

Public Document Pack



GOSPORT
Borough Council

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5 January 2022

S U M M O N S

MEETING: Climate Change Board
DATE: 13 January 2022
TIME: 6.00 pm
PLACE:
Democratic Services contact: Linda Coote

PAUL GRANT
BOROUGH SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The Mayor, Councillor Hook (ex-Officio)
Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board, Councillor Burgess (ex-Officio)

Councillor Mrs Huggins (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Morgan (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Bateman
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chegwyn
Councillor Earle
Councillor Hylands

Councillor Jessop
Councillor Johnston
Councillor Meenaghan
Councillor Mitchell
Councillor Scard

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

(To be read by the Chairman if members of the public are present)

In the event of the fire alarm sounding, please leave the room immediately. Proceed downstairs by way of the main stairs or as directed by GBC staff, follow any of the emergency exit signs. People with disability or mobility issues please identify yourself to GBC staff who will assist in your evacuation of the building.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

- If you are in a wheelchair or have difficulty in walking and require access to the Committee Room on the First Floor of the Town Hall for this meeting, assistance can be provided by Town Hall staff on request.

If you require any of the services detailed above please ring the Direct Line for the Democratic Services Officer listed on the Summons (first page).

NOTE:

- i. Councillors are requested to note that, if any Councillor who is not a Member of the Board wishes to speak at the Board meeting, then the Borough Solicitor is required to receive not less than 24 hours prior notice in writing or electronically and such notice shall indicate the agenda item or items on which the member wishes to speak.
- ii. Please note that mobile phones should be switched off or switched to silent for the duration of the meeting.
- iii. This meeting may be filmed or otherwise recorded. By attending this meeting, you are consenting to any broadcast of your image and being recorded.

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR NON ATTENDANCE**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All members are required to disclose at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter, any disclosable pecuniary interest or personal interest in any item(s) being considered at this meeting.

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD** (Pages 5 - 8)

4. **DEPUTATIONS**

(NOTE: the Board is required to receive a deputation(s) on a matter which is before the meeting of the Board provided that notice of the intended deputation and its object shall have been received by the Borough Solicitor by 12 noon on Tuesday 11th January 2022. The total time for deputations in favour and against a proposal shall not exceed 10 minutes)

5. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS- STANDING ORDER 3.5**

(NOTE: The Board is required to allow a total of 15 minutes for questions from members of the public on matters within the terms of reference of the Board provided that notice of such Question(s) shall have been submitted to the Borough Solicitor by 12 noon on Tuesday 11th January 2022)

6. **Reduction of Paper Use by Council Boards** (Pages 9 - 10)

7. **Climate Change Strategy** (Pages 11 - 42)

8. **ANY OTHER ITEMS**

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3

Climate Change Board
9 November 2021

A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD WAS HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2021

Councillors Mrs Huggins, Bateman, Carter, Chegwyn, Earle, Hylands, Jessop, Johnston, Mrs Morgan, Scard, Blackman (Substituting for Meenaghan) and Hammond (Substituting for Mitchell)

54. APOLOGIES FOR NON ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Meenaghan who was substituted by Councillor Blackman, and Councillor Mitchell who was substituted by Councillor Hammond.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none

56. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th September 2021 be signed as a true and correct record.

57. DEPUTATIONS

There were none

58. PUBLIC QUESTIONS- STANDING ORDER 3.5

There were none

59. CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATION.

A presentation was given on the Climate Change Partnership by the Partnership Chairman Tom Morgan

60. CITIZEN'S ASSEMBLY COSTS

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Corporate Policy and Community Safety regarding the provision of costed options for a large and small Citizens Assembly.

Members felt that the costs were extremely high and requested a breakdown of the figures, however Officers advised that this level of detail was not provided by the consultants.

Members wondered if some of the costs could be shared with other local authorities. It was also felt that the consultancy fees were high.

Members asked if it was possible to go down the route of the Climate Change Partnership as there is no set template for an Assembly although it was not clear how a Partnership could inform policy.

Officers advised that the report reflected the work they had been asked to do by the Board and that other authorities have spent thousands on setting up Assemblies by teams much bigger than that at GBC. Members acknowledged the work that had been involved in producing the report.

Members felt that a Citizens Assembly would take a considerable period of time to bring about action and carried the risk of currently engaged enthusiastic people drifting away.

Members noted that when the motion was passed 18 months ago there was no Partnership in place.

Members felt that there were other methods of engaging with the public, business, youth organisations and other volunteer groups already doing things at low cost to inform the Council of the best way forward to drive policies in regard to recycling etc.

Members felt that the Council had been engaging with the public and the Assembly would be duplicating the work being done by the Partnership.

A Member was concerned that Council had approved the setting up of an Assembly and wondered if the Partnership could form 50% of the Assembly.

Members were advised that the timeframe from budget allocation through the procurement system etc could take up to 10 months.

It was agreed to take each recommendation individually and ask members to choose their preferred option.

RESOLVED: That the Board decided not to implement a Citizens Assembly.

61. FRAMEWORK FOR UPDATED CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Corporate Policy & Community Safety in regard to the proposed framework that will be used to update the Climate Change Strategy.

A Member supported the idea of the framework but was keen that it produced action on electric vehicle points, public transport, reduction in paper use and re-wilding not just talking as opportunities were being missed and the public would expect action.

Members wished to acknowledge the progress that has been made despite many projects being affected and impeded by Covid and reminded the Board that 6 of the 10 points in the Motion had been achieved whilst 3 were naturally ongoing and the final one had been discussed at this meeting. Whilst of the 25 points in the Action Plan, 5 had been achieved, 10 delayed by Covid 6 ongoing and 2 with future completion dates. They reminded the Board of the work that Boards have achieved in the reports on re-wilding, flood defenses, conservation and the Elmore Lake Task & Finish Group.

A Member wished to remind the Board that the strategy was not necessarily operational, but to provide the direction in which the Board was headed. It must be robust, achievable and proportionate, written to be accessible. There should be collaboration with HCC.

RESOLVED: That the Board approved the framework set out in this report, which will then guide an extensive update to the Climate Change Strategy.

62. ANY OTHER ITEMS

CHAIRMAN

Concluded at 7.02 pm

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Board/Committee:	Climate Change Board
Date of meeting:	13 th January 2022
Title:	Reduction of Paper use by Council Boards
Author:	Julie Petty, Head of Corporate Policy and Community Safety
Status:	For Decision

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for the establishment of a Task and Finish Group to consider opportunities to reduce paper use by Council Boards.

Recommendation

The Board approves the establishment of a Task and Finish Group to consider opportunities to reduce paper use by Council Boards and report back to the Climate Change Board within 6 months with its findings.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members have requested that the Council considers reducing paper use, including use by Boards. Reducing paper helps to minimise use of resource, waste and purchasing costs.
- 1.2 Previous work has been undertaken to try to reduce paper use however new technology, different working methods and social changes means further review would be appropriate.
- 1.3 More detailed analysis is being carried out to identify the key areas/print types that provide the maximum opportunity for reduction and further work streams will flow from this. In the meantime reduction in paper use by Council Boards provides a possible opportunity¹ and also provides message of commitment from Members along with leadership by example.

2.0 Report

- 2.1 Council Board processes are set within the Council's Constitution and any changes would need to be carefully considered. It is vital that accessibility, participation and transparency are maintained to ensure informed decision making within the democratic process.
- 2.2 Operational logistics including improved access to IT, training, General Data Protection Regulations, accessibility requirements, secure document portals, and licences would need be explored and considered in context to feasibility. It may be appropriate to pilot any proposals prior to full implementation.
- 2.3 A Task and Finish Group of Members, assisted by officers, would provide an excellent mechanism to consider possible options and report to the Board with its findings.

3.0 Conclusion

3.1 The report provides a mechanism for considering reduced paper use at Council Boards.

Financial Services comments:	N/A
Legal Services comments:	Contained within report.
Equality and Diversity:	An Integrated Impact Assessment will be completed as part of any options appraisal arising from the Task and Finish Group.
Climate Change implications:	This directly relates to how the Council can take action in order to mitigate the effects of climate change. An Integrated Impact Assessment will be completed as part of any options appraisal arising from the Task and Finish Group.
Crime and Disorder:	N/A
Service Improvement Plan implications:	Actions required are already integrated into Service Plans.
Corporate Plan:	Updating the Climate Change Strategy based on the proposed principles will help to ensure effective and efficient use of resources.
Risk Assessment:	Low: only Member and Officer time is required to implement the Task and Finish Group.

ⁱ Hampshire County Council have had a paperless Board system since 2017

Board/Committee:	CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD
Date of meeting:	13 th January 2022
Title:	Updated Climate Change Strategy
Author:	Climate Change Officer
Status:	FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL

Purpose

This report presents the 2022 update of the Climate Change Strategy, for approval by Members for recommendation to Full Council.

Recommendation

That the Board approves the attached Climate Change Strategy and recommends to Full Council that it be adopted.

1.0	Background
1.1	The Terms of Reference of the Climate Change Board state that it is responsible for reviewing and monitoring the Council's Climate Change Strategy, and proposing amendments to Full Council.
1.2	The initial version of the Climate Change Strategy was approved by the Policy and Organisation Board on 4 th February 2020 and states that it will be regularly refreshed.
1.3	An annual work programme for the Climate Change Board was agreed on 15 th July 2021, to allow an annual refresh to be informed by a review of current progress and data on greenhouse gas emissions. An updated version of the Climate Change Strategy has therefore been drafted in accordance with this work programme.
1.4	As agreed by the Climate Change Board on 8 th November 2021, this is an extensive update, reflecting new guidance, information, resources, policies and best practice that have emerged since the initial version of the Strategy was approved.
1.5	If Members approve the updated Strategy, a report recommending its adoption will then be presented to Full Council on 2 nd February 2022
2.0	Report
2.1	The proposed updated Climate Change Strategy is attached as Appendix 2 and follows the framework agreed by the Climate Change Board on 8 th November 2021.

2.2	<p>The Strategy includes a vision and mission statement and defines aspirations for greenhouse gas emissions for the Council's operations and the Borough of Gosport, and for Gosport's resilience to the impacts of climate change. For each aspiration, the priority areas that need to be addressed are identified, and the Strategy sets out aims and ambitions within each of these priority areas. It also outlines community engagement and working in partnership as key enabling principle to meeting the aspirations.</p> <p>If the Strategy is adopted, the Climate Change Action Plan will be updated with actions explicitly linked to these aims and ambitions and approved by Board.</p>
2.3	<p>The Strategy recognises the importance of enabling residents and organisations to help develop policies relating to climate change through community engagement. It is anticipated that the recently established Climate Change Partnership will be a key engagement mechanism and can feedback on the Strategy and inform future updates (which was not possible this year due to timescales).</p>
2.4	<p>Members are requested to approve the updated Strategy whilst noting that changes to formatting and layout may be applied before publication to improve readability.</p> <p>A short summary document for accessibility and to increase community engagement will also be produced.</p> <p>All documentation will be available on the website¹, and will enable use of website accessibility options² along with quick navigation between document sections.</p>
3.0	Conclusion
3.1	<p>This update to the Climate Change Strategy is intended to reflect best practice guidance and examples, and to summarise clearly the priorities for action. If approved by Members, a report will be presented to Full Council on 2nd February 2022 to recommend that the Council adopts the updated Strategy.</p>

¹ Hard copies and alternative formats will be available on request.

² For example, zoom facility, screen reader support, etc.

Financial Services comments:	The Climate Change Strategy sets out general principles for resourcing of the actions that will be required to meet its targets and aspirations. Specific spending requirements and their implications will be detailed in the report presenting the Climate Change Action Plan arising from this Strategy, or in separate reports needed to deliver particular actions.
Legal Services comments:	At present, the Climate Change Strategy is not a formal part of the Policy Framework, but noting the Terms of Reference of the Board as referred to in this report it may be that a change should be considered to the Constitution to include the Climate Change Strategy within the Policy Framework.
Equality and Diversity:	See Appendix 1.
Climate Change implications:	See Appendix 1.
Crime and Disorder:	N/A
Service Improvement Plan implications:	Actions required are already integrated into Service Plans.
Corporate Plan:	Meeting the aims and ambitions set out in the updated Climate Change Strategy will help deliver several strategic priorities in the Corporate Plan.
Risk Assessment:	The updated Climate Change Strategy includes aims and ambitions related to reducing risks from the impacts of climate change. Risks associated with specific actions will be detailed in the Climate Change Action Plan arising from this Strategy, or in separate reports needed to deliver particular actions.
Background Papers:	
Appendices:	
Appendix 1	Integrated Impact Assessment
Appendix 2	Updated Climate Change Strategy
Report Author/Lead Officer:	Tim Pratt, 023 9254 5573

Gosport Borough Council
Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Completion Instructions for IIA Leads:

Use this IIA **during development** to initially assess the likely impact, on both customers and staff, of a proposed new policy, strategy, function or service or a proposed change to an existing one. This IIA aims to provide an early warning of any potential issues that could adversely impact our customers or staff or result in costly errors in terms of financial or reputational management. Evaluating the proposed changes against our key considerations regarding equality & diversity and climate change allows us to modify or mitigate any adverse impacts **before** implementation. It also demonstrates transparency in the Council's decision making. It is a working document with named Subject Expert Officers (SEOs) who can support you - as the IIA Lead, through this process. Please do ask the SEOs for advice about potential impacts.

Impacts in the template are marked: +ve (positive) -ve (negative) or neutral. Once completed the IIA must be signed off by your Head of Service and a summary copy attached to the Board or Committee report. Officers have a Duty to ensure that Councillors/decision makers understand the impact of decisions before those decisions are made.

Policy/Strategy/Function/ Project	New	Existing	IIA Lead	Contact Details	Date
Climate Change Strategy		✓	Tim Pratt	023 9254 5573	13/12/21

What is the aim of this policy/strategy/function/project? What will it change ?

To provide strategic direction to the Council's actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. The

Climate Change Strategy will be regularly updated to reflect changes to national, regional and Council policy and best practice guidance. The Climate Change Strategy is publicly available to provide accountability of the Council's response to climate change, and to aid with engagement activities aimed at strengthening this response. This IIA relates to the Strategy update due to be published in February 2022.

Has any consultation been undertaken on this proposed change?

No

If yes, summarise the methods used and results of the consultation:

A. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The Public Sector Equality Duty is part of the Equality Act 2010. The Duty requires the Council to have due regard to the following three aims:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equal opportunities between people from different groups
- foster good relations between people from different groups.

Having due regard means considering how this policy, strategy, project or function has or will advance equal opportunities for each of the protected groups below.

Please note: If this proposal means a change in the availability, degree of provision or access to a service, benefit or facility for any group of people, then this Equality & Diversity impact assessment must be completed to assess if this proposal could be deemed unlawfully discriminatory.

SEO for support to complete this section- Mandy Baggaley, CPCS, x5695 mandy.baggaley@gosport.go.uk				
Protected Characteristic	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
Age	✓			The updated Climate Change Strategy defines resilience to heat waves as a priority. This is expected to have a positive impact since the health implications of extreme heat are related to age. The Strategy also sets out ambitions around improving the energy efficiency of homes, which will help reduce the health impacts of cold weather. The Strategy recognises the importance of engaging with young people and commits to ensuring that mechanisms to do so are appropriate and effective. The intention is to ensure that young people's views are adequately taken into account, rather than to prioritise these over the views of other age groups.
Disability			✓	The Climate Change Strategy sets out principles for engagement and partnership working. Due regard will be given to the Public Sector Equality Duty of the Council when developing specific engagement activities to deliver on the Strategy, and the Strategy does not prevent any measures required to ensure full accessibility to these activities regardless of any protected characteristic.
Gender reassignment			✓	
Marriage and Civil Partnership			✓	
Pregnancy			✓	
Race (ethnicity, nationality, colour)			✓	
Religion or Belief (and lack of belief)			✓	
Sex			✓	
Sexual Orientation			✓	
<p>The Armed Forces Bill places a new duty on public bodies to have due regard to ensure those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved. Please refer to these resources for more information about the needs and characteristics of the armed forces community and our commitment to the Covenant. GBC Covenant Agreement 2020 Local AFC Profile, needs assessment, resources</p>				
Section of the Armed Forces Community	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
			✓	The Updated Climate Change Strategy does not promote any actions that have disproportionate impact on serving or discharged members of the armed forces.

Are there any other groups which could be impacted (e.g. socially or financially excluded) by this item? If yes, identify below:				
Financially excluded	✓			The updated Climate Change Strategy sets out ambitions around reducing the energy demand of households, which will help to reduce fuel poverty.
What actions will be taken to address/ mitigate potential negative impacts identified:				
Action	By whom			By when

B. CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT					
<p>Consider how this change will have an impact with regard to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse gas emissions • Ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change • Waste Management • Air Quality • Natural Environment <p>SEOs for support to complete this section- Tim Pratt, CPCS, x5573 tim.pratt@gosport.gov.uk</p>					
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Things to consider	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
Emissions from buildings	Gas or electricity use and provision of renewable electricity, by GBC or others	✓			All of these areas are identified as priorities in the updated Strategy, and it sets out key

Emissions from transport	Amount of travel (including goods transportation), travel modes and fuels used, by GBC or others	✓			ambitions to ensure a positive impact.
Emissions from agriculture and land use	Creation or removal of carbon sinks in Gosport, and changes to food consumption	✓			
Embedded emissions	Emissions from manufacturing goods and materials used by GBC or others	✓			
Climate Change Adaptation	Things to consider	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
Vulnerability to storms	Flood prevention and extent to which buildings, habitats and species would be affected by flooding and high winds	✓			These areas are identified as priorities in the updated Strategy, and it sets out key ambitions to ensure a positive impact.
Vulnerability to heat waves	Provision of shading, ventilation and insulation in buildings, and extent to which habitats and species would be affected by heat	✓			
Vulnerability to drought	Water use in buildings, agriculture, and industrial processes, and extent to which habitats and species would be affected by drought			✓	The updated Strategy does not consider these to be priority areas, but states that they will be kept under review and that opportunities will be taken to promote adaptation in these areas as they arise.
Vulnerability to food insecurity	Opportunity for local food production			✓	
Waste Management	Things to consider	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
Amount of waste generated	Levels of consumption by GBC, households and businesses, and extent to which materials used are reusable	✓			Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from consumption is identified as a priority in the updated Strategy, and it sets out key ambitions to achieve this which include both reducing the amount of waste generated and increasing the proportion recycled.
Proportion of waste recycled	Recyclability of materials used by GBC, households and businesses, and provision of recycling services	✓			

Air Quality	Things to consider	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
Emissions of key pollutants from transport	Amount of travel (including goods transportation), travel modes and fuels used, by GBC and others; impacts on congestion and amount of idling of more vehicles	✓			Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport is identified as a priority in the updated Strategy, and it sets out key ambitions to achieve this which will also reduce emissions of local air pollutants.
Emissions of key pollutants from industrial processes	Emissions from chemical processes			✓	The updated Strategy does not set out any priorities or key ambitions that are likely to have any significant impact on emissions of pollutants from industrial processes or other sources.
Emissions of key pollutants from other sources	Domestic and other fires			✓	
Impact of key pollutants	Rate at which pollutants are absorbed or dispersed	✓			The updated Strategy includes a key ambition of increasing the amount of vegetation in urban centres, which will help to absorb pollutants.
Natural Environment	Things to consider	+ ive	- ive	Neutral	Explanation of Impact
Sustainability of public spaces	Amount of vegetation and maintenance	✓			The updated Strategy includes a key ambition of increasing the amount of vegetation in urban centres.
Biodiversity and quality of habitats	General impacts on habitats and direct impacts on species of concern			✓	Reducing the impacts of climate change on natural habitats is identified as a priority in the updated Strategy and it sets out key ambitions to achieve this. The updated Strategy does not include aims or ambitions to improve habitats or biodiversity.
What actions will be taken to address/ mitigate potential negative impacts identified:					
Action	By whom			By when	

C. IIA SUMMARY				
Have any positive or negative impacts been identified in sections A and B?				
Subject	+ ive	- ive	Explanation	
A. Equality & Diversity	No	No		
B. Climate Change & Environment	No	No		
Can any negative impacts be mitigated?				
Subject	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation
A. Equality & Diversity			✓	No negative impacts identified.
B. Climate Change & Environment			✓	
Is further assessment in either subject area necessary to conclude this assessment?				
Subject	Yes	No	If yes, timetable for completion	
A. Equality & Diversity		✓		
B. Climate Change & Environment		✓		

D. IIA CONCLUSION

This IIA is complete. No further assessment is required if identified actions are undertaken. This summary can be included with Board or Committee reports.

This IIA identified further assessment should be undertaken in the identified areas before implementation of this proposed change.

Signed by Head of Service:



Date:02/12/21

Updated Climate Change Strategy



GOSPORT
Borough Council

Gosport Borough Council

Climate Change Strategy

2022

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Forewords

Gosport Borough Council has a vital and unique role in tackling climate change, due to its role as a local authority and its ability to enable and promote community action. Although we do not have control over the majority of emissions in the Borough we will enable, encourage and support action across Borough.

We recognise that climate change is real, that big change starts small and everyone can help to reduce emissions. We will work in partnership, engage with the community and collaborate to ensuring decisions on climate change are local, accessible to the community and protect the most vulnerable.

We are already working hard to rise to this challenge by reducing emissions from Council Operations and encouraging everyone to take action too. Recent progress includes using renewable electricity for our buildings, carrying out extensive tree planting, placing climate change at the centre of our draft Gosport Borough Local Plan 2038, helping establish Greening Campaigns across Gosport to help whole communities work together to become more sustainable, and creating the Gosport Climate Change Partnership.

However, we understand that our journey to a sustainable Borough still has a long way to go and the path to a sustainable Borough can also be a path to a healthier, prosperous, and more socially connected Borough.

This Strategy sets out Gosport's long term vision, driven by central policy, and how the Council will lead by example by reducing its own emissions and work with the community and in partnership to reduce emissions Borough-wide.

Councillor Zoe Huggins
Chair of the Climate Change Board

PLACE HOLDER – 'STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT' if this can be agreed by group leaders.

Councillor Graham Burgess
Leader of the Council

Councillor Peter Chegwyn
Liberal Democrat Group Leader

Councillor June Cully
Labour Councillor

The senior management team at Gosport Borough Council recognises that the climate crisis requires urgent action throughout the Council. Meeting these aspirations will require a concerted and sustained effort across the whole Council. As Chief Executive, I am committed to driving this work forward, leading and supporting our officers to implement the changes necessary to deliver this Strategy.

David Williams
Chief Executive Officer

Executive summary

Climate change, as a result of human activities, is predicted to have wide-ranging impacts across the world. Many of these impacts will be felt locally so Gosport will need to adapt and be resilient. However, the impacts can be lessened by a collective effort to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions. There are opportunities for reducing emissions in Gosport but this will require a collective effort by everyone and be delivered by working in partnership and engaging with the community. The Council has committed to doing what it can to reduce its own emissions and to work with others to contribute towards this local, national and global effort within its accountability.

The Council has a long-term vision driven by central policy with a mission statement describing how it will work towards this, which includes the key enabling principle of community engagement and partnership working.

For each priority, short, medium and long term aims and ambitions are identified and an accompanying action plan contains the necessary delivery activity. Actions will take into account the Carbon Hierarchy and a cost benefit analysis including impact, co-benefits and financial implications, to ensure action is realistic, proportionate, affordable and equitable.

The Climate Change Board is responsible for monitoring delivery of actions and of the priorities and advising if the Council is on track with its aims and ambitions in this Strategy. The Climate Change Board's work programme allows for regular review that is driven by local need, central policy as well as advancements in innovation, technology and behavioural change.

Vision

A sustainable environment, adapting and mitigating the impacts of climate change, reaching net zero by 2050.

Mission

To act now, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations and be on the journey, working in partnership and engaging the community, for Gosport to reach net-zero by 2050 and be as resilient as possible to climate change.

Aspirations

Priorities

Emissions from Council operations

A1
Emissions of greenhouse gases³ from Gosport Council operations to reach net-zero by 2050.

P1: Supported housing and operational buildings

P2: Refuse collection

P3: Employee travel

P4: Procurement

Gosport wide emissions

A2
Borough-wide emissions of greenhouse gases⁴ to reach net-zero by 2050, and for the Borough to be as resilient as possible to the impacts of climate change.

P5: Domestic emissions

P6: Transport emissions

P7: Emissions from consumption

P8: Resilience to flooding

P9: Resilience to heat waves

Gosport's resilience to climate change

P10: Ecosystems and biodiversity

Engagement and Partnerships

Enabling principle E1

To ensure the whole community is collectively involved in Gosport's journey to net zero and increasing the Borough's resilience to climate change

³ Includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions but not scope 3, as these are not currently measured, but efforts will be made to reduce this majority source.

⁴ Initial focus on CO₂ reduction as this is a key source and addressing it will reduce emissions of other gases too.

Introduction

Scientific context

In the last 11,000 years the global average temperature was relatively stable, until approximately 150 years ago when human activities notably increased atmospheric greenhouse gases. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has described the consequences of this which includes global sea level rises, extreme heat and precipitation⁵. Met Office records show that the UK climate is getting warmer and wetter⁶.

IPCC projections indicate that global temperature increases will lead to more frequent and more extreme heatwaves, droughts, precipitation and storms. While these changes are now unavoidable, their severity depends on how far global temperatures rise and therefore the speed of reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

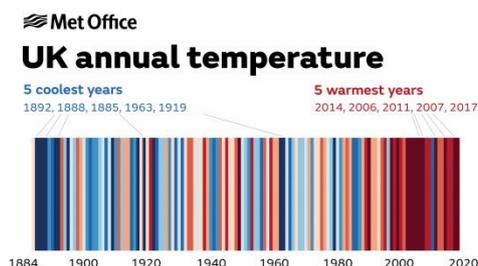
Gosport Borough Council recognises that it has a responsibility both to adapt to climate change and to contribute to the local, national, and global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with innovation and technology being key to those efforts.

Policy context

Central policy drives the ambition, with the Climate Change Act 2008⁷ defining a legally binding target for the UK to reach net-zero emissions by 2050, underpinned by the Government's Net Zero Strategy, which sets out policies to achieve this target and an interim target of a 78% cut in emissions by 2035⁸.

Local authorities will deliver many of these policies and most have committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, or earlier. Hampshire County Council has set a target of reaching net-zero emissions across Hampshire by 2050, and is collaborating with local Councils, including Gosport, to implement measures to achieve this.

Gosport Borough Council passed a resolution in 2020 to acknowledge climate change and the need for action: to embed work to address climate change in all service areas, reduce emissions from Council operations, establish a Climate Change Partnership, work in partnership across the Borough, county and region, engage with residents (especially with young people), and call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make this possible.



Changes to UK annual mean temperatures 1884 to 2020. Source:
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/climate-change/what-is-climate-change>

⁵ See the IPCC Sixth Assessment Working Group 1 Report for more information: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

⁶ See the Met Office UK Climate Projections for more information: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp/index>

⁷ As amended in 2019

⁸ Compared to 1990 figures and approved by Parliament in 2021

Local context

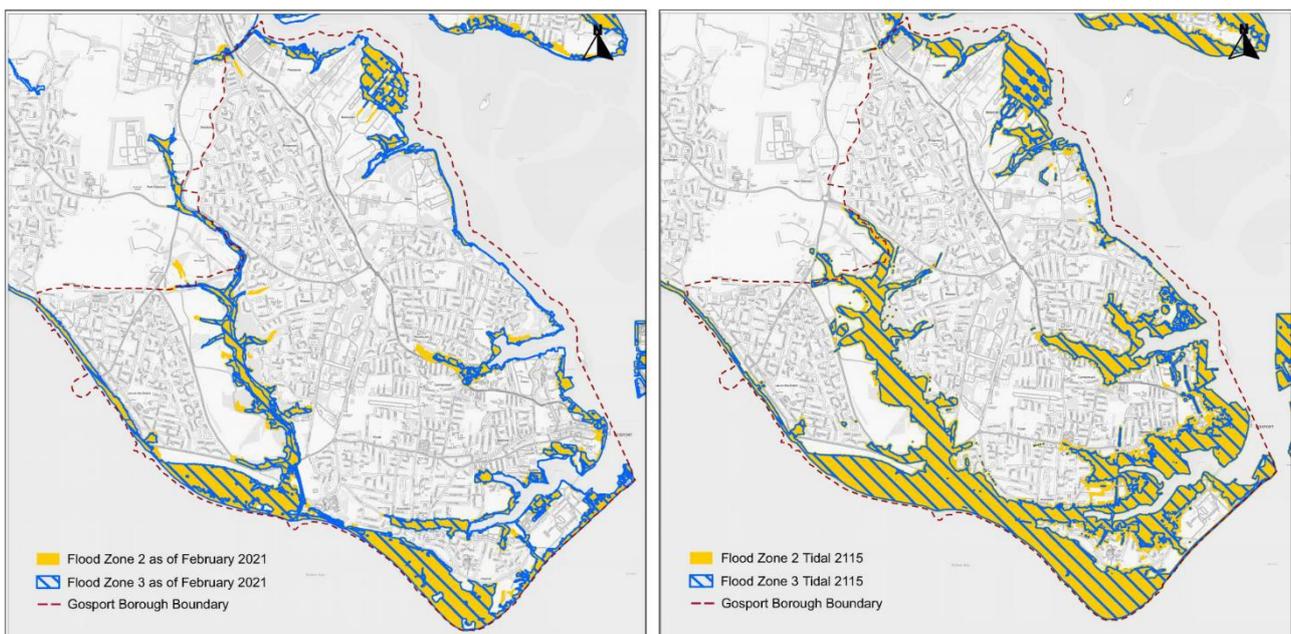
Gosport's location, demography and built environment will influence its approach towards and resilience to Climate Change. A profile of the Borough is available at www.gosport.gov.uk/gosportprofile.

Gosport is predominantly urban in character with a population density nine times the England average. The over 65 year old population is projected to increase from 21% (2021) to 28.5% (2038).

Based on average ranking of Indices of Multiple Deprivation for neighbourhoods within each local authority area, Gosport is the most deprived local authority area in Hampshire, and the 130th most deprived out of 317 areas in England.

There are 0.52 jobs per working-age resident, the 13th lowest figure in the UK, resulting in high levels of out-commuting. Gosport is one of the largest towns in England with no rail service, although the Gosport Ferry provides access to Portsmouth and a train station. The Bus Rapid Transit runs frequent buses between Gosport and Fareham although bus services outside this route are more limited.

This coastal Borough's land is flat and low-lying, which provides opportunities for cycling and walking but also risk of flooding: 14% of the land is classed as vulnerable to flooding, and this is predicted to increase as shown below.



Current and projected areas at risk of flooding. Source: https://www.gosport.gov.uk/media/3538/Interim-SFRA-Regulation-18-GBLP2038-September-2021/pdf/Interim_SFRA_Regulation_18_GBLP2038_September_2021.pdf

Vision and mission statement

The Council's vision is for a sustainable environment, adapting and mitigating the impacts of climate change, reaching net zero by 2050.

This vision encompasses the many benefits that acting on climate change will bring and envisages Gosport becoming a town with a thriving local economy and strong communities, whose residents enjoy a healthier, more active lifestyle, cleaner air while living in homes that are more energy efficient.

The Council recognises the scale of the challenge in realising its vision which is reflected in its mission statement.

To act now, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations and be on the journey, working in partnership and engaging the community, for Gosport to reach net-zero by 2050 and be as resilient as possible to climate change.

The Council, organisations, businesses, community groups and individuals all have a role in achieving net zero, which will be delivered through a combination of factors including innovation, technology, government policy, investment and behavioural change.

Reducing emissions from Council operations

Aspiration and approach

A1: The Council's aspiration is for emissions of greenhouse gases⁹ from Council operations to reach net-zero by 2050.

The Council's operations are a small percentage of the total greenhouse gas emissions in Gosport¹⁰. However, the Council has full control over these emissions and a responsibility to lead by example by reducing these accordingly with a longer-term aspiration.

To reach this aspiration, the Council will aim to reduce measured emissions by at least 10% each year on average from a 2019/20 financial year baseline. While emissions reductions will fluctuate, with possible plateaus and abrupt reductions (reflecting technological advances or national policy), interim targets have been set to help monitor progress:

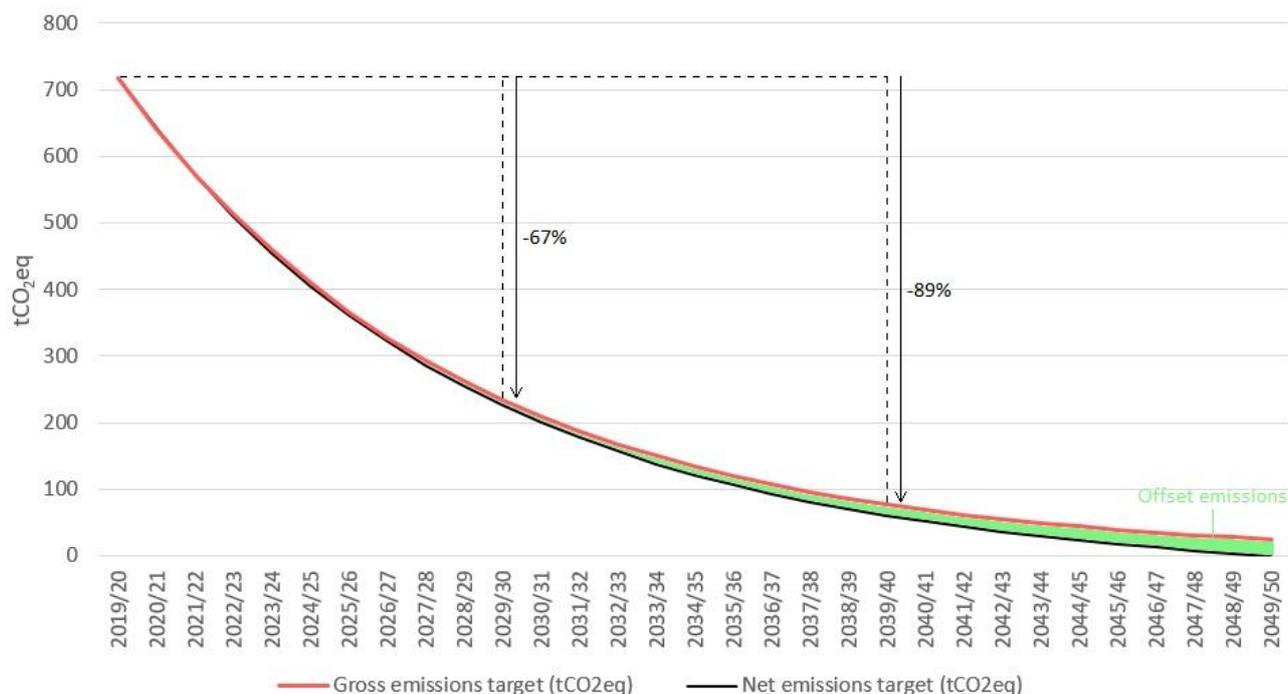
- Reduction of at least 67% compared to 2019/20 by 2029/30.
- Reduction of at least 89% compared to 2019/20 by 2039/40.

It is likely there will still be some residual emissions by 2049/50 which will need to be offset to reach net-zero, but the Council will aim to keep this as limited as possible.

⁹ Includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions but not scope 3, as these are not currently measured, but efforts will be made to reduce this majority source.

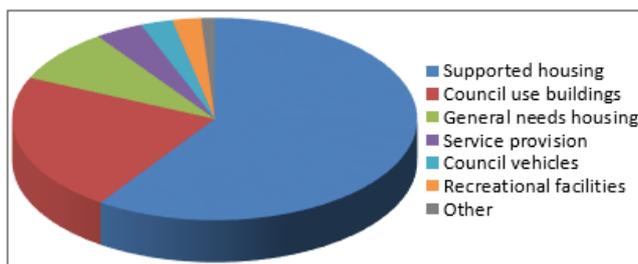
¹⁰ Scope 1 and 2 emissions calculated as approx. 0.4%

Emissions reduction targets



Priorities and key aims

The Council's scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions are primarily from **supported housing and operational buildings**¹¹ (see <https://www.gosport.gov.uk/ghg-emissions> for details) so these will be a priority for reduction effort.



The areas that are likely to contribute the most to scope 3 emissions will also be addressed: **refuse collection, employee travel** and **procurement**.

The key aims for each priority are set out below.

¹¹ The Council's emissions from supported housing are mostly accounted for by hostels and communal areas of sheltered housing schemes, which will therefore be the main focus of emission reduction actions.

Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P1: Supported housing and operational buildings	CB1. Energy demand in operational buildings will be reduced through behaviour changes. CB2. No fossil-fuel based heating systems will be installed in new buildings. CB3. All new buildings will be as energy efficient as possible.	CB4. All Council managed buildings will be as energy efficient as possible. CB5. All suitable Council managed buildings will have solar panels.	CB6. No new fossil-fuel based heating systems will be installed in Council managed buildings.
P2: Refuse collection	CR1. Fuel used by diesel refuse collection vehicles will be minimised.	CR2. All refuse collection vehicles will use alternative fuels to minimise or eliminate emissions.	-
P3: Employee travel	CT1. Distances travelled by employees for work purposes will be minimised.	CT2. Use of sustainable travel options by employees will be significantly increased.	-
P4: Procurement	CP1. All new contracts will be awarded taking into account lifecycle emissions of products and services, and commitment of suppliers to achieve net-zero emissions.	CP2. The amount of material resources used by the Council will be minimised. CP3. Lifecycle emissions of material resources used by the Council will be minimised.	-

Further emissions reductions from these areas will be driven by Government policy, legislation and investment for decarbonisation; for example emissions from buildings will only reach zero after full decarbonisation of the UK's electricity grid.

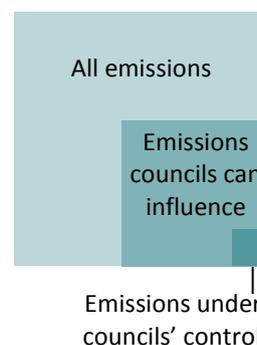
Once major emission sources have been addressed, action for non-priority areas will be reflected in this strategy although if opportunities arise, actions will be included sooner (e.g. electric vehicles considered for purchase/lease when the present lease expires).

Gosport Borough

Aspirations and approach

A2: The Council’s aspiration for Gosport is for Borough-wide greenhouse gas emissions¹² to reach net-zero by 2050, and for the Borough to be as resilient as possible to the impacts of climate change.

These emissions are not fully under the Council’s control, but it has a substantial influence over the future of Gosport through its role as a planning authority, policy maker, service provider and purchaser. Approximately one third of an area’s emissions are estimated to be directly influenced by the actions of the local authorities¹³. The Local Plan is a key mechanism through which the Council can influence Gosport’s emissions and resilience to climate change and is, along with other strategies/policies, being aligned accordingly.

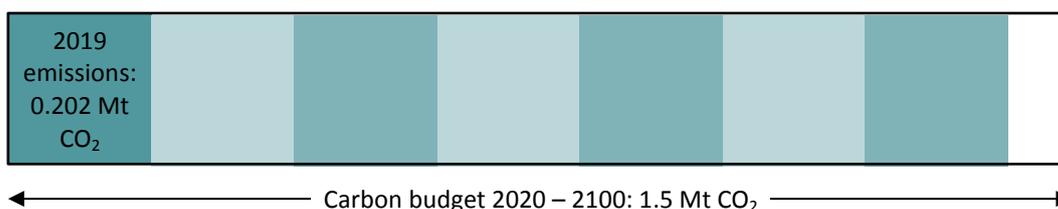


The Council works with partners, where it does not have direct control or influence. Partnership working includes Hampshire County Council, neighbouring councils (directly and through partnerships such as the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Coastal Partnership), the regional Energy Hub, local schools and colleges, community/voluntary sector and the private sector to promote climate action, and this is reflected in the action plan.

Reducing emissions

Carbon budget for Gosport

The Tyndall Centre has calculated that for Gosport to contribute its fair share to the goal of limiting global warming to 2°C with a chance of staying below 1.5°C, Gosport’s CO₂ emissions¹⁴ between 2020 and 2100 must be no greater than 1.5 MtCO₂. This 80-year carbon budget represents just over seven times the emissions generated in 2019.



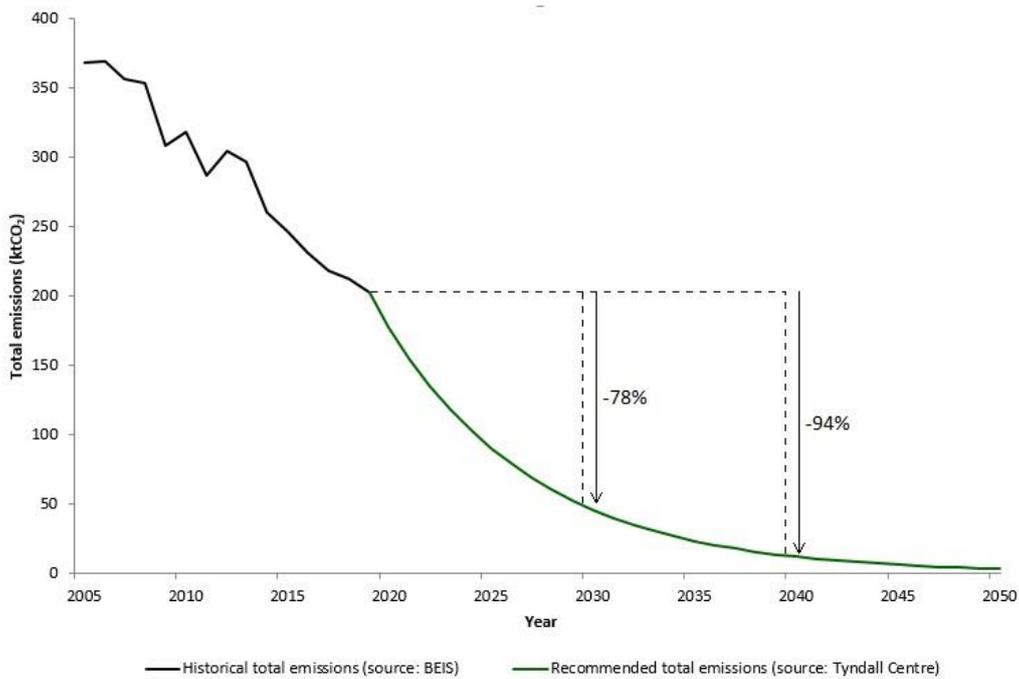
The Tyndall Centre has also calculated that to stay within the carbon budget, Gosport needs to decrease CO₂ emissions by 12.6% every year from 2020, as shown below. This implies a 78% reduction by 2030 and a 94% reduction by 2040, compared to 2019 levels. The Council will work to encourage and enable reduction of emissions and report annually on the area’s progress compared to this recommended pathway, indicating if the Borough is on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

¹² Initial focus on CO₂ reduction as this is a key source and addressing it will reduce emissions of other gases too.

¹³ See Climate Change Committee report “Local Authorities and the Sixth Carbon Budget”:

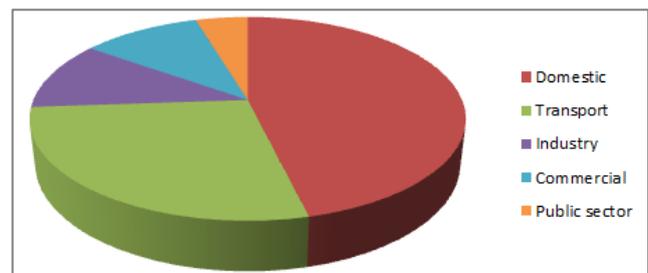
<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/local-authorities-and-the-sixth-carbon-budget/>

¹⁴ This only includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions (see glossary for definitions)



Priorities and key ambitions

Gosport’s scope 1 and 2 emissions are primarily **domestic** and **transport** related (see <https://www.gosport.gov.uk/ghg-emissions> for details) so these will be a priority for reduction effort.



The areas that are likely to contribute the most to scope 3 emissions will also be addressed:

consumption of goods and food produced outside Gosport.

The key ambitions that the Council will contribute to realising in each priority area are set out below.

Once major emission sources have been addressed, action for non-priority areas will be reflected in this Strategy although if opportunities arise, actions will be included sooner (e.g. helping businesses to access decarbonisation grants or loans).

Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
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Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P5: Domestic emissions	<p>GD1. Residents have implemented zero or low cost measures to reduce energy remand.</p> <p>GD2. All new housing is as energy efficient as possible.</p> <p>GD3. All new housing is fitted with solar PV and/or solar thermal systems where appropriate.</p>	<p>GD4. No new housing uses fossil fuel based heating systems.</p> <p>GD5. At least 7500 homes in Gosport are fitted with non-fossil fuel based heating systems by 2030.¹⁵</p>	<p>GD6. All homes in Gosport have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of C or better by 2035.¹⁶</p> <p>GD7. All homes in Gosport are fitted with non-fossil fuel based heating systems by 2050.</p>
P6: Transport emissions	<p>GT1. All new developments and infrastructure transport network improvements are designed to make sustainable travel the most convenient option.</p> <p>GT2. All suitable new residential and commercial developments include electric vehicle charging points.</p>	<p>GT3. Amenities, shops and leisure opportunities are enhanced, reducing travel demand.</p> <p>GT4. Public transport services are a convenient and affordable option for residents, for commuting, shopping and leisure purposes.</p>	<p>GT5. Gosport's job density is at least the Hampshire average, reducing travel demand due to out-commuting.</p> <p>GT6. At least 350 public electric vehicle charging points are available by 2030.¹⁷</p> <p>GT7. Active travel modes are a convenient and safe option for all residents, for commuting, shopping and leisure purposes.</p>

¹⁵ This aligns with the Climate Change Committee's recommendation for the number of heat pumps that will need to be fitted across the UK by 2030.

¹⁶ This aligns with the Government's target for all homes in the UK to have an EPC rating of least C by 2035.

¹⁷ This aligns with the Climate Change Committee's target for the number of public charging points that will be needed across the UK by 2030.

Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P7: Emissions from consumption	-	GC1. The amount of food wasted by residents and businesses is minimised. GC2. A culture of sharing and buying second hand is established. GC3. Products are routinely repaired to extend their lifespan. GC4. At least 68% of waste is reused, recycled or composted by 2030. ¹⁸	GC5. The proportion of locally produced foods in diets is significantly increased. GC6. The proportion of meat, dairy, and other carbon intensive foods in diets is significantly reduced.

Adapting to climate change

Expected impacts

The Climate Change Committee produces five-yearly assessments of UK climate change risk and its 2017 report identified six key areas that need to be addressed, as shown below.

Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure (Ch3, Ch4 Ch5, Ch6)	MORE ACTION NEEDED
Risks to health, well-being and productivity from high temperatures (Ch5, Ch6)	
Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry (Ch3, Ch4, Ch5, Ch6)	
Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity (Ch3)	
Risks to domestic and international food production and trade (Ch3, Ch6, Ch7)	
New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals (Ch3, Ch5, Ch7)	RESEARCH PRIORITY
NOW -----> RISK MAGNITUDE -----> FUTURE <div style="display: inline-block; margin-left: 10px;"> LOW MEDIUM HIGH </div>	

¹⁸ This aligns with the Committee of Climate Change’s recommendation for the proportion of waste reused, recycled or composted across the UK.

Priorities and key ambitions

These impacts will affect UK areas to different extents. Gosport is particularly vulnerable to **flooding** due to its low-lying and coastal location, and to **heat waves** due to its location in the south of the UK and its urban character. The Climate Change Committee has identified these two risks as the largest and most certain and therefore are main priorities for increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Risks to **ecosystems and biodiversity** are also considered to be a priority area for adaptation, as the Climate Change Committee report highlighted loss of coastal habitats and impacts on marine wildlife as areas of particular concern.

Other risk areas have a more limited impact in Gosport or the nature/severity of the impacts are less certain. These will be kept under review and opportunities will be taken to promote adaptation in these areas as they arise.

The key ambitions that the Council will contribute to realising in each priority area are set out below.

Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P8: Resilience to flooding	GF1. Residents are prepared for flooding emergencies. GF2. Flood risks in new developments are minimised. GF3. No new developments increase surface water run-off.	–	GF4. Sustainable drainage systems are implemented throughout the Borough. GF5. The storm sewer system is able to cope with predicted heavy rainfall events. GF6. Sea defences are able to protect against predicted high tides and storm surges.
P9: Resilience to heat waves	GH1. Residents are prepared for extreme heat. GH2. All new housing allows for summer shading.	GH3. Urban centres have significantly more vegetation to provide shade and evaporative cooling.	GH4. All homes in Gosport have measures fitted to allow for summer shading.
P10: Ecosystems and biodiversity	GN1. Risks to habitats and species are understood. GN2. All new developments achieve a net gain in biodiversity.	GN3. Non-climate change related pressures on at-risk habitats and species are minimised. GN4. New sea defences avoid habitat loss from sea level rise where possible.	–

Engagement and Partnerships

E1: An enabling principle to deliver the aspirations in this Strategy is:

To ensure the whole community is collectively involved in Gosport's journey to net zero and increasing the Borough's resilience to climate change.

The aspiration set out in this Strategy will only be achieved with national support and community-wide participation by residents, businesses, educational establishments, the community and voluntary sector, and other organisations. Community engagement and partnerships will provide opportunities for local residents and organisations to contribute to decision making at operational and strategic levels within local control, to drive behavioural change and take action to tackle climate change.

The Council, as a community leader, will facilitate:

- **Engagement**

Through community and individual action - The Council will encourage and enable individual and community action, helping address emissions and resilience measures over which the Council does not have direct control.

Through business – The council will seek to empower local business to build a green economy and not only adapt but be part of the solution and seek innovation. The Borough's Local Plan will have climate change at its centre with other strategies and policies aligning accordingly.

Through young people - The Council recognises the long-term interest of young people so it is exploring engagement preferences to ensure that these mechanisms are appropriate and effective.

- **Partnership**

The Council will build on existing partnerships and develop new ones where appropriate. This partnership working will enable co-ordination, best practice, optimisation of resource, improved knowledge/understanding and a shared endeavour, while increasing the number of individuals and organisations participating in this effort.

Gosport's Climate Change Partnership has been recently established to co-ordinate a collective local response to the climate change challenge and includes a wide range of stakeholders. Gosport Council is represented on this independent body by the Climate Change Board Chairperson.

The Council also recognises that external partnership with other authorities and organisations are just as vital in enabling change and producing action.

- **Communication**

The Council, using multiple channels and tailored communications, will reach out and raise awareness to engage key and target groups on issues pertaining to climate change.

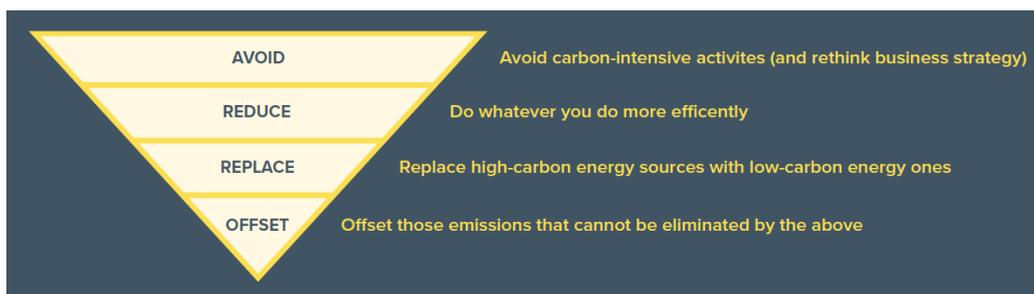
Delivery and governance

Actions

Delivery of this strategy is through an accompanying Climate Change Action Plan detailing delivery actions, with timescales, key partners and responsible officers.

The Plan is used to establish and monitor activity and is refreshed annually to reflect changes in circumstances, new technologies, emerging best practice, progress and strategy updates.

The Carbon Hierarchy will guide actions and decisions, as shown below.



The Council's democratic decision process includes an impact assessment requirement which aims to embed climate change considerations into policies and operations.

Central Government resourcing, policy and powers and investment in innovation and technological advancements will also be key to the actions that can and need to be taken locally.

Resourcing

The Council recognises that actions will require resource allocation, and this will be done in accordance with its financial and governance processes facilitating proportionate, affordable and equitable spend.

Some actions after initial spend, especially those to reduce emissions, may generate long term savings or income. Actions to mitigate and adapt may offer multiple benefits and opportunities such as better health and wellbeing outcomes, reduced fuel poverty, improved air quality, better use of resources and improved resilience.

Business cases will be developed for actions that require specific financing, with a cost benefit analysis and identification of suitable funding sources, which may include the following:

- Council funding via existing or additional budgets.
- Government funding.
- Other external funding schemes.
- Levy funding sources or charges.
- Other green financing options e.g., community-based fundraising¹⁹.

¹⁹ See <https://www.local.gov.uk/financing-green-ambitions-full-report> and <https://issuers.abundanceinvestment.com/council-climate-bonds>; there are also potential benefits for community engagement

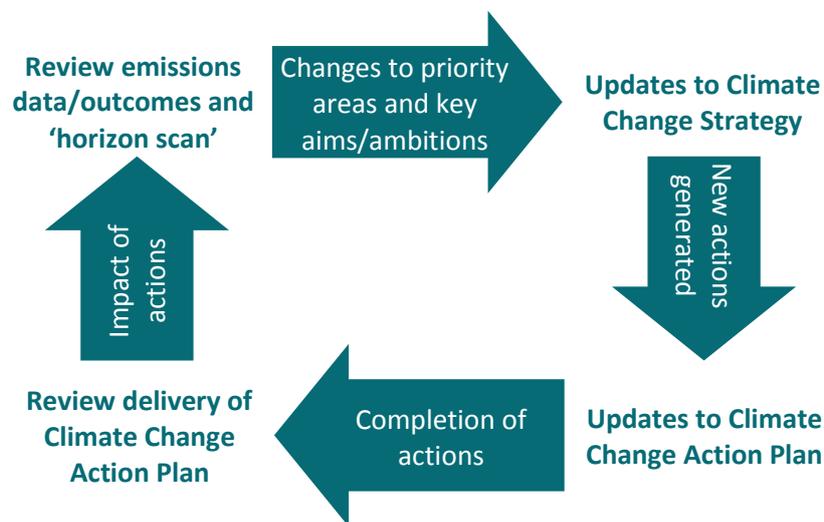
Governance

The Governance of this Strategy is provided by the Climate Change Board which will monitor and review delivery and effectiveness of its aspirations, strategic priorities, and engagement enablers.

It will also ‘horizon scan’ for strategic issues by considering new legislation and guidance, emerging best practice, new technologies, research findings, views, behavioural change and feedback.

The Board’s key activities include priority setting, monitoring and reviewing the action plan, review of key performance indicators and target achievement, oversight of wider partnership progress and outcomes, identification of enablers that have led to results (e.g. strategies, management approaches, policies and communication) or barriers, overseeing consultation activity and lobbying Government for resources and powers.

An annual work programme has been established to facilitate this, as shown below.



The Climate Change Board also provides report to Full Council which is the approval body for the Climate Change Strategy.

Glossary

Carbon sinks	Natural features that absorb greenhouse gases, such as peat bogs, seagrass meadows or forests.
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
Climate Change Committee	A body established by the Climate Change Act 2008 to advise the Government on measures needed to meet the UK's targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change.
Decarbonisation	The process of reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with a system, operation, product or service to net-zero.
Energy Performance Certificates	Information providing an assessment of the energy efficiency of a building, using a rating scale from A (highly efficient) to G (very inefficient).
Greenhouse gases	Gases which are transparent to incoming solar radiation but absorb infra-red radiation emitted by the Earth, leading to a net increase in the amount of energy in the Earth system. The most significant greenhouse gases relevant to human-driven climate change are carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide.
Gross greenhouse gas emissions	The total emissions due to the activities of an organisation or within a geographical area.
Lifecycle emissions	The total emissions generated by a product, including its manufacture, transport and disposal as well as emissions from its use.
Net greenhouse gas emissions	The gross emissions of an organisation or geographical area, minus any emissions that it offsets.
Net-zero	This is shorthand for net greenhouse gas emissions being zero.
Offsetting	Activities that do not directly reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, but either prevent emissions or degradation of carbon sinks elsewhere, or increase absorption of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Absorption of greenhouse gases can be achieved directly, for example by planting trees, or indirectly by purchasing offset credits from a certified scheme that guarantees to implement measures that will absorb greenhouse gases. Prevention of emissions or degradation of carbon sinks can only be achieved by purchasing offset credits, and the availability of these will decrease to zero as net-zero emissions are achieved globally.
Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions	<p>Emissions scopes categorise emissions for which an organisation or geographical area is responsible, based on where and how those emissions are generated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope 1 emissions are those released directly by an organisation, or from within a geographical area. • Scope 2 emissions are those released when generating electricity or other energy services (such as district heat, steam or cooling networks), that is used by an organisation, or within a geographical area. • Scope 3 emissions are all other emissions generated outside an organisation or geographical area, to provide services or materials used with the organisation or area.

See <https://www.gosport.gov.uk/climatechange> for more information about climate change, the Council's response and what you can do. If you have any queries, comments or suggestions, please get in touch with us at climatechange@gosport.gov.uk.

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