

Telford & Wrekin Council

Becoming carbon neutral

Action Plan





Scope

The Council declared a Climate Emergency on 25th July 2019. As part of the response to this, the Council has committed to ensuring that its operations and activities are carbon neutral by 2030. This Action Plan, describes the initial actions we will take to achieve this goal and how we will measure our progress. The Action Plan is a living document which will continue to be updated as data, funding, best practice and national policy develops.

| Section | Page |
|--|------|
| Scope | 3 |
| Our Journey to date | 4 |
| What is counted as the Council's operations and processes? | 8 |
| Corporate estate | 8 |
| Street lighting | 8 |
| Transport and travel | 8 |
| Measuring our carbon emissions | 9 |
| Monitoring | 9 |
| Borough-wide | 10 |
| Telford & Wrekin Council Becoming carbon neutral Action Plan 2019/20 | 11 |
| Council buildings | 11 |
| Transport | 13 |

| Section | Page |
|---|------|
| Housing | 15 |
| Street lighting | 17 |
| Procurement | 18 |
| Governance | 19 |
| Energy | 20 |
| Community | 22 |
| Planning policy | 27 |
| Corporate | 28 |
| Communications and training | 30 |
| Land-use, Biodiversity and Carbon Sequestration | 32 |



Our Journey to date





The Council has already made significant progress in reducing carbon emissions achieving a 44% reduction in our carbon footprint since 2005, as detailed in the table below, however we recognise that to achieve the 2030 target we will have to go further:

| Project | Description |
|--|---|
| Business Energy Efficiency Programme (BEEP) | The Council has been working in partnership with Worcestershire Councils, Herefordshire Council, Shropshire Chamber of Commerce, Herefordshire & Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce and Shropshire Council to offer the ERDF funded Business Energy Efficiency Programme (BEEP) for SMEs in Telford & Wrekin, Shropshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. The programme offers free energy assessments which could lead to grants for businesses who wish to use their energy more efficiently, reducing costs and improving environmental credentials. |
| Green Guarantee Programme | The Council have recently committed to protect 200 sites across the borough on Council owned land as part of the Green Guarantee Programme. These sites are protected for community use and provide valued assets that contribute towards providing shade, flood alleviation measures, are a form of carbon sequestration and act as 'green lungs'. |
| Telford & Wrekin Local Plan 2011 - 2031 | The Local Plan (January 2018) helps to shape the borough, including for it to be prepared for a changing climate and to lower CO2 emissions. Local Plan policies seek to address public transport, pedestrian routes and use of sustainable transport modes. Local Plan policies seek to direct development away from areas of flood risk and measures such as sustainable drainage schemes. The Plan also promotes the creation of new renewable energy sources. |
| Solar Farm | The Councils 4MW solar farm at Wheat Leasows generates enough electricity to power more than 800 homes per annum. The solar farm is the second publicly operated solar farm in the UK. The solar farm has generated 18.63GWh of green electricity, avoided 9,048 tonnes of CO2 and generated £1.83m of income. |

4 **Becoming carbon neutral** Action Plan

| Project | Description |
|--|---|
| Transport & Wrekin Transport Plan 2011-2026 | The Transport Plan sets out the strategic policies within which one of the goals is to ‘reduce carbon emissions to help tackle climate change.’ |
| Ultra-low Emission Vehicle Strategy August 2018 | The Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle Strategy sets out how the Council will support and encourage growth in the ULEV market, with the vision to ‘enable residents, visitors and businesses to use electric vehicles through ensuring a reliable, safe and convenient public charging network.’ |
| Cycling & Walking Strategy | The Strategy sets out a long-term plan to encourage and support the residents and visitors of the borough to cycle and walk more in their everyday lives. |
| Carshare Telford & Shropshire | A dedicated carshare website is available to enable people living and working in Telford and Shropshire to carshare. |
| Travel Plans | The Council conditions new developments of an appropriate size to produce, adopt and implement a travel plan for the first five years of occupation of the site, with the aim to promote sustainable modes of transport. |
| Road Safety & Active Travel | The Council’s Road Safety Team provide education and training services such as Bikeability and pedestrian skills training, that aims to create a culture of sustainable and safe travel across the borough. |
| Waste Management | The Council’s waste management contract let in 2014 has seen residual waste reduced and reuse and recycling significantly increase. Residual waste (non-recyclable) is treated at Energy from Waste facilities rather than going to landfill. As a result the borough’s recycling target for 2019/20 is 54.66%, while the EU target is to recycle at least 50% by 2020. |



| Project | Description |
|---|--|
| Street lighting | <p>Converting over 20,000 traditional street lighting to LED lighting.</p> <p>Before the programme started in April 17, street lighting produced emissions of 4,695 tonnes of CO2. Now, with 96% of the LED conversion completed this figure has been reduced to 1,887 tonnes of CO2. The scheme has delivered savings of £420,000 per year since 2018/19 from the initial investment of £5.2 million.</p> |
| Sustainable Buildings Initiative | <p>Together with the Councils forming the Marches LEP, funding has been granted to fit low carbon technologies in public buildings in the borough. So far five schemes have been completed – 4 LED lighting schemes (Darby House, Wellington Civic Centre, Telford Ice Rink and Telford Tennis Centre) plus solar PV at Telford Ice Rink. This will lead to energy savings of 439,072kWh (equivalent to cost savings of £57,079.36) and CO2 reductions of 167.638 tonnes. Funding has also been confirmed for a solar water blanket at Wellington Leisure Centre.</p> |
| Plastic Free | <p>A motion calling for the Council to support this campaign was approved at Full Council on 25 July 2019. The Council has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Made progress with removing single-use plastics from the Council's operations and activities, replacing them with sustainable alternatives;  Signed up to support the national campaign Refill;  Developed an action plan that sets out how the Council will reduce its own use of single-use plastic, and how the Council will encourage and promote plastic-free initiatives borough wide;  Established a community group to help the borough become a certified Plastic Free Community. |
| Green Energy | <p>A green energy tariff has been purchased from Total Gas and Power (TGP).</p> |

6 **Becoming carbon neutral** Action Plan

| Project | Description |
|--|--|
| LEAP – Local Energy Advice Partnership | The Council have been involved in this scheme since 2017. Residents are referred or can refer themselves and, if eligible, receive a Home Visit arranged by Marches Energy Advice (MEA). Simple energy efficiency measures can be implemented, energy supplier switching, if desired, and income maximisation. There have been over 90 visits completed/measures installed in that period. |
| Switch Telford | White label energy comparison and switching site. This has been operating since April 2017 and there have been over 1600 switches in that period. |



New LED lighting in the borough

The actions set out in our plan on page 11 onwards identify the initial opportunities we have identified to reduce carbon emissions relating to the Council’s operations and activities but this is only a starting point. The Council will continue to engage with staff, contractors and stakeholders to expand the plan and the range of actions that help us to meet our target.



What is counted as the Council's operations and processes?





Corporate estate

Including: Abraham Darby Leisure, Addenbrooke House, Darby House, 78 -81 Dodmoor temporary accommodation, Arthog, Bishton Court Unit 1, Crescent Road Changing Rooms, Doseley Pavilion, Edgmond Pavilion, Hartshill Pavilion, Herbert Avenue Changing Rooms, Horsehay Golf, The Wharfage Public Toilets, Ketley Bank Changing Rooms, Ketley Brook Travellers Site, Lakewood Court C011, Lakewood Court C036, Leegomery Changing Rooms, Madeley 3g Pitch, Madeley Library, New Activity Hub, Newport Library, Newport Leisure, Oakengates Bandstand, Oakengates Leisure, Oakengates Theatre (The Place), Overdale Community Centre, Shukers Field Changing Rooms, Southwater One, Stafford Park 11 Unit B4, Sutton Hill Changing Rooms, Sutton Hill Children's Centre, Market Square Public Toilets, Telford Ski Centre, Telford Ice Rink, Tibberton Sports Pavilion, Unit 5 Leegomery Centre, Wellington Chapel of Rest, Wellington Civic & Leisure.

Street lighting

Transport and travel

Including vehicles:

-  owned by staff and miles claimed carrying out their duties;
-  owned by the Council and used by staff on Council duties;
-  owned by staff getting to and from work;
-  And Wrekin Rider miles.

Measuring our carbon emissions

Telford & Wrekin Council's carbon footprint has been calculated as 7,956 tCO₂e utilising data from 2018/19.

The Action Plan includes values for carbon reduction for actions where these can be calculated at this point in order to plot our journey to carbon neutral. On the basis of the actions where we are able to measure a carbon impact at this point, we are set to deliver a carbon saving of 4,138 tCO₂e. The Action Plan also sets out actions requiring more development/scoping over the next 12 months – these will deliver further reductions – closing the gap - alongside additional measures which will be added to the Action Plan as it is rolled forward as a live document.

Monitoring

The Action Plan is a live document that is owned and monitored by the Council's Climate Change Working Group and Coordinator. It will be formally updated and reported on annually. This will include reviewing any assumptions utilised as part of the initial Action Plan; developing future actions and pressing for additional Government funding to support us to achieve our goals. This will help us to:

- 🌍 Identify whether this plan needs to be amended if our actions are not strong enough to fully tackle the problem

It is important to note that these figures are based on a range of sources and best available information. Over the next 12 months we will continue to develop and strengthen our data including engaging with our contractors and suppliers and working with Council Teams to calculate their carbon emissions from work journeys.

- 🌍 Forecast an emissions timetable to follow and to check whether we are on target to hit our 2030 deadline

This document is just the start of our commitment to make the Council carbon neutral. The Action Plan will be reported back to Cabinet in February 2021 setting out what has been achieved and identifying further measures to reduce our carbon footprint through mitigation and local carbon sequestration measures.



Borough-wide

This Action Plan does not set out how the Borough as a whole will reach carbon neutrality. Although it does identify ways that the Council can use its powers to support the transition to a low carbon future, such as through land use planning and the provision of infrastructure. The Council has set out an aspiration, working with partners, residents and businesses to achieve the goal of Borough neutrality by 2030. As part of this Action Plan we have committed to establish a Borough Partnership by April 2020 to agree on how the Borough will achieve this ambition.



The Council signed up to support the national campaign Refill and held an action day in Wellington.

Telford & Wrekin Council

Becoming carbon neutral Action Plan

2019/20

This action plan describes the actions the Council will take to reduce carbon emissions in line with our commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Council buildings | | | | | | |
| 1 | Implement a programme of retrofit schemes across Council owned buildings including maximising funding via the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership low carbon tech support programmes such as the Sustainable Energy in Public Buildings through which funding is already being sought for PV at Oakengates and Horsehay Golf Centre | | | Deliver | Ongoing | It is estimated that this will achieve reductions in annual primary energy use of 2.06 GWh and annual greenhouse gas emissions savings of 660 tonnes CO ₂ e. |
| 2 | Implement new power settings and usage controls on laptops, monitors and printers to reduce energy usage when not in use | | Develop | | 0 - 2 Years | 75 tonnes CO ₂ e |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|--------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 3 | Identify and deliver programme of improvements in Council and school buildings via analysis of energy usage, accessing funding, education and the promotion of renewable energy sources. | | | Deliver | Ongoing | Target to reduce energy costs by £20-£25K pa equating to 200,000 kWh or 52 tonnes of CO ₂ e. |
| 4 | Work with West Midlands Energy (WME) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordinate WME data into a Council Energy Usage Dashboard. To provide energy data and identify opportunities for further efficiencies Work with WME to source green energy tariff from renewable sources | | Develop | | 0 - 2 Years | Data is key to driving further energy saving actions |
| 5 | Relocating ICT server rooms for a more natural / water based type of cooling | Discover | | | 5 - 10 Years | Typically through natural / water based cooling, each unit will save over 60 tonnes of CO ₂ e when compared to conventional air conditioning. |
| 6 | Review opening arrangements for main Council administrative buildings particularly over Christmas while maintaining all essential services | | Develop | | 0 - 2 Years | Using one core operational building for staff saves 58 tonnes CO ₂ e /week. |
| 7 | Define and implement an optimum flexible working pattern and develop an enabling programme to reduce the carbon impact of staff travel and enable reduction in required office space | | | Deliver | 0 - 2 Years | To be determined following completion of review. Closing one core office will save 67 tonnes CO ₂ e |

12 **Becoming carbon neutral** Action Plan

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 8 | Commence a food recycling service in Addenbrooke then rolling out to other Council buildings with the potential to also engage schools. | | | Deliver | Ongoing | To be determined, once the data becomes available. |

Transport

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|----------|--|--|--------------|---|
| 9 | Develop and implement a Corporate Travel Plan minimising car travel for commuting and between offices | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | To be determined, once data is available |
| 10 | Implement Cycle to Work scheme for employees. | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | On the basis of a conservative 250 employee take up, the carbon saving would equate to 55 tonnes CO ₂ e. |
| 11 | Explore options for salary sacrifice schemes such as travel loans for rail and bus passes which would:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 provide staff with wider travel choices 🌍 increase travel by public transport 🌍 improving local air quality 🌍 promote smarter working practices and reduce unnecessary business and customer travel 🌍 raise awareness of the Council's commitment to reducing its carbon dioxide emissions | Discover | | | 5 - 10 Years | Carbon reductions will depend on measures implemented and will be confirmed in future updates of the Action Plan. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 12 | Explore options to further promote car sharing | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | 100 people car sharing equates on average to saving 51 tonnes CO ₂ e. |
| 13 | Explore the replacement of pool vehicles with ultra-low emission vehicles | Discover | | | Ongoing | There are 31 pool vehicles averaging approx. 268,000 miles a year, equating to approx. 72 tonnes CO ₂ per annum. Replacement with ultra-low emission vehicles, there is potential on average to save 52 tonnes CO ₂ e dependent on the vehicle type. |
| 14 | Procurement of a multi partner electric vehicle framework and deployment across car parks in Telford & Wrekin – not limited to TWC ownership | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | Supports wider Borough switch to low emission vehicles. There is the potential to increase electricity usage, however, this is offset by the Council's green energy tariff. |
| 15 | Review Council's Fleet Services to ensure optimum efficiency | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | To be determined, once data is available. |
| 16 | Run a campaign to specifically promote electric vehicles via the Zenith Salary Sacrifice Car Lease Scheme | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | To be determined, once data is available. |

14 **Becoming carbon neutral** Action Plan

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|----------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 17 | Work in partnership with Gridserve to scope the provision of a 100% renewable fast charging Electric Vehicle Forecourt | Discover | | | 2 - 5 Years | This measure is not counted in the Council carbon reduction baseline, as it does not fall under Council controlled operations and activities. |
| 18 | Explore further potential sustainable transport solutions in the borough, to include schemes like passenger rail linkage to The Gorge, improvements to bus services and improvements to cycling and walking routes | Discover | | | Ongoing | This measure is not counted in the Council carbon reduction baseline, as it does not fall under Council controlled operations and activities. |
| Housing | | | | | | |
| 19 | Promoting Station Quarter – the next phase of the Town Centre transformation – as a Smart Quarter – aiming to reduce the carbon footprint including exploring mobility systems – maximising digital connectivity and the creation of connected and accessible urban living, leisure and working space that sets a standard for Town Centre development | Discover | | | Ongoing | This measure is not counted in the Council carbon reduction baseline, as it does not fall under Council controlled operations and activities. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|--------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 20 | Explore proposals for delivering carbon reductions within NuPlace future developments focussing initially on the next phase of the existing programme equating to 60 homes. | Discover | | | 5 - 10 Years | This is not counted in the Council's carbon baseline as a reduction measure, as it does not fall under Council controlled operations and activities. However, the Council can use its ability to influence low carbon design. |
| 21 | Scope the potential to retrofit the temporary accommodation properties in our ownership with batteries and solar PV, as well as improved energy efficiency measures. | Discover | | | 5 - 10 Years | This will be determined, once the data becomes available. |
| 22 | Explore opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the Council's Property Investment Portfolio (PIP) | Discover | | | 2 - 5 Years | The PIP is excluded from the Council's baseline as we are not in control of energy use by tenants, however action to improve energy efficiency and to influence tenant behaviour would count towards the Borough Action Plan. |
| 23 | Explore opportunities to deliver carbon reduction/ efficiency in the development and operation of new property investments including Ni Park | Discover | | | 0 -2 Years | This will be determined once opportunities are fully scoped |

16 **Becoming carbon neutral** Action Plan

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|------------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|--------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Street lighting | | | | | | |
| 24 | <p>Building on the conversion to date of over 20,000 traditional street lighting to LED lighting, convert the remainder of non LED highway and footway street lighting assets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Conversion of 7 high mast lights on roundabouts 2 Conversion of 279 adopted non LED lights which exceeded the original contract projections 3 Conversion of 242 newly / to be adopted non LED lights 4 Conversion of floodlights at Council managed public car parks | Deliver | | | 0 - 2 Years | Before the programme started in April 17, there were emissions of 4,695 tonnes of CO ₂ . 96% of the conversion has been completed resulting in a reduction to 1,887 tonnes of CO ₂ now being emitted. |
| 25 | Opportunities to be identified to replace non-LED lighting at the Town Park and Council owned Car Parks at Council managed buildings | Discover | | | 5 - 10 Years | Approx 5 tonnes CO ₂ e but this will be revised as more data becomes available. |




| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Procurement | | | | | | |
| 26 | Require our major environment and cleansing contractors – Balfour Beatty; Idverde and Veolia to produce ambitious Carbon Reduction Action Plans covering their operations within the Borough | Deliver | | | 0 - 2 Years | To be determined, once data becomes available. |
| 27 | Where appropriate the Council will increase the environmental evaluation criteria weightings to encourage suppliers to use sustainable practices and to reduce carbon emissions in the supply chain. | Deliver | | | 0 - 2 Years | Many procurement decisions have the potential to reduce carbon emissions. However, these are difficult to quantify at this point. |

18 **Becoming carbon neutral** Action Plan

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Governance | | | | | | |
| 28 | <p>Climate Change Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌍 Develop an overarching Strategy which sets out how the Council will deliver further reductions in emissions 🌍 Addresses actions to mitigate and adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) improving our knowledge and understanding of how the Council is affected by extreme weather events in terms of providing its services and its financial impact b) identifying those most at risk from extreme weather events and develop mitigating actions c) reviewing our Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP) to help understand the impacts on residents and businesses 🌍 Monitor and develop the initial Action Plan establishing clear targets and measures of progress 🌍 Identify and realise co-benefits for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures e.g. around health and wellbeing 🌍 Report progress annually with an updated Action Plan | Discover | | | 0 - 2 Years | The savings from the strategy would come from the associated action plan. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|---------------|---|----------------------|---------|---------|---------------------------------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Energy | | | | | | |
| 29 | Switch to a green electricity tariff | Deliver | | | 0 - 2 Years Initial phase complete | A significant part of the Council's energy consumption relates to electricity use. The switch to a green energy tariff will reduce carbon emissions from these buildings to net zero. Alongside this the Council will continue to explore opportunities for local renewable energy generation (see other Actions in the Plan) |
| 30 | <p>Undertake feasibility study into the potential to expand the Southwater Energy Centre</p> <p> Carry out a heat mapping and energy master planning study to determine the potential to expand the existing Energy Centre in Southwater, which currently provides heat and power to Telford Ice Rink and Southwater One to other buildings in Telford Town Centre</p> | Deliver | | | Ongoing | The savings are approx 73t tonnes CO ₂ e - based on data from the original modelling of Southwater Heat Network Report. From further research, this could be significantly higher. Some of the additional savings could contribute towards the Borough footprint. |





| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 31 | Explore a community micro-hydropower scheme at Coalbrookdale. | Discover | | | Ongoing | The scheme could generate approx 26,700kWh annually - equivalent to powering 6 domestic households for a year. This is not counted towards the Council carbon reduction budget as it is a community scheme, with a community benefit. |
| 32 | Explore and identify further opportunities for renewable power generation on Telford & Wrekin owned properties and land. As only the second publically operated solar farm in the UK, the Council's 4MW solar farm at Wheat Leasows generates enough electricity to power more than 800 homes per annum. Since it was commissioned, the solar farm has generated 18.63GWh of green electricity, avoided 9,048 tonnes of CO ₂ and generated £1.83m of income. | Discover | | | Ongoing | Subject to the outcome of the review of opportunities and sites. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|------------------|---|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Community | | | | | | |
| 33 | Launch Sustainable Telford & Wrekin website to provide a point of contact/information for the community | Deliver | | | 0 - 2 Years | No specific savings attributable |
| 34 | Work with Parish and Town Councils to support and encourage take up of actions to deliver carbon neutrality | Deliver | | | Ongoing | This action would count towards the Borough's carbon reduction figures |

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 35 | <p>Form a Borough Climate Change Partnership to work together with the Council and engage the wider community to develop and deliver a Borough-Wide Climate Neutrality Action Plan. The Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🌐 Establish the initial Partnership including public/private/voluntary organisations representing key sectors and partners active in the Borough 🌐 Share and facilitate sharing of practice and learning to strengthen individual organisation action plans 🌐 Support the Partnership in establishing a baseline carbon position 🌐 Work as a partner to develop proposals on how the Borough should address becoming carbon neutral; 🌐 Work as a partner to engage with and consult on the proposals with the wider community; 🌐 As a partner support the development and delivery of a Climate Action Plan for the Borough. | | | Deliver | 0 - 2 Years | The actions brought about by the Partnership will count towards the Borough Action Plan |





| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 36 | <p>Develop and deliver an engagement programme for schools, community groups, interest groups and residents to promote climate change and ways to support/get involved with the Borough Partnership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Provision of web based information on opportunities for achieving energy reductions and carbon savings, with signposts to further sources of information.  Web based information on campaigns and/or initiatives to raise awareness and support on carbon reduction.  A targeted advice service and active approach to carbon reduction with schools.  A toolkit and support programme for working with Parish and Town Councils | Discover | | | 0 - 2 Years | The carbon savings brought about by the action will count towards reducing the Borough's carbon impact. |

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 37 | <p>Refresh promotion of the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) addressing fuel poverty for eligible residents.</p> <p>The Council has been involved with the Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP) – since 2017. Residents are referred or can refer themselves and, if eligible, receive a home visit arranged by Marches Energy Advice (MEA). Energy efficiency measures can be implemented and switch energy suppliers. There have been over 90 visits completed / measures installed in that period.</p> | | | Deliver | Ongoing | Improving the energy efficiency of homes is part of the solution to fuel poverty and carbon reduction. The carbon savings made will contribute towards the Borough's Carbon Footprint. |
| 38 | <p>Updated promotion of Switch Telford – white label energy comparison and switching site. This has been operating since April 2017 and there have been over 1600 switches in that period. This action supported addressing fuel poverty</p> | | | Deliver | Ongoing | Improving the energy efficiency of homes is part of the solution to fuel poverty and carbon reduction. The carbon savings made here will contribute towards the Borough's Carbon Footprint. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|---------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 39 | <p>Support funding bids for new schemes to address fuel poverty in Telford & Wrekin.</p> <p>If successful, funds will be available to provide first time heating, including gas connection (where eligible) to our residents. This will contribute to the Government's target of every home having an EPC rating of C or better by 2030.</p> <p>Additionally, funds are being sought for the provision of a Telford Energy Advice service including a telephone line to signpost and refer residents to appropriate energy schemes.</p> | Deliver | | | Ongoing | Improving the energy efficiency of homes is part of the solution to fuel poverty and carbon reduction. The carbon savings made here will contribute towards the Borough's Carbon Footprint. |
| 40 | <p>Explore initiating a public e-bike hire scheme for the Borough:</p> <p> Subject to market interest implement a cycle hire scheme with a company, on a trial basis for a maximum of a year in the Borough</p> | Discover | | | 5 to 10 Years | This action would open up cycling to those who do not own a cycle and would target the short destination journeys that may otherwise have been undertaken by car. This would also count towards the Borough's carbon reduction figures, as well as improving air quality, benefits to health and a sense of wellbeing. |

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|------------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Planning policy | | | | | | |
| 41 | Use the review of the Local Plan to develop robust policy that supports and promotes a move to carbon neutrality, including through consideration of how development will need to adapt to the impacts of climate change and promotes opportunities to maximise carbon sequestration. | Discover | | | 2 - 5 Years | This action would count towards the Borough's carbon reduction figures |
| 42 | Use the Local Plan review Call for sites to identify sites for renewable and low carbon energy generation | Discover | | | 2 - 5 Years | This action would count towards the Borough's carbon reduction figures |
| 43 | Identify where natural flood management approaches and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) can be used to reduce and/or increase carbon sequestration. <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Identify the Council SuDS schemes  Apply a carbon sequestration figure | Discover | | | 2 - 5 Years | Once known, the carbon sequestration figure will be applied to the Council's offsetting measure. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Corporate | | | | | | |
| 44 | Ensure all Service Plans and Business Plans produced from 2020 consider measures to contribute to delivering the Council's commitment to carbon neutrality | | | Deliver | 0 - 2 Years | Cannot be quantified at this point but this may identify further opportunities to include in the update of the Action Plan |
| 45 | Promotion of existing Council schemes of: Flexible Working Policy; Agile Working Guidance; Telford & Wrekin Discount Travel Club, Cycle to Work Scheme | | | Deliver | 0 - 2 Years | Cannot be quantified at this point but this may identify further opportunities to include in the update of the Action Plan |
| 46 | Update key employment policies such as flexible working to minimise the carbon impact of employees at work | | | Deliver | 0 - 2 Years | Maximises take up of other actions |
| 47 | Commit to become one of the first Carbon Literate Councils, | | | Develop | Ongoing | Raising awareness on climate change and carbon reduction measures reduces energy usage by staff of between 10-15% which equates to 239 tCO ₂ e (the emissions that can be influenced by staff - mileage and heating) |

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 48 | Roll-out of Windows 10 devices to staff and Members. | | | Deliver | 0 - 2 Years | A typical desktop computer uses 868 kW of electricity per year. The Council has replaced computers with laptops which use 80% less electricity than a desktop computers. 2,400 desktop computers have been replaced by laptops. Saving 200 tCO ₂ e emissions. |
| 49 | Establish conference video and call facilities for meeting rooms | | | Deliver | 0 -2 Years | Via video/call conference facilities staff will save on mileage and as a consequence carbon emissions. |
| 50 | All Telford & Wrekin Council strategies and reports to explicitly set out the environmental impacts from any recommended decision and contribution to carbon neutrality. | | | Deliver | 0 -2 Years | Cannot be quantified as will depend on the strategy; project or decision. |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|------------------------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Communications and training | | | | | | |
| 51 | Embedding Sustainable Telford & Wrekin/carbon reduction priorities within the Council's external and internal communications, marketing and narrative - Include examples of projects and actions taken | | | Deliver | Ongoing | There are no measureable carbon savings |
| 52 | Deliver cultural and behaviour change programme, focused on enabling staff to reduce their carbon impact while at work and also reduce their carbon impact in their home lives aligned with wider existing environmental change programmes eg Single-Use Plastic Free, Council Offices Energy Saving Campaign, Improvement of recycling at Council Offices | | | Deliver | Ongoing | Raising awareness on climate change and carbon reduction measures reduces energy usage by staff of between 10-15% which equates to 239 tCO ₂ e. ¹ |
| 53 | Ensure that all employee benefits that would contribute to our carbon reduction and carbon | | Develop | | 0 - 2 Years | There are no measureable carbon savings. ² |

¹ The carbon savings associated with behaviour change have only been counted once to avoid double counting




² The carbon savings associated with behaviour change have only been counted once to avoid double counting

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 54 | Ensure that all employee benefits that would contribute to our carbon reduction and carbon offsetting targets are clearly identified in our employee benefits package. | | Develop | | 0 - 2 Years | There are no measureable carbon savings. |









In 2014, Telford & Wrekin Council was only the second council in the country to build a solar farm.



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|--|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| Land-use, Biodiversity and Carbon Sequestration | | | | | | |
| 55 | <p>Biodiversity has already been impacted by the current rises in average temperature. The State of Nature Report for the UK identifies that, of those species assessed, 15% are threatened with extinction from Great Britain. There is a 'Climate Emergency' and also a 'Biodiversity Crisis'.</p> <p>Publication of a draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for the borough.</p> <p>This strategy will embed nature based solutions designed to address the need to offset carbon and adapt to and mitigate the impacts of human induced climate change.</p> <p>At a minimum the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy will set out proposals to enhance, restore or create up to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  15ha of heathland  30ha of species rich grassland, and  25ha of wetlands <p>on land in the direct ownership of the Council.</p> | Develop | | | 0 - 2 Years | <p>The calculations below are based upon evidence presented in Rewilding Britain (2019) Rewilding and Climate Breakdown: How Restoring Nature Can Help Decarbonise the UK. It is considered that the sequestration potential set out in this document represents pragmatic estimates based upon best available evidence.</p> <p>The figures below should be considered as indicative only during the 'discover' phase of the Action Plan. The Council will continue to refine how it measures, monitors and reports upon carbon sequestration through its approach to land use, land use change and forestry/ woodland management actions.</p> |

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| | The draft LNRS will also set out integrated approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation, including the use of nature based solutions to address more intense rainfall events and an increase in flooding as well as an increasing 'urban heat island' effect. | | | | | <p>Heathland Assuming a sequestration rate of 2 tonnes/ha/year.</p> $2 \times 3.66 = 7.32 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/ha/a}$ $7.32 \times 15\text{ha} = 109.8 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/a}$ <p>Species Rich Grassland Assuming a sequestration rate of 1 ton of carbon/ha/year.</p> $1 \times 3.66 = 3.66 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/ha/a}$ $3.66 \times 30\text{ha} = 109.8 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/a}$ <p>Wetlands Assuming a sequestration rate of 1.4 tonnes of carbon/ha/year.</p> $1.4 \times 3.66 = 5.124 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/ha/a}$ $5.124 \times 25\text{ha} = 128.1 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/a}$ |



| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|--|----------------------|---------|---------|--|--|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 56 | <p>The draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy will also assess the Council's woodland landholding – developing an evidence based, borough wide strategy for woodland management. The draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Increase the accuracy of the mapping of TWCs woodland landholding, increasing the accuracy of the measurement of the boroughs tree canopy cover  Calculate estimates of the carbon stored within existing TWC woodland stock  Calculate estimates of the current carbon sequestration rates within existing TWC woodland  Map opportunities for woodland restoration, restructuring, natural woodland generation and new planting.  Scope the potential to create a series of new community forests to increase carbon sequestration reflecting the Council's commitment to being a 'Forest Community.  Identify opportunities to engage with third party land holders scoping opportunities for wider woodland planting at a borough scale. | Develop | | | <p>0 -2 Years Publish a parish level woodland opportunity map</p> <p>0 - 2 Years Identify strategic sites for woodland restructuring, restoration, natural regeneration and creation</p> | <p>Woodland Estimated annual carbon capture will be calculated following the publication of the woodland opportunity map.</p> <p>For example a naturally regenerating woodland in the shrub phase in 2020 may only store 0.6 tonnes of carbon/ha/year.</p> <p>This would rise to 2.4 tonnes/ha/year by 2050 as woodland establishes and then once established the woodland may sequester 4.1 tonnes/ha/year thereafter.</p> |

| Ref | Action | Implementation Phase | | | Timescale | Estimated annual carbon savings (tCO ₂ e) |
|-----|--|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---|
| | | Discover | Develop | Deliver | | |
| 57 | Working in partnership with Natural England Telford & Wrekin Council will deliver great crested newt district level licensing across the borough. This scheme will involve the strategic restoration and creation of pond networks at a landscape scale. | | | Deliver | Ongoing | <p>Recent studies have shown that ponds can sequester carbon at an average rate of 1.4 tonnes/ha/year, which equates to 5.124 tCO₂e/ha/a</p> <p>Assuming a sequestration rate of 1.4 tonnes of carbon/ha/year.</p> <p>$1.4 \times 3.66 = 5.124 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e/ha/a}$</p> <p>2019 estimated 0.16 ha = 0.82 tCO₂e/ha/a</p> |





Telford & Wrekin
COUNCIL