adoption of the revised Sustainable Staff Travel Plan (see action 1.7.9). |
| 1.7.11 (5.4) | Consider the installation of EV charging points in staff carparks | Increase % of staff using electric vehicles | Council | Q4 2025/26 | Facilities Management & Env Health | On Track | Corporate Plan target GND17 will continue work to consider incentives to promote Electric Vehicles. |

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| 1.7.12 (5.5) | Consider the provision of an electric vehicle car pool for officers to use whilst undertaking site visits | Reduce the amount of carbon emissions through alternative transport arrangements | Council | 2025/26 to 2027/28 | HR & Facilities Management & Env Health | Not Yet Started | The Staff Travel Plan review is now complete and recommended that this action is retained. See Corporate Plan target GND17. | |
| 1.7.13 (3.1) | Audit the amount of single use plastic currently used in all assets and implement a plan to remove all single use plastic and replace with reusable options where possible. | 80% reduction in single use plastics | Council | Ongoing | All departments | On Track | A SUP action plan has been developed and is being implemented. It is also being constantly reviewed and revised to reflect changing government policy and the availability of SUP alternatives. | |
| 1.7.14 (3.5) | To review the current recycling provision within Council buildings with a view to increase recycling rates. | Increased recycling provision e.g. increase in the number of bins. | Council | Q4 2023/24 | Facilities Management | Off Target | It is proposed that the review of recycling provision starts at the end of this year following discussion regarding office moves. | |
| 2. Climate Change & Nature Strategy Aim 2 – Adapt to the consequences of climate change | | | | | | | | |
| | <i>Adaptation actions can be found in other parts of this plan – tree planting (actions 1.6.1, 1.6.2 & 3.3) Washlands Enhancement Project (action 5.2.1), planning policy (action 5.1.1).</i> | | | | | | | |
| 3. Climate Change & Nature Strategy Aim 3 – Protect and enhance nature | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 (6.9) | Map Nature Recovery Networks in the Borough and contribute to development of the county-wide Nature Recovery Strategy | Nature Recovery Networks map produced | Council | Ongoing | Planning | On Track | The final report and mapping has now been received (May 2023). Findings will contribute towards the Local Nature Recovery Strategy being led by Staffordshire County Council. | |

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| 3.2 (6.10) | Use the Great Crested Newt license for East Staffordshire to implement a strategic approach to Crested Newt conservation | Application of District License to all appropriate developments | Council & Partners | Ongoing | Planning | On Track | Being used by the Planning Department. One offsetting site secured through the license at Brankley Pastures Nature Reserve. |
| 3.3 (6.4) | Develop a sustainable planting programme to increase the use of Council grown plants and increase biodiversity in town centres and public areas. | Sustainable planting programme developed Reduction in the amount of plants bought in from external suppliers. | Council & Partners Council & Partners | Q4 2025/26 | Open Spaces | On Track | Since 2021 the Council have planted 1320 whips and 272 standard sized trees. The GO Garden has been converted into a tree nursery to enable small whips to be grown to a suitable size before being used on public open space (see Corporate Plan target GND07). |
| 3.4 (6.13) | Expand relaxed mowing regimes by establishing Biodiversity Enhancement Areas | Number Biodiversity Enhancement Areas established | Council | Ongoing | Open Spaces & Env Health | On Track | More than 20 relaxed mowing sites have been established on ESBC owned land and advice has been given to partners. Up to 100 wildflower seed packets will be given away at open days to encourage residents to adopt relaxed mowing and grow wildflowers. This action is linked to 1.6.1 above. |
| 3.5 (6.14) | The use of chemicals to be limited and were possible completely eradicated in the revised open space management contract specification (PDP CCB4) | Revised open space management contract specification completed | Council | Q3 2026/27 | Open Spaces | On Track | A 'no chemical spray' trial on soft surfaces took place from March to June (see Corporate Plan target GND09). The results will be included in a report to Cabinet in November. |
| 3.6 (6.17) | Eliminating the use of Peat will be incorporated in to procurement practice. | Corporate Procurement Policy revised | Council | Q3 2024/25 | Programmes & Trans | Not Yet Started | See action 4.1.2 Peat is not used in the idVerde contract. |

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| 3.7 | Find opportunities to use vertical and rooftop spaces to plant new gardens | Number of vertical and rooftop spaces | Council | Q4 2024/25 | Open Spaces | On Track | A trial of a vertical garden is currently taking place at Newton Road park. Early signs are positive with no vandalism reported but it is still too early to judge success because the garden is still becoming established. | |
| 3.8 | Find opportunities and create a network of community orchards and wildlife corridors | Number of community orchards and wildlife corridors | Council & Partners | Q4 2024/25 | Open Spaces | On Track | A trial community orchard has been planted at Newton Park. Early signs are positive with no vandalism reported but it is still too early to judge success because the orchard is still becoming established. When the fruit is ready to harvest it will be used by Winshill Resource Centre in healthy meals. | |
| 3.9 | Produce the format for a strategic nature recovery document that will meet the Council's reporting obligations under the 'Strengthened Biodiversity Duty' | Report format produced | Council | Q4 2024/25 | Env Health | Newly added | - | |
| 4. Climate Change & Nature Strategy Aim 4 – Use resources wisely, and minimise waste and pollution | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 Resource use in the Borough | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1.1 (10.2) | Encourage and promote the use of garden allotments and use of green spaces for growing food | Baseline exercise to determine number and occupancy levels Set % Increase in allotment in use | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/31 | Open Spaces | On Track | Open Days at both the GO Garden and Horticulture Centre encourage visitors to grow their own food. Parts of Heath Road park, Uttoxeter have been sectioned off to allow local groups to set up community gardens. | |
| 4.1.2 | Review the Climate Change and Sustainability section of the ESBC Procurement Policy | Review complete | Council | Q4 2023/24 | Programmes and Trans & Env Health | Off Target | With the new Procurement Act being implemented from October 2024, the Procurement Policy and Contract Procedure Rules will be reviewed to align to the new requirements arising from the Act. | |

| 4.2 Waste generated in the Borough | | | | | | | | |
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| 4.2.1 (9.4) | Encourage reduction in household waste through education | Maintain top quartile performance on waste reduction and recycling | Council | Q4 2030/31 | Waste Management | On Track | A video about the new service was produced as part of the communications campaign and is available on the ESBC website. Communications on recycling are ongoing through social media and the eNewsletter and the Council continue to link into national campaigns throughout the year such as Food Waste Action week and Recycle Now week. | |
| 4.2.2 (10.1) | Encourage businesses/organisations to adopt a low waste approach for food and packaging through an education program | Program delivered. | Council | Q4 2024/25 | Waste Management & Env Health | On Track | <p>The Extended Producer Responsibility to include packaging waste has been introduced, however will not be fully implemented by government until 2025. Simpler recycling legislation has been introduced by government which will require business premises to recycle set materials from March 2025 and this includes food waste. Waste Management will be contacting its trade waste customers regarding these changes in 2024 so that they can be prepared for the changes.</p> <p>As part of this the Staffordshire Waste Partnership are also updating a business waste leaflet which can be used across the County to advise business premises of the forthcoming changes. This will be presented to the Staffordshire Sustainability Board for approval in June 2024. Once approved it will be widely available to share across various communication channels such as webpages, mail outs and social.</p> | |
| 4.3 Local pollution | | | | | | | | |
| 4.3.1 (8.1) | Raise awareness and promote behaviour change around idling vehicles | Reduction of carbon emissions | Council | Ongoing | Envir Health & Community and Civil Enforcement | On Track | The partnership working with Staffordshire County Council's Connectivity Support Team continues with regards to the Air Aware project. The Air Aware project will continue with match funding from Staffordshire County Council's Public Health and | |

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| | | | | | | | Connectivity Teams until at least March 2025. A number of primary schools within the Borough are still engaged. Two low-cost air quality monitoring sensors have been purchased and an air quality monitoring public portal has been established to support further school (and business) engagement projects. |
| 4.3.2 (8.3) | Air Quality Management Plan Developed and Implemented | Improvement in Air Quality | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/31 | Env Health | On Track | Following the implementation of the new Air Quality Management Plan air quality improvements will be monitored and reported. |
| 4.3.4 (8.6) | Work with the bus transport companies to encourage less polluting models of buses. | Reduction in emissions from buses | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/31 | Env Health | On Track | At the end of September 2023, East Staffordshire Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council's Connectivity and Sustainability Team applied for a joint Defra air quality grant to fund additional electric buses and associated electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure to complement the electric buses already secured through Levelling Up funding. The buses will operate on services 8 and 9 which traverse AQMA 1 and connect to South Derbyshire and beyond. Carbon reduction benefits of £3,156,278 or 12,319 tonnes of carbon are expected from this scheme. A formal letter was received by Defra on 14 th February 2024 to confirm the bid was successful. Funds have since been released and the scheme is expected to be implemented over the coming year. To complement the Air Quality Grant application, Staffordshire County Council's Connectivity and Sustainability Team and Diamond Bus ('Bus Operator') submitted a joint bid to fund further electric buses for service 9. This application was submitted in December 2023 and a letter of support was provided by East Staffordshire Borough Council. This bid was submitted through the DfT Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) 2 scheme and was successful in April 2024. |

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| 4.3.5 | Develop a pathway to support decarbonisation of the taxi fleet in line with the work of the Staffordshire Working Group. | Establish a baseline and set annual targets for taxi EV transition Develop options for EV uptake incentives Decarbonisation pathway develop | Council & Partners | Q4 2024/25 | Licensing | Newly added | |
| 5. Cross-cutting actions (eg. Planning and Regeneration) | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 Planning | | | | | | | |
| 5.1.1 (11.2) | Investigate viable options for new developments to adapt to a changing climate that would satisfy the requirements of the NPPF, and allow us to develop local plan energy and climate change mitigation policies. This will incorporate the results of an inter-authority Climate Change & Mitigation Study led by Newcastle Under Lyme Borough Council in partnership with Keele University. | Review Local Development Plans to include policies which ensure that they make a contribution to both climate mitigation and adaption. Adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and move new development towards a low carbon and | Council & Partners | Q4 2030/31 | Planning | On Track | To be considered through a Local Plan Review. Working with Staffordshire authorities on jointly commissioning more detailed work on how these recommendations can be delivered through the planning system. |

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| | | energy efficient future | | | | | |
| 5.1.2 | Work with partners to introduce the Passivhaus housing development standard (which will keep heat loss in new homes to a minimum) | Standard introduced | Council | Review of progress Dec 2023 | Planning | On Track | <p>An initial project scope has been initiated which has looked at the different energy efficiency standards which exist within local and national planning policy and building regulations.</p> <p>The next steps are to investigate the difference between these standards, liaise with key developers and partners and use the adopted Climate Change and Sustainability SPD to promote standards through new development.</p> <p>The SPD was adopted in 2022 and includes a checklist to facilitate sustainable development across all aspects of building and site design.</p> <p>The SPD supports proposals which are being built to the Passivhaus standard and promotes other developments which would minimise heat loss in new homes, but not necessarily meet the standard given it wouldn't apply to all building types. The SPD also promotes low carbon design for all forms of development so includes sustainable building design, incorporating access to sustainable and active travel methods, using renewable and low carbon energy systems and making better use of green infrastructure and water management.</p> <p>The Government have made it clear that local plans should not go beyond minimum energy efficiency standards for new buildings. This is currently being challenged in the high court and the outcome will be reported.</p> |

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| | | | | | | | See Corporate Plan GD07. | |
| 5.2 Regeneration | | | | | | | | |
| 5.2.1 (6.5) | To encourage sustainable parkland as part of the Washlands improvement plan in partnership with the Environment Agency | Washlands Improvement Plan completed | Council & Partners | Q3 2024/25 | Open Spaces | On Track | Work started in May 2024 due to take 5 months. See Corporate Plan target GND22. | |
| 5.2.2 | New visitor centre on the Washlands in partnership with the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust | Centre complete | Council & Partners | Q4 2025/26 | Enterprise | On Track | Currently at RIBA Design Stage 2. Planning submission Oct 2024. Construction should take place between 2025-2026. See Corporate Plan targets GND23 and POH06. | |
| 6. Communication and Engagement | | | | | | | | |
| 6.3 | Increase visibility and public awareness of Council projects through attending events | Attendance at least 4 public events | Council | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | A number of public events have been attended over the last 12 months. The Great Big Green Week (8 th to 16 th June) had a programme of over 20 climate and nature themed events, activities, walks and educational opportunities. It was delivered in a fun and accessible way that was designed to engage local residents and visitors of all ages and interests. During the week, the Council held 2 green networking events that offered local businesses, voluntary services and venues the opportunity to learn about 'going green' and highlight grants that would enable them to pursue their goals. As well as fun days, creative art sessions and more, Green Week also saw 4 schools and the De Ferrers trust sign up to be part of next year's initiative and Burton College pledged to make large changes in the way they procure, | |

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| | | | | | | | <p>resource and even plan the curriculum as well as pledging 2000 students to 'go green'.</p> <p>As part of the Big Green Week the Council also hosted a 'Green Business Networking Event' in June. This event aimed to help businesses reduce their environmental impact and take actionable steps towards a greener future (see Corporate Plan target GND21).</p> |
| 6.5 | Keep the public informed of progress and key updates relating to climate change work in the Council. | Published a full report and updated action plan | Council | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | Climate Change and Nature Action Plan progress report is published on the Climate Change page of the webpage, this will be updated with the 2024 report once approved by Cabinet in September. |
| 6.7 | Work with organisations and key partners to maximise opportunities to promote sustainability and reduce emissions | Increased partnership working | Council & Partners | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | <p>The Council are active members of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffordshire Sustainability Board • Staffordshire Climate Change Officers Group • Staffordshire Electric Vehicle Infrastructure working group • Staffordshire Taxi Decarbonisation working group • Staffordshire Waste Partnership Communications Group • Better Health East Staffordshire • The County Nature Recovery Partnership <p>In addition a working group has been set up with Everyone Active to discuss and collaborate on decarbonisation plans for the leisure facilities.</p> <p>Following the planned November Climate Change Forum for Parish and Town Councils (see Corporate Plan target ILD01) the Council will be investigating interest in forming a climate change working group to help support further climate action by parish and town councils.</p> |

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| | | | | | | | See also Corporate Plan target GND20 to produce an education programme to help individuals, parish councils, schools and other organisations calculate their carbon footprint and understand how to reduce it. |
| 6.10 | Consider the development of a Citizens Group to influence and assist carbon reduction throughout the borough | Citizens Group Established | Council & Partners | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | An expression of interest form for citizens is now available online as an initial starting point. More work will be done on this later in the year. |
| 6.11 | Form a staff working group to promote sustainability internally and encourage the identification of further actions to be taken forward | Staff Group Established | Council | Q3 2024/25 | Env Health | On Track | Initial members of the group have been identified and an initial scoping meeting is planned. |
| 6.14 | Ensure all staff and elected members have a basic level of knowledge of climate change | 100% of staff and members received climate change training | Council | Ongoing | Env Health | On Track | <p>A training programme has been designed and implemented.</p> <p>Member's training was completed in February 2024, Senior Leadership training was completed in October 2023.</p> <p>There is further work planned to ensure that this knowledge is regularly updated and expanded to all relevant staff.</p> |