

Telford & Wrekin Council Becoming Carbon Neutral

Environment Scrutiny Committee



Introduction

Climate Change

- What is Climate Change?
- Why is it such a issue?
- What does Climate Change mean for Telford and Wrekin?
- National /Local picture on Climate Change

Telford & Wrekin Council Becoming Carbon Neutral

- What we have achieved so far
- Action Plan

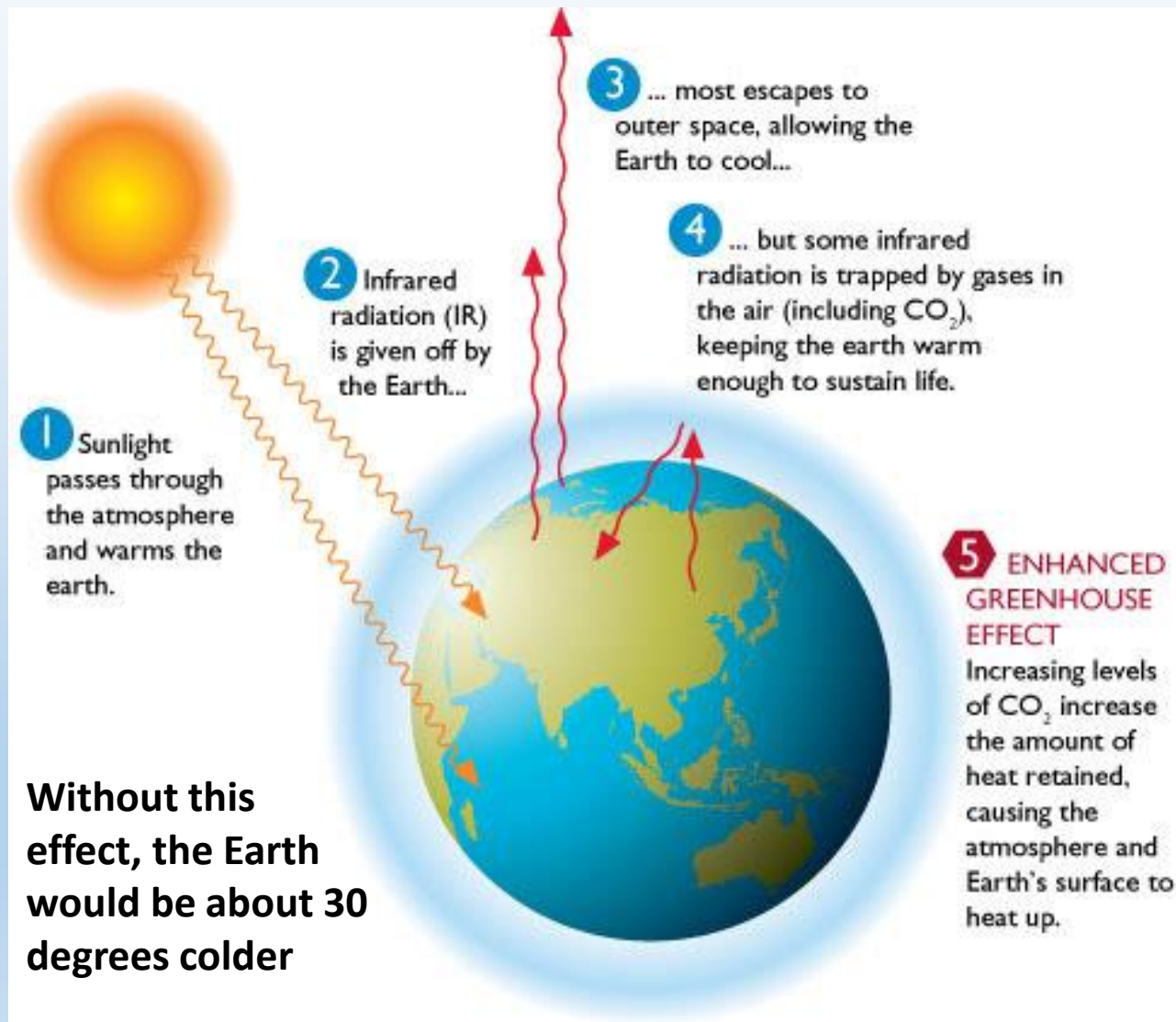
Telford and Wrekin Borough

- Climate Change Partnership

Scrutiny - Scoping areas of work

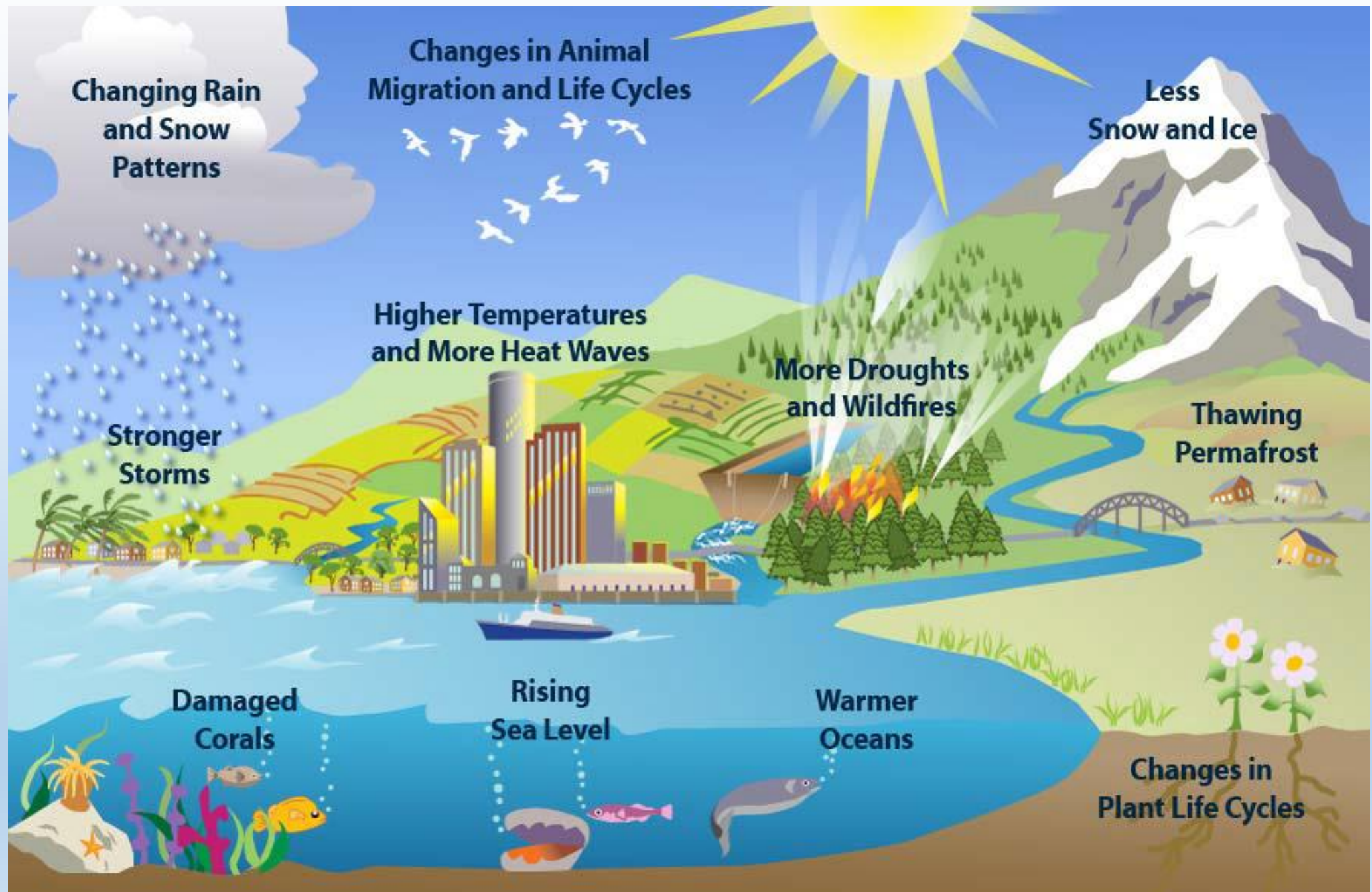


What is Climate Change?



However, we are adding to the **greenhouse effect**, trapping more heat and increasing the temperature.

Leading to a **growing number and intensity of extreme weather events.**



Changing Rain
and Snow
Patterns

Changes in Animal
Migration and Life Cycles

Less
Snow and Ice

Higher Temperatures
and More Heat Waves

More Droughts
and Wildfires

Thawing
Permafrost

Stronger
Storms

Damaged
Corals

Rising
Sea Level

Warmer
Oceans

Changes in
Plant Life Cycles

What does Climate Change mean for Telford and Wrekin?

We are seeing a trend towards **warmer, wetter winters** and **hotter, drier summers** and there is emerging evidence of **changing rainfall patterns**.

The top six areas of climate change related risks are:

- **Flooding** risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure
- Risks to **health, well-being** and **productivity** from high temperatures
- Risk of **shortages in the public water supply**, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry
- Risks to **natural capital**, including terrestrial, soils and biodiversity
- Risks to **domestic food production and trade**
- New and emerging **pests and diseases, and invasive and non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals**



National/Local Picture

National The Government has legislated for net-zero emissions by 2050

Telford & Wrekin Council

- 25th July 2019 Climate **Emergency Declaration** made with strong cross party political support for action
- **Commitment** for the Council to be Carbon Neutral by 2030
- And a **Aspiration** for the Borough to be the same
- February 2020 **Telford & Wrekin Council Becoming Carbon Neutral Action Plan** launched setting out the Council's journey to Carbon Neutral by 2030
- June 2020 **Telford and Wrekin Borough Climate Change Partnership** inaugural meeting



The Motion

- Make a **commitment** for the Council's operations and activities to be carbon neutral by 2030;
- Work with partners to identify and implement **adaptation and mitigation measures** to deal with the effects of the ongoing changes in climate;
- Collaborate and engage with residents, partners and businesses in Telford & Wrekin and at a regional and national level to achieve our aspiration for the borough to be carbon neutral by 2030 – **making sure we take communities with us, protect employment and without impoverishing our most deprived communities;**
- Measure our current carbon footprint as a **baseline** to enable us to report on progress;
- Set up a **partnership** to develop an action plan to move this declaration to delivery.



Climate Change action is not new!

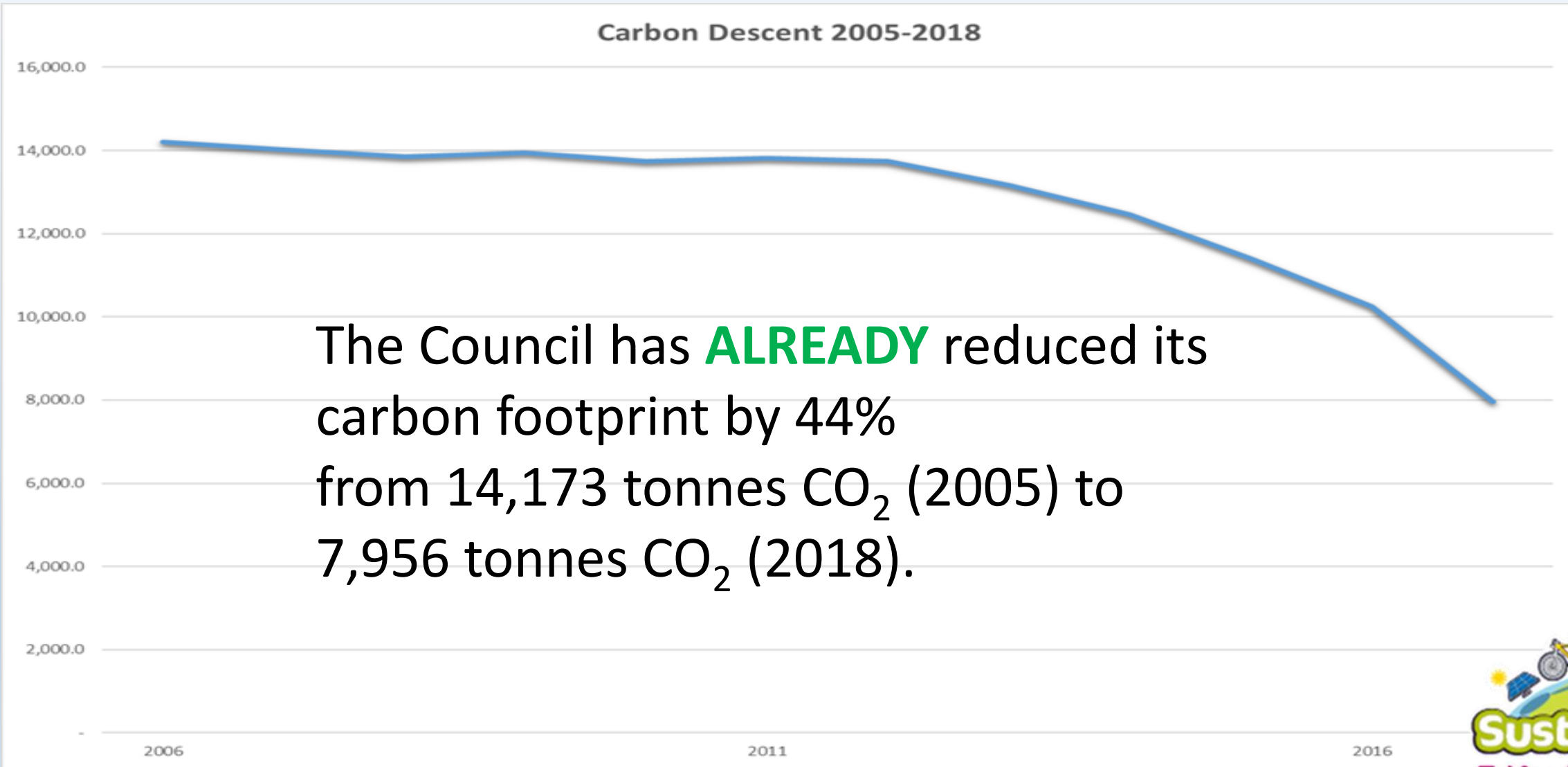
- Protection to 200 **Green Guarantee** sites – Council owned sites that provide valued local assets which also contribute to flood alleviation and act as ‘green lungs’ providing carbon sequestration
- Conversion of over 20,000 street lighting to **LED lighting**. 98% of the conversion has been completed. The scheme has delivered savings of £420,000 per year since 2018/19 from the initial investment of £5.2 million.
- Installing only the second publically owned **Solar Farm**, the 4MW solar farm at Wheat Leasows generates enough electricity to power 800 homes generating 18.63 GWh of green electricity, a total carbon avoidance of over 9,000 tonnes, which has generated an income of £1.83m
- **Sustainable Buildings Initiative** – Delivering LED lighting schemes across four corporate buildings (Darby House, Wellington Civic Centre, Telford Ice Rink and Telford Tennis Centre), as well as solar PV at Telford Ice Rink and the Telford Tennis Centre – delivering energy savings of 548558 kWh (equivalent to cost savings of £71,312.54) and CO2 reductions of 194.78 tonnes.



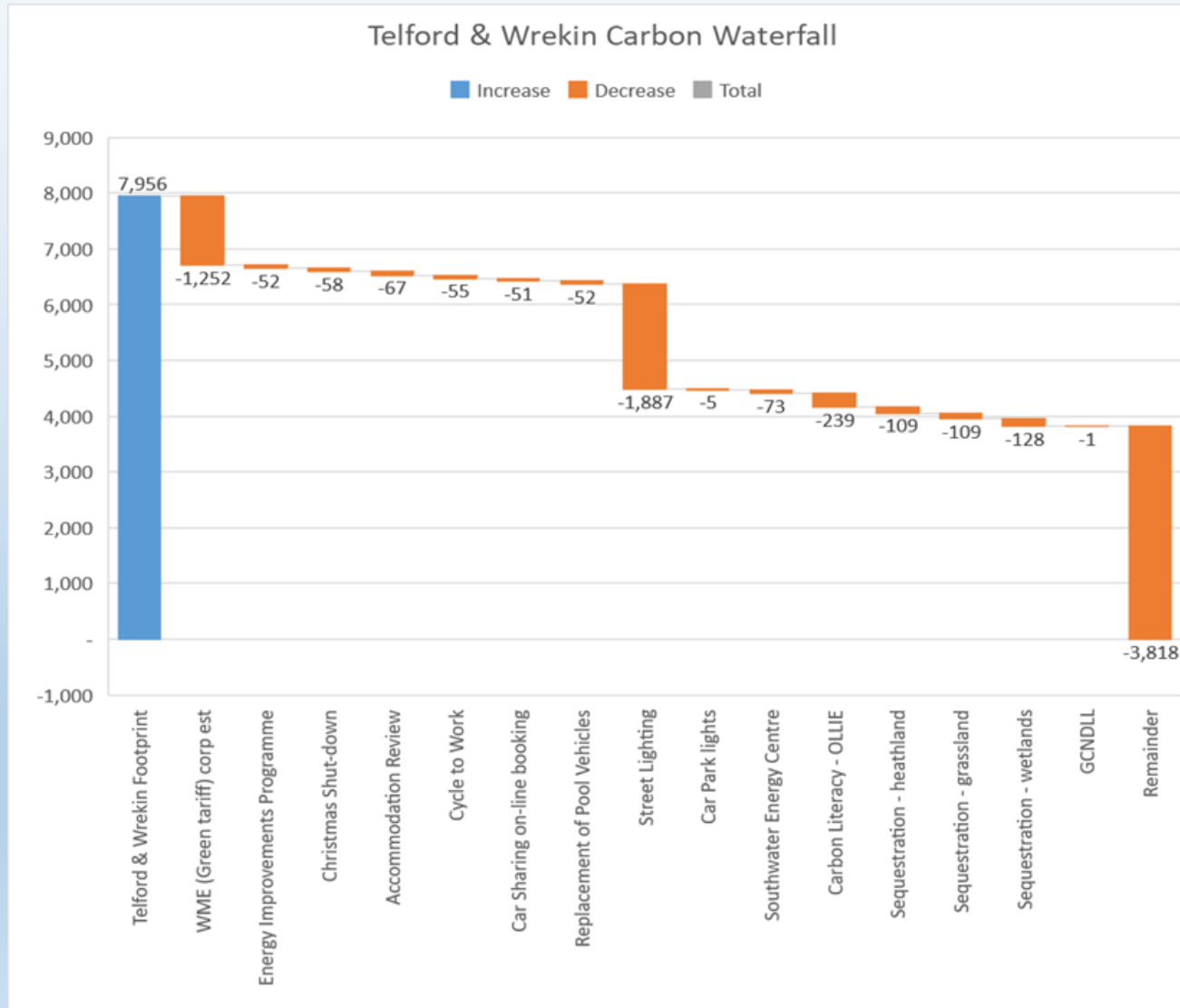
Telford & Wrekin Council Carbon Emissions from 2005 – 2018 Trajectory

Carbon Descent 2005-2018

The Council has **ALREADY** reduced its carbon footprint by 44% from 14,173 tonnes CO₂ (2005) to 7,956 tonnes CO₂ (2018).



Telford & Wrekin Council Waterfall



Need to reduce carbon emissions by further **7,956 tonnes CO₂** to achieve carbon neutral by 2030

Initial Action Plan:

Identified actions where carbon reductions can be identified will lead to a saving of **4,138 tonnes CO₂**.

Leaving residual tonnes of **3,818 tonnes CO₂** to be found



Telford & Wrekin Council in Action

Amongst the actions in the Plan we are setting out to:

- Implement a programme of **low carbon retrofit schemes** across our corporate buildings
- Implement a **cycle to work scheme** for employees
- Procurement of multi partner **electric vehicle framework** and deployment across car parks in Telford & Wrekin
- **Review Council's Fleet Services to ensure optimum efficiency**
- Conversion of the remaining non **LED** highway and footway street lighting assets
- Rolling out **food waste collections** across Council buildings
- Becoming one of the first **Carbon Literate Councils** in England
- Enhance/restore over 70 ha of heathland, grassland, wetland across Council owned land
- Scoping the creation of a connected series of **community forests** – a key part of our 'forest community' commitment
- Working with our major contractors to produce **Carbon Reduction Action Plans** covering their operations.



Borough Partnership

A call to citizens, services, businesses, universities and other partners in the borough to help develop the Borough response – because we know this isn't a simple challenge the Council alone can 'fix', collective endeavour is vital.

Therefore:

- We have launched a webpage - Sustainable Telford and Wrekin:
<http://sustainabletelfordandwrekin.co.uk/>
- And
- Established a Borough Partnership to drive climate change action Borough-wide



How you have decided to help

The committee has indicated its wish to review every aspect of the current action plan. As the plan is organised in themes it may be helpful to review each theme in turn. The themes are:

- **Council Buildings**
- **Transport**
- **Housing**
- **Street Lighting**
- **Procurement**
- **Governance**
- **Energy**
- **Community**
- **Planning Policy**
- **Corporate**
- **Communications & training**
- **Land-use, biodiversity & carbon sequestration**



Thank you for
Listening

Any questions?

