

## **CLIMATE CHANGE & NATURE EMERGENCY ANNUAL UPDATE 2023**

### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### 1.1 That the Cabinet: -

- a) Acknowledges activities undertaken and progress made in 2022 in response to the declared Climate Change and Nature Emergency.
- b) Acknowledges that NFDC's role as a Local Authority is to support National Government policy around change and the environment; but as leaders of place, we can work with partners and the public to encourage all to understand and play their part.
- c) Approves the Climate Change and Nature Emergency Action Plan 2023.
- d) Supports the strategic direction of NFDC's climate action, as set out in this report, on the understanding that the three prioritised programmes of activity (Carbon Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Nature Recovery) are intended to ensure best results and maximum value for money.
- e) Agree to set a 5-Year Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2028 in summer 2023, in accordance with the revised Corporate Plan 2023-2027, with progress to be reported annually aligning activity to the financial year.

### **2. INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report provides an update on progress towards achieving the aims of the Climate and Nature Emergency Declaration. As committed in October 2021, an annual report is to be produced which summarises activity over the previous 12 months and sets out intended activity for the coming 12 months. This report covers the past period January 2022 to January 2023, with the Action Plan at Appendix 5 outlining activity to be undertaken from January 2023. The Action Plan will be reviewed and aligned with the 5-Year Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy 2023-2028 which will be considered by Cabinet in Summer 2023.
- 2.2 Building on the first Climate Change and Nature Action Plan (published February 2022), this report also sets out the three prioritised programmes of activity – Carbon Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Nature Recovery that the longer-term Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy will align with, acknowledging the scale of change and resource needed to meet local, national and global climate and environmental targets. Aligning with sector guidance and consistent with other local authority areas, this report presents an approach for how New Forest District Council (NFDC) can demonstrate climate leadership and safeguard council services and the wider area. The Council will need to continue to ensure that prioritisation of these objectives is embedded within the delivery of all services and fundamental to all projects and partnerships going forward.
- 2.3 Action to reduce greenhouse gasses, adapt to a changing climate and enhance natural environments are aspects of broader, holistic sustainability and should not be considered in isolation. Ensuring that actions align to long-term prosperity is the

ultimate goal and requires a considered approach that balances finances, health and wellbeing, ecosystem services, cost of living and the needs of future generations.

## BACKGROUND

- 2.4 Global temperature rise, which is driven by the increase of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) in the atmosphere, is causing our climate to change. Future climate projections by the Met Office show that the UK is likely to experience hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters, with extreme weather events such as heatwaves and heavy downpours becoming more frequent and more intense. How significant the changes are depends on the degree of temperature rise. More information can be found in the [Government's Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022](#).
- 2.5 International agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Pledge have been created to help countries slow down or eliminate the emission of greenhouse gasses. Technological advances, reporting frameworks and numerous international initiatives are underway and are helping to reduce emissions levels, however progress in achieving the agreed targets is significantly off track.
- 2.6 Central Government has set a target for the UK to reach net zero carbon by 2050, with an [interim target of 78% reduction on 1990 levels by 2035](#). Many of the infrastructure, legislative and investment interventions needed to reach these targets will be implemented at a national level – grid electrification, planning policy, vehicle emissions rates etc – but much can be done at the local level to encourage sustainable behaviour change, reduce energy demand, improve climate resilience and build a green economy.
- 2.7 The majority of local authorities in the UK have chosen to show support for this national target and its unpinning environmental objectives through the declaration of a Climate Emergency. It should be noted that the scope of each authority's declaration is slightly different, with objectives and targets that are specific to their local context, taking into account the unique physical, financial, social and political factors of each locality. The New Forest District Council's Climate and Nature Emergency declaration of 6 October 2021 can be seen [here](#) on the council's website. This was followed by a report to Council on 16 February 2022 which can be seen [here](#).
- 2.8 Local geography and conditions will influence the extent to which climate change impacts are felt in different regions. Projections based on data from 1991 to 2019 show that the New Forest District Council area is most likely to suffer changes in the summer as opposed to the winter (see summary Table 1 and Table 2 below). The most significant changes are in the frequency and intensity of hot summer days, which in combination with other factors such as sustained drought with flash flooding, can cause a number of primary and secondary problems, for example on human health and wellbeing, plant survival and building performance.

SUMMER (1991-2019)	Current climate	2°C global warming	4°C global warming
Hottest day	33.6	36.5	40.8
Wettest day	40mm	59mm (+46%)	58mm
Rainy days/month	8	7	5
Days above 25°C	4	8	18

Table 1: [Summer Climate Change Projections for NFDC Area](#)

WINTER (1991-2019)	Current climate	2°C global warming	4°C global warming
Warmest day	17.5	18	19.1
Rainy days/month	12	12	12
Wettest day	54mm	58mm	60mm (+11%)

**Table 2: Winter Climate Change Projections for NFDC Area**

2.9 There is scientific consensus on the general trends and expected impacts of climate change, however models and projections are frequently being updated to reflect new data and observed activity. Though not necessary to repeat lengthy research frequently at the local level, it is essential that NFDC remains aware of key changes in the climate knowledgebase and updates its risk assessments and programmes of activity accordingly. For instance, Table 1 above references the hottest day between 1991-2019 as 33.6°C as the baseline for future projections for 2°C and 4°C future warming, however this doesn't take into account the record high temperatures experienced in summer 2022. Updated data and interpretation will provide guidance as to whether the projections shown above remain accurate averages and 2022 temperatures were an anomaly, or whether the climate change forecasts need to be revised as a result of faster or more intense warming.

2.10 Acting in response to the Climate Change and Nature Emergency will also deliver substantial co-benefits around health and wellbeing, biodiversity, upskilling our workforce and enhancing our local economy.

### **3. CLIMATE ACTION IN PARTNERSHIP**

3.1 To have maximum impact and deliver best value for money, NFDC needs to act in partnership with our neighbours and sector peers. Presenting a clear and consistent approach to our residents, businesses and visitors is the most effective way of reducing emissions, adapting to climate change and restoring our natural assets.

3.2 Geographically, the NFDC area overlaps with the New Forest National Park and with Hampshire County Council (HCC) - see Appendix 2. This offers many opportunities such as joint funding and shared resources, but also presents challenges, particularly around delivering effective change across administrative boundaries and managing impacts/benefits without double counting. NFDC will continue to use the [national dataset produced by BEIS](#) to monitor emissions reductions in the NFDC area and communicate with partners to ensure clear and consistent messaging and reduce any duplication of effort.

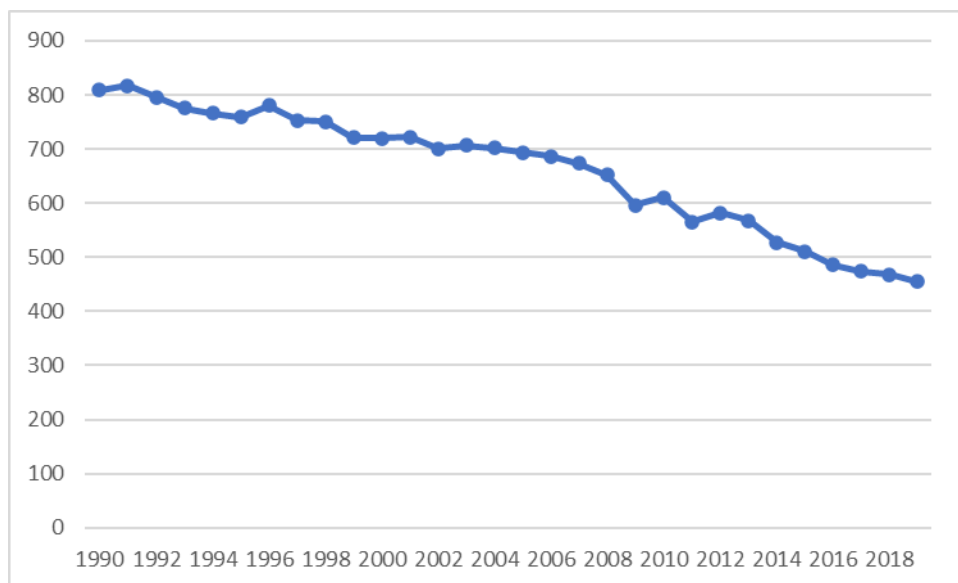
3.3 HCC declared a climate emergency in June 2019 and as part of their ongoing work around climate risk management, energy resilience and carbon reduction, HCC create and support programmes that are accessible to the district councils, residents and businesses. This includes activities to address the main sources of GHG emissions, such as retrofitting homes, renewable energy generation and nature recovery. In 2022, the New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) also launched its [Re:New Forest Partnership Plan 2022-2027](#) which set 'Net Zero with Nature' as one of its 5 key objectives. NFDC's Climate Change and Nature Strategy has been developed to compliment both HCC and NFNPA's climate activities. We will work collaboratively to ensure that programmes are successful and delivering against shared environmental objectives.

3.4 NFDC already works with and coordinates with other partners through a number of networks and professional organisations, some of which are listed below in section 6. NFDC will continue to collaborate with these partners and others to deliver the most effective and sustainable outcomes. In some cases, this will involve the joint delivery of projects, but it could also include cross-promotion of activities or the provision of tools, resources and information. Work has already been done by the Council and others to understand the needs and priorities of partners and communities as well as the drivers which will give them the urgency and capacity to act. This knowledge base underpins actions within the Climate Change and Nature Emergency Action Plan and Strategy (to follow in 2023).

#### 4. BASELINE DATA

4.1 In order to set appropriate targets and monitor progress effectively, we must first understand our baseline – where we are trying to get from. Knowing what our previous emissions were and what initiatives have taken place to reduce them since that date, allows us to create future emissions reduction pathways.

4.2 The UK Government’s target of net zero carbon by 2050 is based on 1990 emissions levels. In 1990, the UK produced net greenhouse gas emissions of 809.1 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e). In 2005, national emissions were calculated to be 694.2MtCO<sub>2</sub>e – a reduction of approx. 14% on 1990 levels. In 2019, national emissions were calculated to be 454.8MtCO<sub>2</sub>e – a reduction of approx. 44% on 1990 levels (see [final-greenhouse-gas-emissions-tables-2019.xlsx \(live.com\)](#))

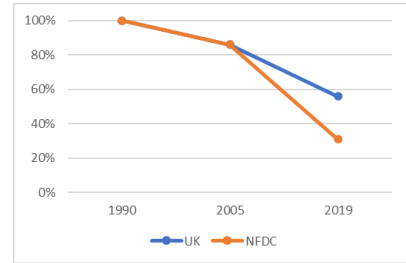


**Graph 1: UK net emissions 1990-2019 (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e)**

4.3 BEIS currently provides local area emissions data from 2005 to 2019. This can be accessed at [2005-19\\_UK\\_local\\_and\\_regional\\_CO2\\_emissions.xlsx \(live.com\)](#) and summary charts can be found in Appendix 1. In 2005, NFDC area emissions were calculated to be 2589.2 thousand tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (ktCO<sub>2</sub>e).

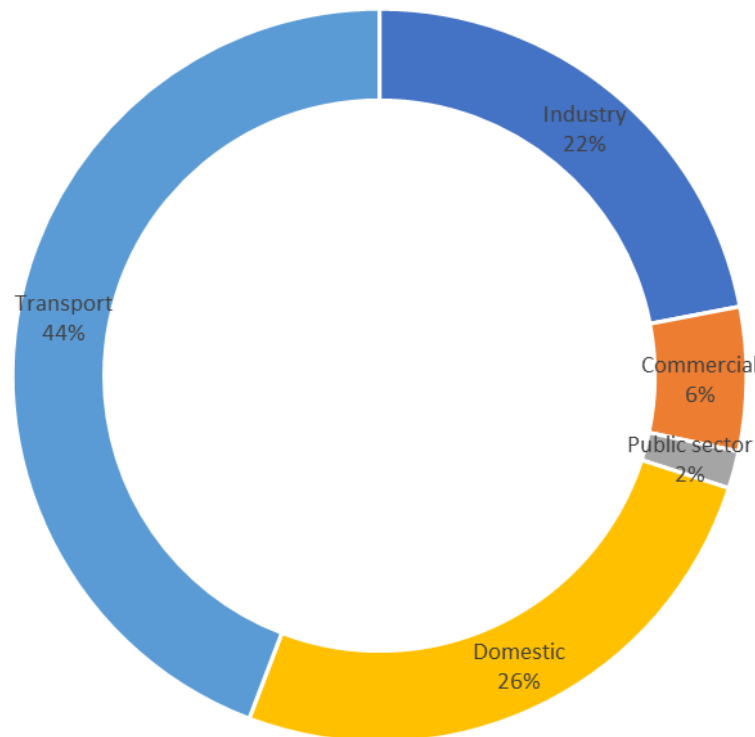
4.4 Using the national data referenced above (4.2) as an indication of average emissions change in the UK between 1990 and 2005 (14%), we can estimate that New Forest District Council area emissions in 1990 were approximately 3010.7ktCO<sub>2</sub>e.

	UK (MtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	% reduction from 1990	NFDC area (ktCO <sub>2</sub> e)	% reduction from 1990
1990	809.1	-	3010.7 (estimated)	-
2005	694.2	14%	2589.2	14%
2019	454.8	44%	928	69.2%



**Table 3: Baseline Emissions - UK and NFDC**

- 4.5 This means that if the NFDC area were emitting 3010.7ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 1990, the percentage change is measured from this figure. Table 3 above shows that in 2019, the NFDC area had already reduced emissions by 69.2%, however the charts in Appendix 1 show that the rate of decline is levelling off across many sectors and reaching absolute zero emissions is very unlikely (especially given infrastructure, technology, investment and resource limitations). Therefore, if some emissions are still produced, the NFDC area will need to remove greenhouse gasses from the atmosphere in another way - through nature- or technology-based solutions, as discussed in 5.8.
- 4.6 In the New Forest District Council area, the most significant emissions sectors (and subsectors) are transport (*minor road transport*), domestic (*gas*) and industry (*large industrial installations*).



**Graph 2: NFDC Area Emissions by sector 2019**

- 4.7 When compared to the other District Council areas in Hampshire, New Forest has the highest domestic and industrial emissions, and the second highest transport and commercial emissions (worst performers in each sector highlighted red in Table 4 below). These high emissions can be attributed to building type and efficiency (homes and business premises), their distribution across the area (rural with limited connectivity) and industrial operations in the east of the district. Net total emissions and subsequent per capita and per km<sup>2</sup> rates are comparatively low due to the high absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>e through the New Forest land use (best performer highlighted green).

	Industry	Commercial	Public sector	Domestic	Transport	Land use	Per capita	Per km <sup>2</sup>	TOTAL
Basingstoke and Deane	141.3	80.9	19.6	253.7	511.4	-62.4	5.3	1.5	944.5
East Hampshire	78.3	29.8	9.6	198.7	327.6	-55.2	4.8	1.1	588.8
Eastleigh	54.2	51.1	15	171	272.6	-2.7	4.2	6.6	561.1
Fareham	47.3	41.2	19.8	153.7	202.9	-6.3	3.9	5.9	458.5
Gosport	22.4	21.5	9.4	94.4	56.4	-1.9	2.4	7.3	202.2
Hart	47.1	51.4	13.1	153.6	234.3	-27.2	4.9	2.2	472.3
Havant	40.9	29.1	9.7	164.3	164.8	-4.7	3.2	5.1	404.2
New Forest	230.3	66.4	17.2	270.6	463.3	-119.7	5.2	1.2	928
Rushmoor	36.9	52	13.3	119.3	135.3	-7.6	3.7	8.9	349.3
Test Valley	114	55.8	20.4	188.6	454.2	-40.1	6.3	1.3	792.8
Winchester	96.8	62.4	27.2	189.8	455.1	-49.3	6.3	1.2	782

**Table 4: Hampshire District Councils' Emissions by sector 2019**

- 4.8 There are two main approaches to meeting the net zero target – offsetting and insetting. Offsetting acknowledges that some emissions cannot be eliminated at the current time, so an organisation or area chooses to pay a third party to remove the equivalent amount of carbon from their activities or the atmosphere (at a cost per tonne CO<sub>2</sub>e). The offsetting organisation meets its net zero target but needs to pay to offset each year (at an increasing rate due to inflation and/or policy). Insetting is a more recent concept that involves investing the same amount of money an organisation would need to for offsetting, in internal/local projects to reduce the amount of emissions produced that would require offsetting. True emissions reduce year on year, requiring less annual investment to eliminate. Insetting takes longer to reach net zero, but is likely much less costly in the long term – a simple demonstration is shown in Table 5.

OFFSETTING				
Unavoidable emissions per year (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Year	Offset cost per tCO <sub>2</sub> e (£)	Est. Offset fee per year (£)	Net zero target reached
1000	2050	125.00	125,000	Yes
1000	2051	128.75	128,750	Yes
1000	2052	132.61	132,613	Yes
INSETTING				
Unavoidable emissions per year (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Year	Offset cost per tCO <sub>2</sub> e (£)	Est. Inset investment per year (£)	Net zero target reached
1000	2050	125.00	125,000	No
900	2051	128.75	115,875	No
800	2052	132.61	106,088	No

**Table 5: Worked example to demonstrate difference between offsetting and insetting**

- 4.9 The above information relates to the national net zero target which was supported through the NFDC Climate Change and Nature Emergency declaration. Many organisations however, have decided to set complementary (and often more challenging) targets for reaching net zero in their own operations. Not only does this drive down emissions faster in the local area, it stimulates investment in green technologies and growth of green businesses, at the same time encouraging sustainable behaviour change and demonstrating climate leadership. NFDC has not declared an internal net zero target to date, however this is something that will be considered in the future.
- 4.10 Known NFDC Council emissions in 2021/22 were calculated using the Local Partnerships/LGA Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool for Local Authorities. More information about the methodology, including scope and assumptions, can be found [here](#). Known emissions for the financial year 2021/22 were calculated as follows in Table 6:

Scope	Emissions Type	Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Percentage of Total Emissions
Scope 1	Heating	1174	34%
	Fugitive Emissions	0	0%
	Authority's Fleet	1623	46%
Scope 2	Electricity	558	16%
Scope 3	Staff Business Travel	80	2%
	Outsourced Fleet	0	0%
	Transmission and Distribution Losses	49	1%
	Water	18	1%
	Material Use	0	0%
	Waste generated from own operations	0	0%
	Outsourced Scope 3	0	0%
<b>Total Emissions</b>		<b>3503</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 6: NFDC Council Emissions 2021/22**

- 4.11 Where values are listed as '0' in Table 6, this is because data is not available at this time or at this level. It is also important to note that the figures do not include leased out buildings i.e. housing, leisure, commercial properties where NFDC does not pay the energy bills. Any changes in scope or data will affect the amount emissions that NFDC is committed to eliminating. Taking broader accountability for emissions would increase the practical and financial burden for the Council but would ultimately reduce emissions from assets over which we have significant influence and a social responsibility.
- 4.12 In addition to calculating the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions associated with NFDC's operations, it is important to monitor the amount of utilities consumed and the cost paid for them. Looking at only one of these factors will not give a true indication of progress, for the following reasons:
- Emissions per unit of gas/electric/water will change over time as conversion factors are updated to reflect greening of the grid etc
  - Unit quantity shows if we are successfully driving down demand and achieving sustainable behaviour change/process improvements
  - Cost will reflect the impact of unit rates. From April 2022, the UK has experienced significant increases in the unit price of energy, so the expectation is that next year's report will show a reduction in energy used, but an increase in the cost paid

Utility	Annual Unit Quantity	Annual Cost
Gas	6,411,516kWh	£178,952
Electricity	2,448,311kWh	£457,203
Water	47,820m <sup>3</sup>	£143,960

**Table 7: Utility consumption and costs 2021/22**

- 4.13 The figures in Table 7 include all NFDC operated buildings/facilities, excluding council housing and leisure centres. Water consumption includes supply and waste figures. The majority of gas and electric metres are arranged through a consortium contract with LASER, however not all metres are on the same unit rates.

## 5. CLIMATE CHANGE & NATURE EMERGENCY – STRATEGIC UPDATE 2022

- 5.1 The previous annual report to Cabinet on 6 February 2022 identified six strategic actions to address the Climate Change and Nature Emergency. Progress against the intended outcomes for 2022 are detailed below in Table 8.

<b>Strategic Action 1: Define to set targets for the climate change emergency declaration</b>	
<p><b>Planned Activities for 2022:</b> De-couple the New Forest District Council estate versus the wider New Forest area and set targets. Scoping what is covered by term estate. Identifying and working with experts to assess the trajectory for reducing emissions for both the estate and wider area. Assessing what is in and out of scope for the estate emissions.</p>	<p><b>Progress by end 2022:</b> Complete – see Section 4  Scoping of trajectory work commenced, to be carried into 2023  Complete – as per LGA Tool guidance (see Section 4)</p>
<p><b>Outcome intended:</b> A fully defined, evidence-based target with a pathway outlined</p>	<p><b>Outcome achieved:</b> Work commenced, to be completed in 2023</p>
<b>Strategic Action 2: Define the target for the nature emergency declaration</b>	
<p><b>Planned Activities for 2022:</b> Identifying and working with experts to identify relevant baseline measurements and a trajectory for meeting and measuring progress towards the target. Assess against the Environment Act to align the target with Central Government.</p>	<p><b>Progress by end 2022:</b> Baseline measurements for meeting net zero by 2050 target complete (see Section 4)  Alignment to Environment Bill and Climate Change Roadmap to be completed in 2023</p>
<p><b>Outcome intended:</b> A fully defined, evidence-based target with a pathway outlined</p>	<p><b>Outcome achieved:</b> Work commenced, to be completed in 2023</p>
<b>Strategic Action 3: Collate existing data and conduct area-wide baseline emissions to identify key areas for future focus</b>	
<p><b>Planned Activities for 2022:</b> Map existing baseline data and carry out a gap analysis Identifying and working with experts to conduct the area-wide baseline emissions data. Map baseline data against existing actions to identify gaps and consolidate these into a long-term programme to reach the climate change targets.</p>	<p><b>Progress by end 2022:</b> Area-wide emissions known; NFDC emissions gap analysis to be carried out  Complete – BEIS data (see Section 4)  Complete – Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy and Action Plan aligns work programmes with major emissions/ impact sources</p>
<p><b>Outcome intended:</b> Data-driven programme on climate change</p>	<p><b>Outcome achieved:</b> Data-driven programme on climate change</p>
<b>Strategic Action 5: Develop a climate change and nature engagement and communications strategy.</b>	
<p><b>Planned Activities for 2022:</b> Reaching residents, such as through developing webpages to showcase information, including the climate change actions. Utilising internal communications channels and developing further external channels. Exploring insights-led, behavioural change communications to engage residents.</p>	<p><b>Progress by end 2022:</b> Work underway with Corporate Communication Team to develop climate comms strategy – to be carried into 2023  Internal comms utilised in 2022, including newsletters, staff briefings and social activities</p>



Carry out a stakeholder mapping exercise and development an engagement plan. Capture activities of other stakeholders and target/performance measures. Continue to work with partners on shared messages to influence behaviours.	Analysis of climate questions in residents survey to be undertaken in 2023, followed by engagement plan Engagement with key partners – HCC and NFNPA Engagement with key partners – see Sections 3 and 6
<b>Outcome intended:</b> Greater transparency and availability of information regarding the work being carried out on climate change/nature.	<b>Outcome achieved:</b> Work commenced, to be carried into 2023
<b>Strategic Action 6: Maximise partnerships and networks to facilitate the delivery of projects.</b>	
<b>Planned Activities for 2022:</b> Maximising links with Hampshire County Council, such as through the Hampshire Climate Change Officers Group, to align with and support existing projects, such as community engagement initiatives. - Demonstrate Place Leadership and maximise partnership working with the New Forest National Park Authority and Forestry England. Map existing projects and programmes and identify gaps to inform future actions. Join new local and national networks on nature and climate change to enhance knowledge, alongside becoming more deeply involved in existing networks to amplify the climate change and nature agenda.	<b>Progress by end 2022:</b> Continued engagement with HCOG and other professional/community networks – see Sections 3 and 6  Engagement with new and existing networks e.g. ADEPT, LGA, IEMA
<b>Outcome intended:</b> Leading the Place with greater partnership working and shared knowledge.	<b>Outcome achieved:</b> Working towards place leadership

**Table 8: Progress against Strategic Actions 2022**

5.2 A summary of the full Climate Change and Nature Emergency Action Plan 2022 can be seen in Appendix 4, including action updates to show what has been achieved and identification of actions to be carried forward into the Action Plan 2023. Key activities undertaken in 2022 to address Council aspects and those in the wider area, are highlighted below in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 respectively.

5.3 Progress 2022 – NFDC Council:

A number of initiatives were carried out in 2022 by NFDC to respond to the Climate Change and Nature Emergency, both in what we do and how we do it (our services and our operations). Some of the key activities are outlined below.

a) NFDC Carbon Footprint Data:

The Local Partnerships/LGA Greenhouse Gas Accounting Tool for Local Authorities LGA carbon toolkit was used to assess carbon impact data for the financial year 2021/22. Using this methodology enables NFDC to demonstrate compliance with industry guidance and consistency with local authority peers when monitoring and reporting its carbon impact.

b) Creation of Climate and Nature Governance Framework and Steering Group:

The Climate and Nature Governance Framework can be found at Appendix 3. The

Steering Group, which comprises officers from across the Council and is chaired by the Chief Executive, met three times in 2022 and will continue to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss progress, challenges and opportunities.

- c) Appointment of Climate Change Manager:  
NFDC's new Climate Change Manager came into post in October 2022, charged with setting the strategic direction of action to address the Climate Change and Nature Emergency. The Climate Change Manager is responsible for driving forward and monitoring progress in regard to carbon reduction, climate adaptation and nature recovery, but will not be directly responsible for project delivery – this is the duty of all officers, members and stakeholders.
- d) Corporate building improvements:  
New boiler installed at ATC (South Wing) to improve energy efficiency and reduce operating costs.  
Replacement of any failed lighting unit with LED (bulb and fitting) to improve energy efficiency. Upgrade of emergency lighting at ATC to LED carried out in 2022.  
Hot water dispensers at ATC (11 in total) fitted with inexpensive time clocks to reduce operating hours from 24/7 to business hours only, Monday-Friday.
- e) Solar PV:  
Upgrade of existing solar PV installed at ATC and LTH locations to Solar Edge technology.  
Installation of new rooftop solar PV array at newly acquired and refurbished Platinum Jubilee Business Park to meet BREEAM Very Good accreditation.
- f) Approval of the Greener Housing Strategy:  
The [Greener Housing Strategy](#) seeks to improve the efficiency of homes in the NFDC area and address issues such as energy efficiency, cost of living, renewable energy generation and sustainable transport. To deliver the strategy, a Greener Housing Manager was appointed in November 2022.
- g) New Build Housing:  
Support for sustainable construction techniques, commitment to making the Testwood Social Club redevelopment exemplar project. This involves the delivery of 10-12 high quality houses/flats that will the full Future Homes Standard, maximising energy efficiency for residents and demonstrating high levels of sustainability and climate resilience.
- h) Sustainable Fleet Strategy:  
Development of the strategy is in progress, to be continued in 2023. Strategy will include use of more sustainable fuels and consider procurement of future-fit vehicles.
- i) Alternative Fuels:  
Creation of a 'live' briefing note which is updated as technology develops.  
Delivery of a HVO trial in 2022, which will be extended due to pump issues at the Clay Meadow Depot. Early indications show that there are fuel savings and HVO could be viable with economies of scale.
- j) EV network:  
29 fast chargers and 2 rapid chargers installed across NFDC car parks – location of chargers can be seen at [www.zap-map.com](http://www.zap-map.com). NFDC EV chargers are currently operating at approximately 11% capacity.
- k) Climate Action information week for staff and members:  
Drop-in information and engagement sessions were held at ATC in November 2022, coinciding with all staff briefings by the Chief Executive. Energy saving information

was shared, in addition to gathering ideas and feedback on carbon reduction/climate change/nature recovery activities and collecting suggestions about how to promote climate action through services and within our buildings.

- l) Climate and nature communications:  
Internal communications for staff through corporate newsletters, staff briefings and social activities.
- m) Depot electrification:  
Initial work undertaken to investigate the feasibility of electrical upgrades to NFDC depots to support the transition to electric fleet, whilst safeguarding electrical capacity and service delivery.
- n) Waste Strategy:  
Approval of waste strategy in July 2022 which will deliver new frontline services, increases recycling rates and reduces the carbon impact of dealing with New Forest's domestic waste. Current recycling rate is approximately 34% which is targeted to increase to 55% through the delivery of the new strategy.
- o) Sustainable procurement:  
Inclusion of supply chain and disposal questions within specifications and tender documents, including carbon impacts of contracts.
- p) Green Infrastructure Strategy development:  
Pilot study completed in New Milton in 2022 to test methodology for the creation of a district-wide Green Infrastructure Strategy, the purpose of which is to inform the Local Plan development and identify neighbourhood-level GI projects.
- q) Corporate Trees:  
Ongoing management of corporate tree stock to ensure good health and maximise ecosystems services gained from trees, such as carbon sequestration, water retention and habitat creation.
- r) Paper-free Building Control:  
Work undertaken to convert traditionally paper-based processes into electronic procedures. All communication with customers via email wherever possible. Scanning and uploading of historic paper records to enable electronic archiving of documents.
- s) New Forest Show 2022:  
NFDC's stand encouraged visitors to the show to think about why 'Environment Matters'. Activities were designed to spark conversation and engagement in a wide range of environmental issues, including waste and climate change.
- t) Water refill stations:  
A number of water bottle refilling stations have been created/maintained to encourage residents and visitors to refill bottles and therefore reduce plastic waste. See the location of NFDC refill stations [here](#).

#### 5.4 Progress 2022 – NFDC Area:

Action to address the Climate and Nature Emergency (outside of NFDC direct operations) is undertaken by residents, businesses, community groups and third sector organisations. NFDC work in partnership to support and deliver many of these activities, some of which are highlighted below.

- a) Hampshire County Council:  
HCC declared 2022 as their 'Year of Climate Resilience'. This meant '*...taking*

*meaningful action to reduce carbon emissions, as well as making sure that Hampshire is prepared for the impacts of climate change both now and in the future.'* NFDC residents were able to engage with and benefit from a number of HCC initiatives carried out through 2022.

- b) Hampshire Climate Officers Group:  
This is a professional network of climate change, environmental and energy officers from the county and district councils in Hampshire. This group meets to share knowledge, information and opportunities – giving NFDC the opportunity to engage in larger-scale initiatives that could offer better uptake and value for money.
- c) New Forest Green Groups:  
Coordinated by the NFNPA, the New Forest Green Group meeting promote and support local, community-led initiatives that aim to support climate action and nature recovery. A number of individuals and organisations are involved, two of which received funding from the NFNPA to carry out community energy events and activities in 2022.
- d) Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM):  
NFDC has two Shoreline Management Plans (SMP) that span the district, the [Poole and Christchurch Bays SMP](#) that spans the coastline from Durlston Head to Hurst Spit and the [North Solent SMP](#) that spans the coastline from Hurst Spit through to Selsey Bill. These SMPs consider the future long-term flood and coastal erosion risk, setting aspirational management policies. In addition to the two SMPs, NFDC is also engaged in the delivery of two FCERM strategies in partnership with the Environment Agency, BCP Council and other key stakeholders. These are the [Christchurch Bay & Harbour Strategy](#) and the [Hurst Spit to Lymington Strategy](#). These strategies will consider how the management policies identified in the SMPs may be delivered, through identifying leading FCERM activities and considering current and future flood and erosion risk through the impacts of climate change. The delivery of any identified FCERM activities will be subject to securing suitable funding.
- e) The Solent Cluster:  
[The Solent Cluster](#) is a new partnership launched in 2022 that aims to make the Solent '*a leading centre for low carbon investment that will grow the regional economy, protect skilled jobs, and create new employment opportunities in the energy technologies and industries of tomorrow.*' Bringing together a significant number of high-profile members, this regional partnership aims to drive low carbon investment and innovation, which should capture up to 3.2million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.
- f) Public/Private trees:  
Work continued in 2022 to ensure that trees not under the direct management of NFDC were protected through mechanisms such as the planning system and the provision of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).
- g) Greening Campaign – Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust:  
One of many nature-focussed initiatives operating in the NFDC area aiming to educate and engage the public and organisations in the protection of biodiversity and safeguarding of natural habitats. In 2022, the Greening Campaign encouraged communities to use Magic Maps to log environmental information.

## 6. CLIMATE CHANGE & NATURE EMERGENCY – STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2023

- 6.1 From 2023, we propose to drive climate action through three main programmes of work – Carbon Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Nature Recovery (priority areas and indicative projects in tables below). This work will be underpinned by the integration of climate change and sustainability principles into all aspects of council operations, service delivery and partnership working. Supporting activities such as climate communications and governance are outlined in the Programme Management section of the Action Plan.
- 6.2 Reducing carbon (and other greenhouse gasses), adapting to the impacts of climate change and assisting nature recovery needs to be an intrinsic part of all activities and the responsibility of everyone – staff, members, partners and the public. We have a shared responsibility to act sustainably, which if we collectively fail to do, will result in missed targets and unnecessary health impacts and environmental degradation.
- 6.3 The Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy 2023-2028 is in development and will be presented to Cabinet for approval in Summer 2023. The 5-year strategy and Action Plan will span the implementation period April 2023-March 2028 and will outline key milestones and activities to achieve our declared objectives. The Strategy and Action Plan consistent with the new programme structure summarised below.
- 6.4 Carbon Reduction:  
The Carbon Reduction Programme will address the highest sources of carbon emissions that were identified in Section 4. Internally, the priority areas are fleet, gas and electric; externally the priority areas are industry, road transport and homes. Indicative projects have been suggested in the body of the table that would deliver high impact and best return on investment. This is not a definitive list of projects and will be updated regularly as a live programme to reflect new opportunities, funding and resource availability. The targeted projects will be complimented by business-as-usual improvements that need to be delivered by all staff and stakeholders. Adapting processes, policies and expectations to encourage carbon reduction in all activities will slow the rate of emissions, embed sustainable behaviour change and give projects the best chance of success.

CARBON REDUCTION					
INTERNAL PRIORITIES			EXTERNAL PRIORITIES		
Fleet	Gas	Electric	Industry	Road Transport	Homes
Depot electrification	Building fabric / insulation	LED lighting in buildings	Solent Cluster	LTP4 / LCWIP	Community Energy South
EV fleet replacement	BMS systems	Street lighting	Industry engagement	EV charging network	Retrofit / Greener Housing
Service delivery optimisation	Boiler replacement	Renewable energy	Carbon capture & storage	Public transport improvements	Local Plan
BUSINESS AS USUAL IMPROVEMENTS					
Sustainable policies, plans, services & procurement			Net zero infrastructure, investment & engagement		

**Table 9: NFDC Council and Area Carbon Reduction Programme**

- 6.5 Climate Adaptation:  
As with the Carbon Reduction Programme, our approach to the Climate Adaptation Programme aims to address the most urgent risks to the Council and the wider New Forest area. Ensuring that the primary climate change impacts are mitigated through the external priorities will safeguard people and places. Focussing internally on

climate risks to buildings, assets and staff will help to identify service vulnerabilities and assist in the creation of robust adaptation plans.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION					
INTERNAL PRIORITIES			EXTERNAL PRIORITIES		
Buildings	Assets	Staff	Flooding	Coastal Erosion	Heatwaves
Location risk assessment	Natural assets e.g. open space	Climate Champions	Built infrastructure	Christchurch Bay / Harbour FCERM	NHS / Public Health
Temperature adaptation	Fixed assets e.g. bins	Emergency preparedness	Natural infrastructure	Hurst Spit to Lymington FCERM	Community Resilience Plans
Storm resilience	Vehicles e.g. fleet / grey	Business continuity	Catchment partnerships	Durlston to Hurst SRM Programme	Water conservation
BUSINESS AS USUAL IMPROVEMENTS					
Service risk assessment, adaptation plans & comms			Area risk assessment, adaptation plans & comms		

**Table 10: NFDC Council and Area Climate Adaptation Programme**

#### 6.6 Nature Recovery:

Consistent with both Carbon Reduction and Climate Adaptation, the Nature Recovery Programme sets out internal and external priority areas for action. Protecting biodiversity, facilitating the connectivity of habitats and ensuring stewardship through long-term plans is key to reversing national and global trends in biodiversity and habitat loss. The programme seeks to fully understand the risks and opportunities for nature on NFDC land and design interventions that support nature recovery across the district and beyond.

NATURE RECOVERY					
INTERNAL PRIORITIES			EXTERNAL PRIORITIES		
Biodiversity	Connectivity	Stewardship	Biodiversity	Connectivity	Stewardship
NFDC land studies	Nature corridors / Habitat banking	Local Plan / SPDs / GI strategy	Environmental surveys / data	Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Environment Act / regulations
Habitat protection	Ecology infrastructure	Maintenance / upkeep	Habitat protection	Connectivity of strategic sites	BNG Credits / Habitat banking
Habitat creation	Local partnerships	Staff volunteering	Habitat creation	Active travel / accessibility	Ecology without boundaries
BUSINESS AS USUAL IMPROVEMENTS					
Nature Recovery in policies, strategies & decisions			Nature protection, enhancement & partnerships		

**Table 11: NFDC Council and Area Nature Recovery Programme**

#### 6.7 Programme Management:

To ensure effective and efficient delivery of the three Climate and Nature Emergency Programmes outlined above, the following Programme Management actions have been put in place. Robust monitoring, reporting, funding and communications will increase the chances of success in achieving our climate and nature objectives.

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT					
INTERNAL PRIORITIES			EXTERNAL PRIORITIES		
Communications	Governance	Funding	Communications	Data	Partnerships
Newsletters / updates	CC&NE Steering Group	NFDC internal budget	Social media	Carbon / Climate / nature data	Hampshire County Council
Staff / member training	Portfolio Holder	Central Government	External webpages	Public Reporting	New Forest National Park
Forest Net Resources	Decision making	Private investment	Public events	External verification	Professional organisations
BUSINESS AS USUAL IMPROVEMENTS					
CC&NE principles embedded in NFDC culture & services			Residents, businesses, visitors support CC&NE principles		

**Table 12: NFDC Climate Change and Nature Emergency Programme Management**

## 7. GOVERNANCE

7.1 The governance framework created in 2022 to support the initial response to the Climate Change and Nature Strategy can be seen at Appendix 3. This will be reviewed in 2023, as per the Action Plan.

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 A wide range of activities were carried out by NFDC and our partners in 2022 to positively address the Climate Change and Nature Emergency. A number of these activities will continue into 2023 and beyond, either through one-off project delivery or as business-as-usual activities.

8.2 Baseline data for utilities consumption and carbon emissions has been presented for NFDC, with narrative provided to explain scope, exclusions and limitations. Area-wide emissions figures have been included to show progress against the legally binding national target of net zero carbon by 2050, with comparisons drawn between neighbouring Hampshire districts.

8.3 In Summer 2023, a new Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2028 will be proposed to Cabinet to drive progress towards nationally and locally adopted environmental targets. The Strategy will be aligned to three prioritised programmes of activity – Carbon Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Nature Recovery. Programme management and governance arrangements have been outlined and will be further developed in early 2023 as the Action Plan 2023-2028 is finalised.

## 9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A one-off £500,000 budget was included in the Council's 2022/23 Capital Programme to support the delivery of the Climate Change and Nature Emergency Action Plan. The proposed Capital Programme for 2023/24 – 2025/26 includes an annual £250,000 to further support this work, with investments subject to an assessment of financial viability and a wider sustainability appraisal.

9.2 Although the budget set aside is a clear signal of intent from the Council to focus financial resource in this area, this budget will be insufficient to deliver all projects within the Action Plan and therefore projects will be prioritised, and funding further supplemented on a case-by-case basis where clear invest-to-save projections are attached. Sources of external funding will also be maximised through the delivery of the action plan, to include central government grants (e.g. Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme), match-funding (e.g. SALIX recycling fund), public

investment (e.g. community bonds) and private investment (e.g. commercial entities, landowners etc).

9.3 It should be noted that due to the large number, scale and complexity of actions within the Action Plan, factors such as officer time, technology, resource availability, procurement, legal and planning considerations will exacerbate budget pressures. Some projects will be relatively quick and straightforward to deliver with short-term returns on investment e.g. LED lighting replacement; but others will take months or years to deliver, requiring acceptance of longer term benefit realisation e.g. large scale renewable energy installations. Anticipated timescales, resource implications and funding requirements over a 5-year+ period will be reflected in the Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy, to be reviewed by Cabinet in Summer 2023.

9.4 As highlighted in Section 4 of this report, any change in scope will potentially impact the financial risk for NFDC. The severity of climate change experienced will also affect the pace and degree to which we will need to act, having knock on financial implications to ensure appropriate resourcing of activities and effective mitigation of risk.

## **10. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 None arising directly from this report.

## **11. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 All measures within the Action Plan will have a positive impact on the environment.

## **12. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 Action Plan includes actions which are likely have both positive and potentially negative impacts on persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic. These include, but are not limited to, social justice in terms of carbon and climate resilience and fuel poverty. A key strand of developing the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will be to fully assess the potential impacts of the actions and incorporate mitigation measures as necessary.

## **13. DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 None arising directly from this report.

## **14. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS**

14.1 The Annual Update provides a comprehensive update on a subject which touches on every aspect of our lives and of those to come after us. The Strategic Direction described in section 6 outlines the three main programmes of work which are to be undertaken and confirms this Council's determination to address Climate Change. I commend this report and look forward to the Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2028 which is to be proposed to Cabinet later this year.

### **For further information contact:**

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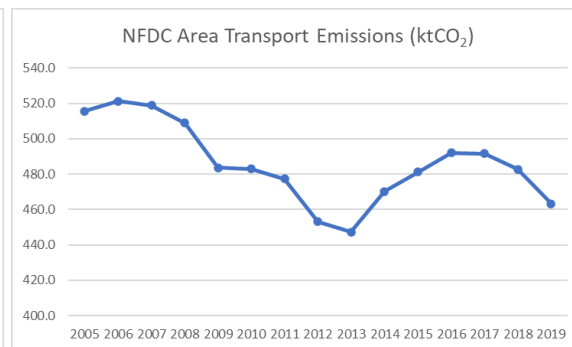
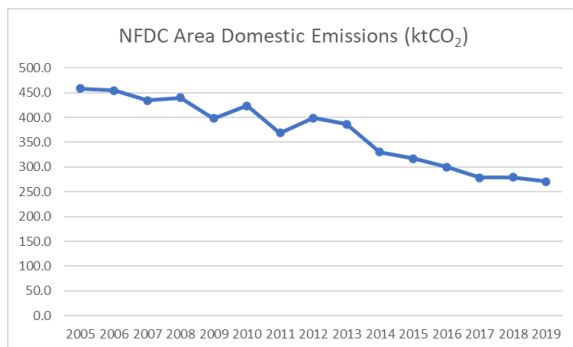
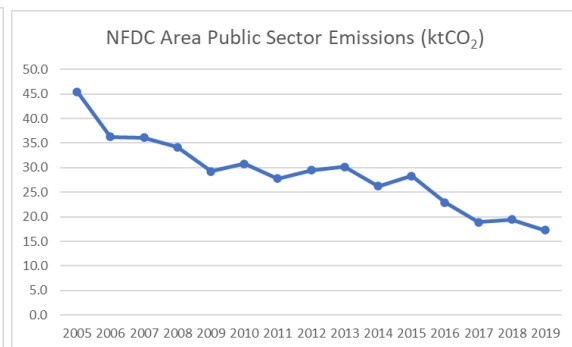
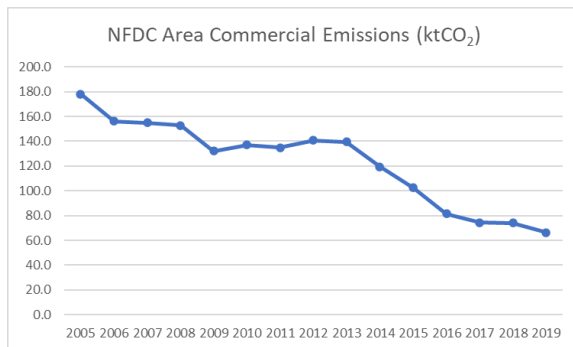
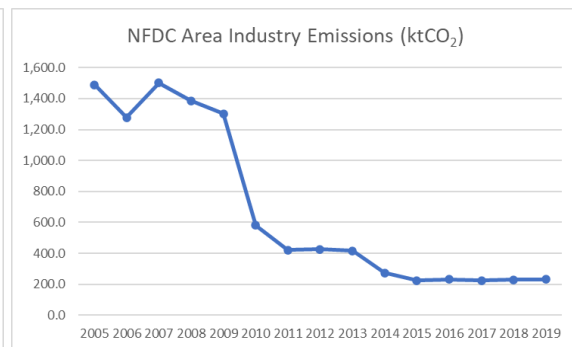
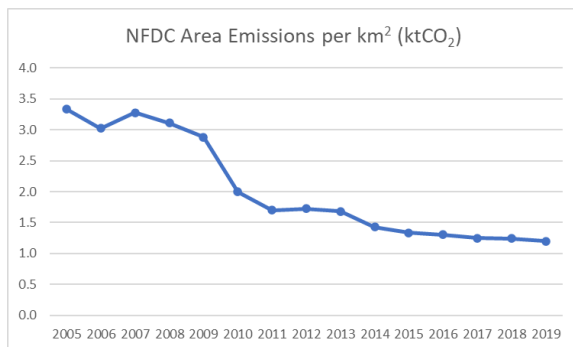
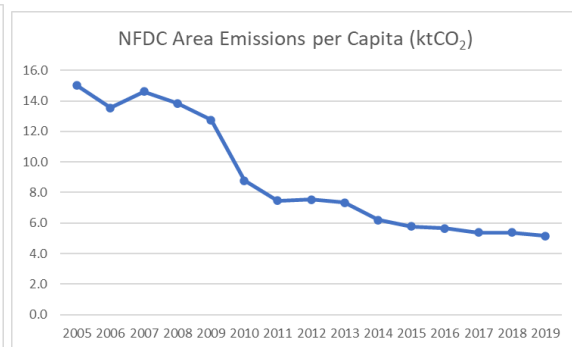
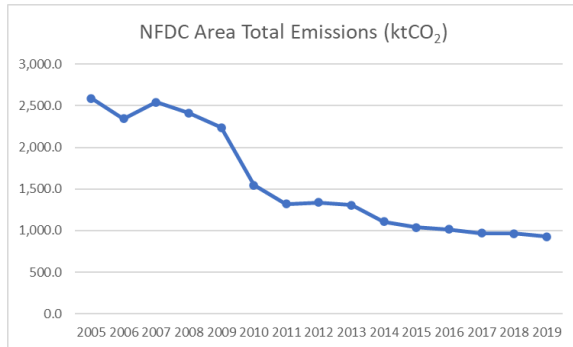
**Background Papers:** None

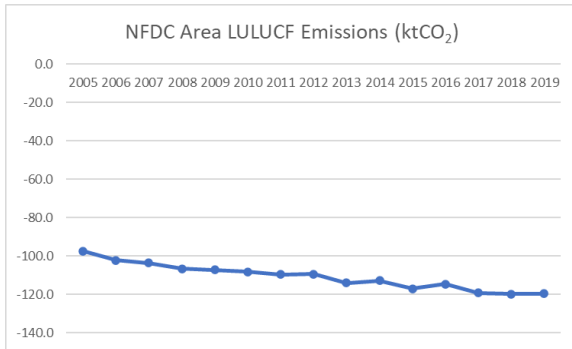


## APPENDIX 1

### SUMMARY CHARTS OF NFDC LOCAL AREA EMISSIONS DATA (2005 TO 2019)

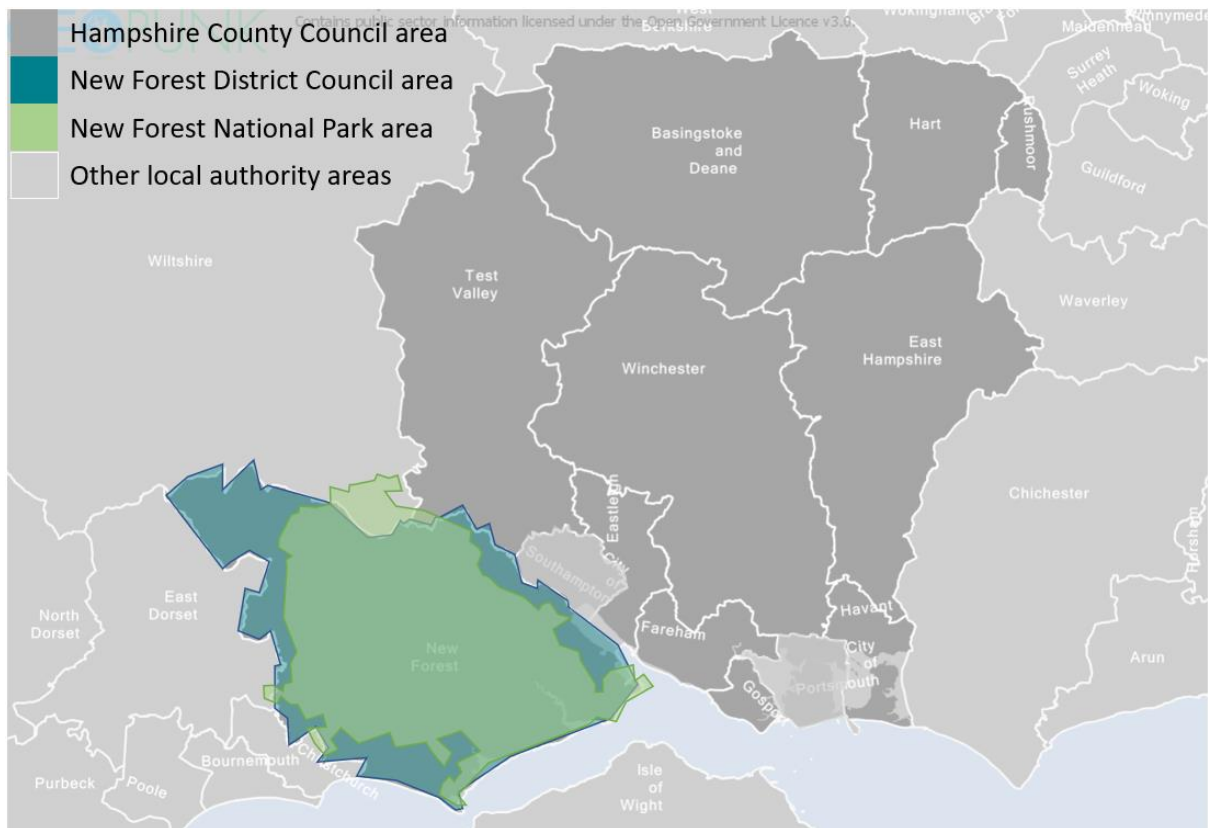
Data can be accessed at [2005-19\\_UK\\_local\\_and\\_regional\\_CO2\\_emissions.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)





## APPENDIX 2

### BOUNDARIES OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL AND NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK



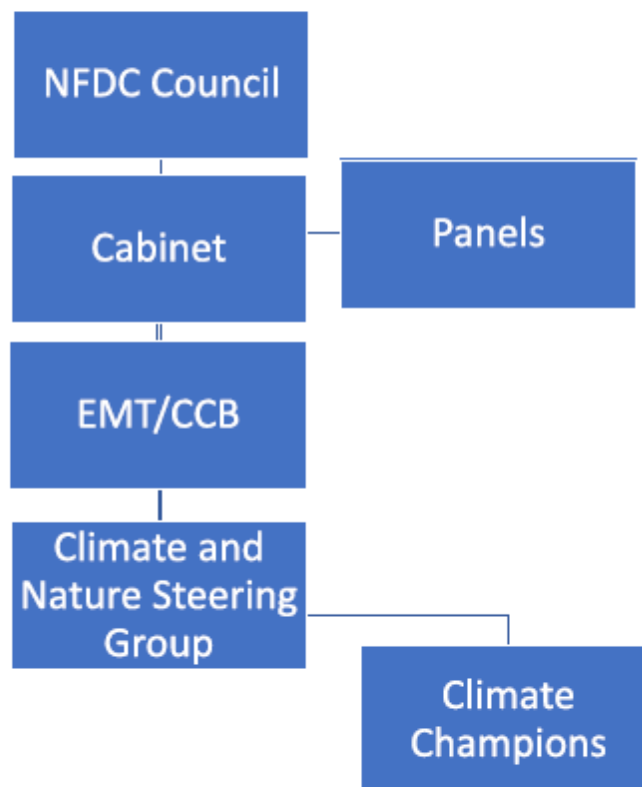
## APPENDIX 3

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURE EMERGENCY GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK 2022

#### Climate and Nature Governance

New Forest District Council declared a Climate and nature emergency in October 2021 and took a subsequent report to Council in February 2022 which outlined an approach to governance of this cross-cutting area of work. The responsibilities of the different groups outlined in the report are expanded upon in this document.

Key internal decision-making bodies and influencing groups are shown below. The diagram shows the accountability for decision-making, and more widely how communication will work between the key groups. Over time there will also be connections to wider groups within the community and business sectors in the new Forest, and across Hampshire.



#### Council

Council has responsibility for setting the overall policy which was established in the Council's declaration of a Climate Change and Nature Emergency in October 2021, and which set the direction for the initial action plan.

## Cabinet

Cabinet has oversight of the delivery of the strategic actions set out in the Action Plan 2022-23 and for the development and delivery of a Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2023 – 2028. It will consider as a minimum an annual report on delivery of the action plan.

## Overview and Scrutiny Panels

As outlined in the Council report the Panels have been asked to take a lead role in considering climate and nature impacts across their remit, to make recommendations to Cabinet, and to oversee performance against this cross-cutting agenda as it relates to their remit. Panels may set up task and finish groups to more fully develop policy and recommendations across major thematic areas of work. For example the Greener Housing task and finish group.

It is proposed that each Panel will have an annual update on the Climate and nature emergency in the autumn. This will then contribute to the development of an annual update to Cabinet.

## Climate and Nature Steering Group (CNG)

### Terms Of Reference

#### 1. Purpose

The CNG will share best practice, promote initiatives to reduce carbon, to identify opportunities of cross service working and facilitate behaviour change in the Council and its operations and wider community.

#### 2. Responsibilities

- To provide oversight and guidance in relation to achieving the Council's objectives.
- To share best practice, promote initiatives to create habitats, deliver biodiversity net gain and carbon off set projects.
- To update EMT and the Leader and Cabinet as appropriate.
- To promote use of Capital and Change Board to resource and approve change initiatives.
- To co-ordinate and facilitate the engagement and consideration of this agenda by the O&S Panels.
- To identify, initiate and monitor projects to reduce carbon in the council and community.
- To identify, initiate and monitor projects that make a positive contribution to the nature environment.
- To review and monitor the strategy and action plan delivery.
- To track performance against targets across the Council and for each service area.

### 3. Membership

Membership is outlined as follows

Name	Role
Kate Ryan	Chair
Claire Upton-Brown	Exec Head lead and Deputy Chair
Chris Noble	Waste
Richard Knott/Tim Davis	Housing
Jo McClay	Environmental health
Steve Cook	Coastal
Mark Williams	Planning
Chris Hodzman	Ecological and biodiversity
Samantha Wills	Buildings (energy efficiency and use)
Gary Jarvis	Procurement (utilities and general)
Simon Cooper	Transport (staff and fleet)
Sara Hamilton	Communications
TBC	Representative of Climate champions
Emma Waterman	Steering group support

### 4. Meeting Arrangements

#### Frequency

The CNG will meet bi-monthly with a work programme supplemented by a decision cut off one week before on items that will be included.

#### Standing Agenda Items

- Bid development and funding opportunities
- Action Plan 22-23 delivery
- O&S Panel updates
- Items for consideration from Climate champions

### 5. Climate champions

- When there is a dedicated climate resource they will establish and co-ordinate the Climate champions.
- Officers may volunteer or be nominated for the role of Climate Champion as they have an interest in climate action, carbon reduction, nature recovery, biodiversity and wider sustainability.
- Preferably there should be a champion for each key service area.
- Champions can be engaged through emails, virtual groups and meetings.
- They should aim to share best practice and facilitate behaviour change in their service area as well as make recommendations to the Climate and Nature Officer Group.
- Champions will not receive additional remuneration for their role but be given time to promote best practice during their agreed working hours and attend meetings as required.

## APPENDIX 4

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN 2022 UPDATE

Project Area	NATURE - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
Biodiversity Net Gain	Prepare and publish a biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document to build upon future mandatory requirements (10% Biodiversity Net Gain) and provide local context and requirements for developers including biodiversity design code and case studies. Biodiversity design code to include one nesting/roosting feature per dwelling average, hedgehog highways etc as standard.	Through the completion and adoption of the strategy	Integration of biodiversity enhancement measures and best practice as part of developments.	Nature and well-being	Draft SPD in development	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Explore potential for and cost of incorporating swift boxes in NFDC assets as part of scheduled planned maintenance e.g., re-roofing projects, soffits, fascias etc where access at height will be gained. Explore potential links with Hampshire Swifts.	Preparation of a costed plan to seek approval for this initiative. If successful, record the number of boxes installed, when and where and map these assets.	Greater nesting opportunities for the red listed swift (and other red listed species such as house sparrow). Improve their conservation status within the New Forest area.	Nature	Work continuing into 2023	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Explore NFDC landholdings to establish if there are any areas which could be suitable to deliver biodiversity net gain (BNG) projects. Seek to incorporate BNG into existing projects such as recreation mitigation sites.	Schedule of potential land parcels to be established. Proposals for individual projects that may arise from the land holding search.	Identify and deliver BNG projects	Nature, economic	Assessments underway as part of Green Infrastructure Strategy development	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Early introduction of requirements set out in the Environment Act 2021 to require development to deliver 10% biodiversity net gain. Local planning guidance on implementation published.	Biodiversity Net Gain metric	10% biodiversity net gain	Nature, health and wellbeing, environmental quality	Projects being delivered within larger scale developments with monitoring	Yes - Nature Recovery
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Christchurch Bay & Harbour Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy - a strategy to consider delivery of SMP management policies for flood & coastal erosion risk management activities.	Through the completion and adoption of the strategy	Delivery of an action plan of FCERM schemes that will consider future flood and erosion risk. Nature based solutions may be form part of the action plan. Taking account of future climate change.	Economic and social	Strategy developing	Yes - Climate Adaptation
	Hurst Spit to Lymington Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy - A strategy to consider delivery of SMP management policies for flood & coastal erosion risk management activities.	Through the completion and adoption of the strategy	Delivery of an action plan of FCERM schemes that will consider future flood and erosion risk. Nature based solutions may form part of the action plan. Taking account of future climate change.	Economic, nature and social	Strategy developing	Yes - Climate Adaptation
	Durlston to Hurst Sediment Resource Management Programme - identifying sediment sources to enable sustainable beach management.	By identifying suitable sites & implementing FCERM activities.		Nature & economic	Ongoing activity	Yes - Climate Adaptation
Habitat Preservation / Creation	Implement Grass Strategy to improve efficiency of grass cutting and introducing wildflowers. Trial will start in Totton working in partnership with Totton Town Council	Number of wildflower meadows created	Increase on pollination sources for bees and insects. Increase in habitat and biodiversity	Nature and well-being	Draft strategy in development	Yes - Nature Recovery
Tree Planting	Jubilee Tree Planting. Engage with local communities where possible and practical	Number of Trees planted in Support of Queens Jubilee	30 Locations for 60 trees and one site for woodland pasture creation	Nature, Health and wellbeing	60 trees planted successfully	No - complete
	Delivery of 'Tree Strategy'	Recording number of Replacement trees planted annually to meet 2:1 commitment	Achieve 2:1 ratio	Nature and Health	Current Strategy to be reviewed	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Require new development to plant trees	Through the assessment/sign off of a planning approval and the imposition of a planning condition	Planting carried out in accordance with the approved scheme and maintained until the trees become established	Nature and health	Being delivered in new developments	No - within another action
Local Green Infrastructure Strategies	Preparing local green Infrastructure Strategies for main settlements within the district. Pilot project for New Milton; others to follow for: Totton & Eling, Marchwood, Hythe & Dibden, Fawley/Blackfield/Holbury, Lymington & Pennington, Ringwood, Fordingbridge/Ashford/Sandleheath, Milford on Sea	Completion of local settlement strategies	GI improvement projects in: Signage of walking routes, making green spaces interesting places, improving accessibility for all, pleasant places to sit and enjoy, improve enjoyment and management of accessible woodland, Enhancing local biodiversity, Enhancement of water features, Greening streets	Nature, health and well-being	New Milton pilot area completed, process review and strategy development underway	Yes - Nature Recovery
Local Nature Recovery Strategy & Network	Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are a flagship measure in the Environment Act. They are a new system of spatial strategies for nature which will plan, map, and help drive more coordinated, practical, focussed action and investment in nature's recovery to build the national Nature Recovery Network. Work with others to establish key locations within the District for nature recovery projects. Input into the LNRS seeking to agree priorities for nature's recovery, map the most valuable existing areas for nature and map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals	Through the completion and adoption of the strategy	Prioritisation for delivery of biodiversity net gain habitats in most appropriate and desirable areas in line with LNRS	Nature, Health, social, economic	To be delivered by HCC - NFDC to support when required	Yes - Nature Recovery

Project Area	HOUSING - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
New Developments	Changes to the building regulations come in from June 2022 which require improved minimum insulation requirements, future proofing of heating systems and limiting solar overheating. The Building Regulations are minimum government set standards that all new and extended buildings must comply with. the approved documents which clarify the changes can be found here <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/approved-documents">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/approved-documents</a>	Compliance with the approved documents	This is applicable to all new build and extensions and will be assessed at application stage and completion	Nature, Health, Economic	Compliance achieved through Building Control	No - complete
	Prepare Supplementary Planning Document: Planning for a changing climate (adaptation, mitigation, related matters e.g. sustainable resource use)	Report to Cabinet for agreement to publish for public consultation Feb 2022. Report to Council for formal adoption (TBC Q3 2022)	SPD adoption by Autumn 2023	Social, economic	SPD development underway	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Local Plan Review Part 2 : prepare additional Local Plan policies on climate change mitigation and adaption to achieve zero carbon development, expanding on the LP Part 1 and above SPD.	The Local Plan timetable is monitored through the published Local Development Scheme	Indicative target for adoption by 2025	May include carbon offsetting and higher water efficiency standards that could have nature benefits, recreation/wellbeing/landscape and BNG if carbon offsets are local e.g. tree planting projects	Local Plan development	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Working at strategic level in the Avon Valley to identify mechanisms to reduce or offset nutrient phosphate impacting - in conjunction with reducing flows due in part to Climate Change - on water bodies in designated SPA	Nutrient budget based on development trajectory. Mitigation project not sufficiently advanced to monitor	Private sector led mitigation solutions	Economic, social	Nutrient reduction and offset projects underway	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Delivery of BREEAM very good designation for Business Park development at Crow Lane Ringwood	Project Management and reporting as the project is delivered	Delivery of BREEAM very good designation for the development	Economic	BREEAM very good achieved	No - complete
Greener Housing	A Greener Housing Strategy 2022-2031 is due to go through the decision process of Scrutiny, Cabinet and Council, whereby a full action plan will follow. The proposal will include areas such as: -Completing stock condition surveys by 2024 -Retrofit cost modelling -Future heating systems -Identifying funding opportunities	Greener Housing Strategy 2022-2031	All council homes with an EPC Rating of C or better	Economic	Greener Housing Strategy adopted and appointment of Delivery Manager Nov 22. Strategy delivery underway	Yes - Climate Adaptation
	Pilot scheme Testwood Club. Confirm new build standards. Locations. Establish Future heating systems. Explore Low carbon building process. Work with Planning to establish standards across the sector in the NF.	Greener Housing Strategy 2022-2031	Delivery of Testwood Site and learning post completion feeding in to following schemes	Economic	Testwood site to be an exemplar of sustainable construction	Yes - Programme Management
Affordable Warmth	The Greener Housing Strategy 2022-2031 will also address affordable warmth: -Understand the data -Education & communication -Landlord Forum -Fuel Poverty initiatives -Partnerships -HCC -Grant funding	Greener Housing Strategy 2022-2031	Successful grant bids from, or for, the private housing sector in the New Forest	Economic, social	Greener Housing Strategy adopted and appointment of Delivery Manager Nov 22. Strategy delivery underway	No - within another action
Resilient Developments	Ensure that a new development is designed to ensure that it captures surface water and allows it to percolate into the ground rather than being discharged into existing watercourse and outlets. The use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs) can achieve this action.	Through the assessment of planning applications and the technical input of the Environment Agency	New development is carried out in accordance with the scheme that has been approved by NFDC and the Environment Agency	Nature, health and economic	Number of schemes approved in 2022	Yes - Climate Adaptation
	Ensure that a new development is designed in a way to make it resilient to climate change. An example being when a proposal relates to land that has the potential to flood (from sea, river or surface water) in an extreme event, is designed to provide resilience. This can be achieved through requiring floor levels to be higher than would normally be approved. Similarly, new development can be designed to reduce the impact of increasing in temperatures by making use of shading opportunities, tree planting, window positions.	Assessing details through the planning application process and ensuring that development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans	Facilitating the delivery of homes and other development that is less susceptible to the impacts of climate change	Environmental, economic and social	All schemes approved in 2022 designed to be resilient to climate change.	Yes - Climate Adaptation
Recreation Impact Mitigation	Having in place appropriate mitigation strategies - for example Recreational Mitigation Strategy where adverse impacts arising from new development cannot be avoided, ensuring that appropriate mitigation measures are in place to address adverse impacts <a href="https://newforest.gov.uk/article/1938/Recreational-Mitigation-Strategy">https://newforest.gov.uk/article/1938/Recreational-Mitigation-Strategy</a>	Health and status of nature conservation sites and protected species	Delivering improved landscapes and habit creation, providing recreational opportunities close to homes reducing need for travel and reducing pressure on sensitive habitats within the National Park	Nature, health and wellbeing, environmental quality	Recreational mitigation schemes delivered or in development	Yes - Nature Recovery
	Working with Bird Aware to implement its mitigation strategy in Solent/Southampton Water. Where adverse impacts arising from new development cannot be avoided, ensuring that appropriate mitigation measures are in place to address adverse impacts <a href="https://birdaware.org/">https://birdaware.org/</a>	Health of designated sites	Supporting behaviour change and reducing impact on overwintering birds	Nature, health, economy	Support for strategy through partnership working in the Solent Water area	Yes - Nature Recovery

Project Area	TRAVEL & TRANSPORT - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
Active Travel	Consider the introduction of employee benefit schemes such as the Cycle to Work Scheme	Uptake of staff in the schemes provided	Introduction of schemes that staff engage with	Health, Staff Engagement	Cycle to Work scheme launched as	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Green travel plans for all the leisure centres & installation of upgrades to secure bike racks	NFDC to monitor. Installation of the upgrade bike racks.	Execution of the plans and evidence of the bike racks being upgraded.	Health, economic and social	Work to continue on green travel plans and associated infrastructure	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Work with developers to achieve schemes that maximise the ability for residents to access facilities, employment and recreation by foot/cycle. This can be achieved through creating mixed use developments that either include services/employment opportunities or are designed to include simple, attractive non-vehicular routes to such locations	Through negotiations on planning application and associated Travel plans. On going monitoring	A reduction in the proportion of residents being able to access facilities without using a motor vehicle	Health, economic and social	Number of new or improved cycling and walking routes approved and funded through new development	Yes - Carbon Reduction
Reducing Travel	Implement home and site working to reduce the need to commute to the centre of the New Forest and to reduce travel	Staff feedback and workload monitoring	Continued service delivery	Nature, Health, Economic	Online and remote working facilitated through ICT upgrades	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Continue to monitor the effectiveness of hybrid working and in particular the effect on performance management and cross-cutting collaboration	Through completion of performance reviews. 1-21 feedback on delivery of corporate projects	Reduced carbon emission from home to work commute mileage	Environmental and wellbeing	Monitoring throughout 2022 and evaluation through Staff Survey	No - within another action
	Partnership with Hythe ferry which allows discounted parking in NFDC car park for ferry users thus reducing vehicles driving in/out of Waterside in and out of Southampton	Increase in Hythe ferry concession parking sales	Aim for increased passenger number on Hythe ferry	Health	Continue through 2023	No - within another action
Transport Emissions	Review and revise the Taxi Licensing Policy with consideration to policy on licensing of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles (age and emissions)	Review, revision, consultation of taxi licensing policy.	Council adoption	Health	Policy development underway	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Increase charges for larger engine vessels and those on wall moorings to encourage smaller engines and sail craft	Numbers of smaller engine vessels in use	Reduction in larger engines vessels	Health, nature	Higher launching fees for more polluting vessels	No - complete
Renewable Fuel	Review vehicle and plant replacement programme and identify options for lowering emissions, including but not limited to Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) and electrification.	Officer working group is developing a scope for this review in January 2022.	Completion of review in 2022, with the aim of reducing overall emissions from fleet and plant.	Local air quality improvements, possible whole system cost reduction over life of vehicle/plant (case-by-case basis).	Alternative fuel briefing note produced and HVO trial carried out in 2022	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Conversion of all appropriate Grounds and Street scene Fleet to operate on Battery or Biofuel	Annual review of Fleet replacement and procurement	% substitution annually as and when Tech is available	Nature, Health, Economic	Alternative fuel briefing not produced and HVO trial carried out in 2022 - fleet replacement strategy being implemented	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Increase number of electric vehicle charge points in car parks to help reduce emissions. By end of 2021, 29 fast chargers were installed.	Number of charge points installed	Aim for at least 10 more double chargers by 31/12/22	Economic	Additional EV chargers installed in NFDC car parks	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Aim to replace vehicles with Electric vehicles when replacements due. Currently have 2	Number of Electric vehicles	Aim for 2 more by end of 2022	Economic	Operating 4 electric fleet vehicles	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Require new residential development to install infrastructure to allow occupants to have a vehicle charging point	Ability to check that all relevant planning approvals have the necessary charging point condition	All new dwellings and commercial uses will have the ability to charge electrical vehicles from their homes/premises	Improvements to air quality benefitting health and nature	To be supported through new Local Plan and in NFDC developments	Yes - Carbon Reduction



Project Area	WASTE & SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
Waste Management	Develop and implement a new Domestic Waste Strategy for household waste <a href="https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/documents/s20939/Waste%20Strategy%20Update%20RPT.pdf">https://democracy.newforest.gov.uk/documents/s20939/Waste%20Strategy%20Update%20RPT.pdf</a>	Development of strategy will be measured via its adoption by the Council in 2022. Implementation will follow, and its delivery will be monitored via key performance indicators which will be included within the strategy document.	Adoption of strategy in 2022, and a subsequent reduction in the carbon impact of household waste generated in the NFDC area	Mitigating natural resource loss, compliance with Government regulations, more economically efficient waste service.	Waste Strategy adopted	No - complete
	Require new development to provide, as part of their Construction Environment Management Plan, a statement outlining the measures that they are taking to reduce the environmental impact of development. e.g: recycling/separation of waste, routing of construction vehicles, dust control, no burning on site etc.	Through the assessment of a planning application and the imposition of suitably worded precommencement planning condition.	Developers carrying out the works in accordance with an approved scheme that seeks to reduce the environmental impact of the construction phase	Nature, health, social and economic	To be supported through new Local Plan	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Review best practice and ensure proper storage of waste with rising temperatures and the impact on local residents from fires, odour and pests	Review during inspections and monitoring of complaints/services requests	Reduction in waste and improved storage, reducing impact on neighbourhood	Health, Nature	Waste strategy encourages better containment of waste - bins etc. Transfer stations managed by HCC	No - complete
Waste Prevention	The building control service to be 95% paperless in the service delivery and record storage	Through the monitoring of applications received	95% paperless service	Nature, economic	All files and communications are electronic where possible and scanning of paper files is underway to convert to electronic archiving	No - complete
	Installation of 'Water Fillers' to reduce plastic waste	Number of sites with Water Fillers installed.	Reduction in single use plastic. Water meter can record level of refilling	Nature	Water bottle refill stations introduced at locations across the district, including some public toilets	No - complete
	Using paperless systems	Worksmart completed applications	Reduced amount of waste	Economic	Online working practices supported	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Reduction in paper and storage	Performance monitoring and staff feedback	Improved efficiency of officers	Nature	Online archiving and use of paperless systems in place	No - within another action
Sustainable Resources	Cease the use of Peat or Peat Related Products	Alternative composts and soil amendments to be used in all circumstances	No peat products in stores	Nature	No peat or peat related products were purchased in 2022	No - complete
Fly Tipping Enforcement	New post of Environmental Crime Enforcement Officer	Increase in fines and prosecutions and overall reduction in large fly tips in NFDC area	Increase in fine revenue and bringing more offenders to court	Nature, economic, social	Small team of enforcement officers in post - income from fines in December 2022 was £5665	No - complete

Project Area	ENERGY - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
Energy Efficiency	Through replacement of old plant and machinery within the leisure centres, Freedom Leisure aim to save 900 tonnes of CO2 over the 11 year contract term with NFDC	Monthly KPI contract monitoring by the contract monitoring officer	Through contract monitoring, to be able to report back a clear reduction in CO2 consumption	Economic	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	To save 88,500kwh of electricity per year and 123,000kwh of gas per year in Leisure centres, with a £51,800 reduction in energy costs per annum	Monthly KPI contract monitoring by the contract monitoring officer	Through contract monitoring, to be able to report back a clear reduction in electricity and gas consumption and associated energy costs	Economic	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
Renewable Energy	Consider renewable energy and sustainable options when Building and Refurbishing Public Toilets	Consider Solar panels, Solar Lighting, Rain harvesting Heat Exchangers etc	At least one Energy efficient solution in each of the 23 PC's	Economic	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Mobile surveillance cameras to catch fly tipping etc to be solar powered	Number installed per year	Reduction in fly tipping	Economic	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Supported Hampshire County Council's Solar Together scheme, providing the opportunity for homeowners to buy high quality solar panels at a competitive price through a group-buying model.	Number of households registering. Solar panels installed. Estimated CO2 saved.	Increase in residential renewable energy generation	Social	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Conversion of all 2 Stroke Petrol Grounds Maintenance Equipment to Battery Power	Annual audit of equipment and procurement specs.	% Equipment replaced annually with final target 100%	Nature and Health	Business case in development	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Install 50 Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHPs) in rural off-gas Council-owned properties	Installation of 50 ASHPs. Project managed through to end of August with procured contractor.	Installation of 50 ASHPs.	Economic	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Upgrade Solar Panels on civic buildings (ATC, LTH)	Internal management and reporting	Upgrade Solar panels at LTH and ATC	Economic	Works completed in 2022	No - complete
All ticket machines in car parks to be solar powered (no mains)	All installed machines from 2017 solar powered (no mains supply)	Achieved and ongoing as new machines ordered to replace older machines will also be solar powered	Economic	All car parking machines are solar powered	No - complete	

Project Area	HEALTH - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
Air Quality	Monitoring of air quality in the new forest	Assessing air pollutant levels in accordance with the National Air Quality Strategy	Production of LAQM Annual Status Reports which are reported to DEFRA	Health nature	Monitoring ongoing	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	The Clean Air Strategy sets out plans to improve air quality in the New Forest, improve health and protect the environment.	Completion and adoption of a Clean Air Strategy	Council adoption and delivery of an action plan	Health, nature	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Promotion of cleaner burning in open fires, stoves and bonfires. Campaign extended to monitor pollutants associated with burning using sensors with the aim to provide further information to the public and inform decision making	Delivery and evaluation of the burn better campaign in conjunction with the Environment Centre and other Hampshire Local Authorities	Greater public awareness and behaviour change	Health nature	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Permitted processes (LAPPC) Working with businesses to ensure compliance with regulations and emission limits, including implementation of best available techniques and technology to reduce emissions to air	Routine site inspections (6months 3years)	Inspections to ensure compliance is met and annual reporting to DEFRA	Health, Nature	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
	Preparation of Suppletory Planning Document for Air Quality in New Development	Report to Cabinet for agreement to publish for public consultation.	Council adoption	Health, nature	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Carbon Reduction
Health & Safety	Monitoring of pests/invasive species such as mosquitos/possible diseases	Local plan for monitoring and response to invasive mosquitos	Surveillance and response where necessary	Health	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Climate Adaptation
	Advice on working in more extreme temperatures - health and safety impacts of extreme hot or cold	Monitoring of service requests and national statistics	Improved working environments and reduction in work related ill health	Health	To be considered in 2023	Yes - Climate Adaptation
Emergency Planning	Emergency planning and business continuity policies in place	Review of processes in place including business continuity to deal with emergency response	NFDC protected and able to continue to deliver critical services	Economic	Existing policies to be reviewed in 2023	Yes - Climate Adaptation
Community Resilience to Climate Change	Residents and businesses are informed on the risks associated with climate change (excess heat and cold, flooding, water shortage, poor air quality) site specific flood evaluation plans	Processes in place to mitigate against an emergency response requirement	Communities and businesses are protected through robust local plans	Health and nature	Ongoing engagement through comms and events	Yes - Programme Management
	Working with partners to improve health and wellbeing of residents	Develop an action plan with priorities which support the Health and Wellbeing Strategy	enable them to better live with climate change impacts	Health	Ongoing work with partners	No - within another action

Project Area	ORGANISATIONAL - Action	Indicators	Outcome(s)	Co-benefits	Progress 2022	Carried into 2023 Action Plan
Corporate Plan	Overall commitment and strategic direction for sustainability within the corporate plan <a href="https://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/2836/Leaders-portfolio">https://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/2836/Leaders-portfolio</a>	Regular reporting on delivery of corporate plan to overview and scrutiny panels	Sustainability is at the centre of decisions	Corporate	Corporate commitment in place and to continue	Yes - Programme Management
Carbon Baseline Data	Collection and use of data on the carbon emissions of the Council's estate	Internal management and reporting	Completion and use of carbon emissions data collection tool provided by LGA	Economic, Health	Data collection, interpretation and reporting underway	Yes - Carbon Reduction
Procurement	Review current procurement strategy wording to ensure it reflects the Climate & Nature Emergency declaration. The Procurement Strategy 2018-22 already covers our approach to Environmental Impact by having a targeted approach based on each procurement project (contract). All service teams to put climate impact front and centre when developing 'wants and needs' of specification. Tender response forms to include a scored element to assess bidder's offers. Bids to be evaluated with climate change scoring built in. <a href="https://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/698/Procurement-Strategy/pdf/Procurement_Strategy_201822_v4.00_Mar21.pdf?m=637499445812770000">https://www.newforest.gov.uk/media/698/Procurement-Strategy/pdf/Procurement_Strategy_201822_v4.00_Mar21.pdf?m=637499445812770000</a>	Each Procurement Project to test the impact of the service requirement upon the Environment. Outcome specifications (a key component of every tender) to set out the Environmental opportunities. Awarded contracts to be Monitored for delivery of such opportunities (via KPIs and good news outcomes).	The Procurement Strategy to support the Councils aims and objectives in the Climate Change & Emergency Action Plan. Decisions made by Council, EMT and Service Managers to be communicated to our suppliers via the tendering of contracts with built-in provision for Environmental change.	Nature, Health, Economic & Social	Data collection, interpretation and reporting underway	Yes - Programme Management
	All Contracts to be managed and monitored to ensure delivery to the Councils specification and that a continual improvement cycle is locked in. Environmental impacts to be measured and reported. "If you do not measure it - you will not improve it"	Innovations that contribute to the Climate and Nature Emergency are achieved and reported upon. Resilience to be driven by effective contract management in each Service. KPIs specifically targeted to track Environmental performance goals to be baked into the contract specification and delivery outcomes.	Commitment by our suppliers to deliver positive contributions to the Climate & Nature Emergency. NFDC Services to report back via contract management channel to EMT/Council. Contract Administrators to measure and report on Innovations (Service led and Supplier Led) that impact on Climate & Nature Emergency.	Nature, Health, Economic & Social	Cto be considered in 2023	Yes - Programme Management

## APPENDIX 5

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURE EMERGENCY – INTERNAL COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2023:

CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAMME			
Activity	Priority Area	Objective	Co-benefits
Sustainable policies, plans, services and procurements	BAU	Embed carbon reduction as a priority within all council activities - what we do and how we do it - including reduced travel, only essential procurement, waste reduction e.g. paperless working, online archiving	Efficient/shared resource use
Depot electrification	Fleet	Carry out building and infrastructure upgrades to facilitate transition to EV fleet and other electrical requirements	Reduced CO2e emissions from fleet and staff commuting; electricity resilience to protect service delivery
Sustainable fleet replacement	Fleet	Ensure that vehicle replacement programme prioritises more sustainable fuel types e.g. EV/hydrogen/ULEV/active travel. This includes all vehicle types - cars/vans/RCVs	Reduced CO2e emissions from fleet; climate leadership; reduced fossil fuel dependency; improved fuel security; improved air and water quality; reduced carbon offset liability; uptake of active travel schemes e.g. Cycle to Work
Service delivery optimisation	Fleet	Evaluate and adapt routes/operational practices to deliver lower emissions through reduced mileage, optimised vehicles etc	CO2e, fuel and time savings; minimal investment required
Building Fabric / insulation	Gas	Assess all corporately owned buildings and improve building fabric (particularly roof and wall insulation, doors and windows) to retain heat and reduce energy bills	Lower energy bills; reduced CO2e; climate leadership; improved building conditions; prolonged building life; opportunities for building use optimisation
Building Management Systems	Gas	Installation of BMS systems and supporting equipment to reduce energy wastage and optimise building conditions	Stable internal climate; less dependency on heating/cooling /ventilation;

Boiler replacement	Gas	Assess and replace inefficient boilers in NDFC occupied and leased properties where required - gas/oil to be replaced with heat pumps, destratification technology etc where appropriate	Reduced CO2e emissions; fuel efficiency; use of green technology
LED lighting in buildings	Electric	Replacement of lighting (bulbs and fittings) to new LEDs throughout corporate estate	Reduced CO2e emissions; reduced energy demand; better lighting conditions and controls; fast payback on investment
Street lighting	Electric	Replacement of NDFC-owned street lighting (bulbs and fittings) to new LEDs - in conjunction with HCC if appropriate	Reduced CO2e emissions; reduced energy demand; better lighting conditions and controls; fast payback on investment
Renewable energy - installed	Electric	Installation of renewable energy on NDFC owned land or in partnership with landowner	Reduced CO2e emissions; improved energy security; biodiversity opportunities around installation; possibility for community investment/stewardship
Renewable energy - purchased	Electric	Investigate opportunities for PPA contract to purchase renewable energy direct from a local supplier	Reputational benefits of purchasing locally generated energy; long term fixed electricity rates; support local green economy; future training/education on site

## CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROGRAMME

Activity	Priority Area	Objective	Co-benefits
Service risk assessment, adaptation plans and comms	BAU	Understand and communicate climate risks to services and develop effective adaptation plans to secure safety and service delivery	Upskilling staff; improved emergency preparedness; reduced health and safety/financial/legal/ reputational risk from climate change impacts

Location risk assessment	Buildings	Undertake risk assessments of all existing corporate buildings in regard to the location/situation of buildings and the expected impacts of climate change e.g. flooding, coastal erosion, storm exposure	Reduce risk of service impacts; safeguard assets and staff; identify opportunities for building fabric/use improvements; positive deflection of risks e.g. water gardens
Temperature adaptation	Buildings	Understand the ability of buildings and their inhabitants to adapt to extremely hot and cold temperatures e.g. over heating, natural shading, passive ventilation, insulation	Reduce risk of service impacts; safeguard assets and staff; identify opportunities for building fabric/use improvements; positive deflection of risks e.g. food growing, cold storage
Storm resilience	Buildings	Assess ability of buildings to withstand storm damage from direct (e.g. wind) and indirect (e.g. tree fall) sources, including appropriate SUDs	Reduce financial/insurance/legal liability from pre-existing risks
Natural assets e.g. open space	Assets	Assess risk climate change impacts pose to natural assets e.g. tree/plant health, water retention, soil composition, water quality, agricultural potential, community access and use	Protection of ecosystem services; habitat protection
Fixed assets e.g. bins	Assets	Assess ability of fixed assets to withstand climate change impacts e.g. melting point of materials, strength of fixings, maintenance of moving parts	Reduced maintenance and replacement costs; reduced waste; health and safety
Vehicles e.g. fleet / grey	Assets	Ensure vehicles (existing and planned upgrades) are able to withstand extreme weather conditions or that emergency provisions are in place for short-term conditions e.g. snow/ice, temperature control, flooding	Reduced maintenance and replacement costs; reduced waste; health and safety
Climate Champions	Staff	Upskill staff and use champions network to identify climate risks and develop solutions that are appropriate for the area/service	Staff engagement/upskilling/ retention; better support for initiatives
Emergency preparedness	Staff	Ensure staff are aware of how to act in emergency situations related to climate impacts e.g. snow, flooding, heatwaves	Health and wellbeing of staff; increased resilience of service delivery; expedited resolution of emergency situation

Business continuity	Staff	Ensure business continuity plans provide a robust solution for all anticipated climate change impacts, over multiple intensity/duration scenarios e.g. minor/major flooding for 1day/7days; 25°C for 3 days or 40°C for 18 days	Effective service delivery to residents; coordination of effort/ activity between NFDC/NFNPA/ HCC; efficient resource use; reduced stress for all stakeholders
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## NATURE RECOVERY PROGRAMME

Activity	Priority Area	Objective	Co-benefits
Nature recovery in policies, strategies and decisions	BAU	Understand full implications of council activities on the natural environment and biodiversity	Safeguard ecosystem services; limit environmental damage and subsequent reparation; maximise carbon sequestration; reduce objections to plans/decisions
NFDC land studies	Biodiversity	Assess the size, variety and quality of natural space/habitats/ biodiversity on NFDC owned land, in addition to opportunities to deliver biodiversity net gain projects	Informed land use decisions; environmental protection and enhancement; potential for staff/public involvement in surveys
Habitat protection	Biodiversity	Create plans to safeguard existing habitats and areas of natural value e.g. maintenance, access, improvements, security	Environmental protection and enhancement; opportunities for biodiversity net gain; education and engagement
Habitat creation	Biodiversity	Actively create new habitats where conditions are favourable to encourage biodiversity net gain and/or connectivity or segregated habitats	Environmental protection and enhancement; opportunities for biodiversity net gain/species introduction; education and engagement for staff and public
Nature corridors / habitat banking	Connectivity	Explore opportunities for the creation of 'nature corridors' to facilitate the safe movement of biodiversity across physical or administrative boundaries. This could include initiatives such as 'habitat banking' to secure and invest in pockets of land for the purpose of connectivity and environmental improvement	Environmental protection and enhancement; opportunities for biodiversity net gain/species introduction; education and engagement for staff and public; external financial investment through habitat banking

Ecology infrastructure	Connectivity	Design and delivery of physical infrastructure to support habitats and biodiversity e.g. green bridges/tunnels for safe movement of animals across roads/built environments	Reduced roadkill; improved environmental quality; enhanced landscape character/aesthetics; education and engagement
Local partnerships	Connectivity	Continued engagement in local partnerships to ensure that natural habitats and movement of species are actively supported and not restricted by administrative boundaries	Shared responsibility; shared resources; broader engagement; access to a variety of funding streams; improved knowledge and understanding of the area
Local Plan / SPDs / Green Infrastructure Strategy	Stewardship	Adoption of a new Local Plan that prioritises sustainable land use and promotes ecological protection and enhancement. To be supported by, for example: Biodiversity SPD, Green Infrastructure Strategy, mandatory swift boxes, Climate Change SPD, nitrate and phosphate abatement	Improved natural environments; biodiversity net gain; enhanced ecosystem services; demonstration of climate leadership by planning authority
Maintenance / upkeep	Stewardship	Ensure maintenance policies and practices prioritise net environmental gain e.g. grass cutting schedule, electric equipment, long term plans, regular monitoring	Improved carbon sequestration; demonstration of climate leadership; improved air quality from electric equipment
Staff volunteering	Stewardship	Support and encourage staff to engage in nature projects	Improved health and wellbeing of staff; upskilling of staff; raised awareness of projects and outcomes; education of family and friends

## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Activity	Priority Area	Objective	Co-benefits
CC&NE principles embedded in NFDC culture and services	BAU	All activity to be sustainable by design and a prioritised deliverable for all services e.g. through corporate/service risk registers, service trajectories to net zero, new build corporate/ housing designed to be low carbon and climate resilient, delivering biodiversity net gain as standard e.g. Testwood Club, SUDs	Demonstration of climate leadership; shared responsibility across services; shared resources; reduced negative impact for future mitigation

Newsletters/updates	Communications	Keep staff and NFDC stakeholders informed of climate and nature information and activities	Staff/public education and engagement; greater uptake/support for projects; evidence log of activities; demonstration of climate leadership; recognition of services/ individuals for commitment to climate action
Staff/member training	Communications	Increase knowledge and understanding of carbon reduction, climate adaptation and nature recovery to ensure effective action and embedding of principles across council services	Staff engagement; staff retention; upskilling and improved effectiveness/efficiency of work
ForestNet resources	Communications	Create repository of climate and nature resources for use by staff and members e.g. technical information, guidance notes, impact assessment tool	Shared resources reduce dependency on Climate Change Manager; staff can improve knowledge and embed principles at convenient times
CCandNE Steering Group	Governance	Continued meeting of the Climate Change and Nature Steering Group to ensure robust governance of activities and provide support to services/officers in delivery services/projects sustainably. Governance framework to be reviewed annually.	Support/advice/guidance for staff; opportunity to raise awareness of issues/opportunities; improved communication and collaborative working
Portfolio Holder	Governance	Continued engagement with Portfolio Holder on climate, nature and sustainability issues/opportunities	Raise awareness of topics; provide information/support for public/member scrutiny
Decision making	Governance	Embed climate change, nature and sustainability principles in all decision-making processes of NFDC, including report templates, overview and scrutiny, impact assessments, procurement decisions etc	All activities are contributing to direct or indirect carbon reduction/climate adaptation/ nature recovery; improved transparency of long-term impacts of NFDC decisions
NFDC internal budget	Funding	Continued revenue budget for the delivery of actions to positively address the Climate Change and Nature Emergency	Funding for projects available when needed, avoiding short term or competitive funding streams



Central Government funding	Funding	Awareness and uptake of government funding streams where aligned to NFDC priority actions around climate, nature and sustainability	Reduced local funding requirement; recognition of support for Central Government initiatives
Private investment	Funding	Awareness of alternative external funding sources, including private investors, community investment and income generating initiatives	Reduced local funding requirement; recognition as a local partner for climate action; joint bid opportunities

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURE EMERGENCY – EXTERNAL AREA ACTION PLAN 2023:

CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAMME			
Activity	Priority Area	Objective	Co-benefits
Net zero infrastructure, investment and engagement	BAU	Demonstrate commitment to net zero carbon in the design and delivery of area-wide initiatives e.g. electrical infrastructure improvements, and support partners in understanding impacts and reducing emissions as a priority in all activities	Partnership working; demonstration of climate leadership; reduced carbon burden for future mitigation; progress against national and local targets; improved air quality and natural environments; contribution to reducing climate change
Solent Cluster	Industry	Engage with newly formed Solent Cluster partnership and support efforts to make the area a leading centre for low-carbon investment	Partnership working; local economic growth; protection of skilled jobs; creation of new employment opportunities; investment into carbon reduction technologies and initiatives
Industry engagement	Industry	Engage with businesses to facilitate carbon reduction, including manufacturing, energy generation and large marine companies	Partnership working; local economic growth; protection of skilled jobs; creation of new employment opportunities; investment into carbon reduction technologies and initiatives
Carbon capture and storage	Industry	Investigate opportunities for carbon capture and storage in and/or from the New Forest district area	Reduced area-wide carbon emissions; improved environmental quality; contribution to reducing climate change; job creation; investment into low-carbon technologies; recognition as a climate leader in the public sector
LTPS/LCWIP	Road Transport	Reduce travel through remote working and increase uptake of sustainable and active travel options where travelling to sites is unavoidable e.g. EV/ hydrogen/ULEV/walking/cycling/ public transport. Creation of sustainable travel plans and installation of bike racks and other sustainable travel infrastructure as part of ongoing building maintenance and investment plans	Health and wellbeing; resident/ visitor/business/staff engagement; congestion reduction; air quality improvement; water quality improvement; reduced roadkill; Reduced CO <sub>2</sub> e; reduced road congestion; improved health and wellbeing; increased patronage of local facilities including leisure; support for local green economy

EV charging network	Road Transport	Build network of EV chargers throughout NFDC area to increase uptake of electric travel to/through New Forest. Phase 2 of EV charger installations to be delivered in 2023, including electrical capacity	Reduce range anxiety; support residents in switching to EV; visitors supporting local businesses while charging
Public transport improvements	Road Transport	Partnership working with public and shared transport providers to increase uptake and efficiency of services e.g. ferries, busses, trains, taxis, community car schemes	Reduced CO2e; reduced road congestion; improved health and wellbeing; increased patronage of public transport services; support for local economy
Community Energy South	Homes	Establish a successful Community Energy Pathways Programme for the New Forest District Council area	Awareness and understanding of local energy issues; community engagement; community investment in renewable energy; increased renewable energy for NFDC area; upskilling of local residents
Retrofit / Greener Housing	Homes	Delivery of Greener Housing Strategy to improve energy efficiency, energy security, climate change resilience and reduced emissions of all homes within the NFDC district	Cost of living benefits for residents; improved living conditions/health and wellbeing; reduced fuel poverty; support of local green economy; reduced CO2e emissions; increased renewable energy generation/energy resilience; uptake of EVs; access to external funding; reputational benefits to NFDC
Local Plan	Homes	Work with developers to achieve schemes that maximise the ability for residents to access facilities/ employment/recreation by walking/ cycling, as well as enforcing sustainable construction and operation standards e.g. low carbon, local supply chain. New schemes should also include measure to promote good waste management e.g. appropriate space for segregated bins, RCV access	Improved health and wellbeing; reduced congestion; reduced CO2e; improved air quality

## CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROGRAMME

Activity		Objective	Co-benefits
Area risk assessment, adaptation plans and communications	BAU	Understand and communicate climate risks to residents, businesses and visitors and develop effective adaptation plans to ensure health and safety, particularly during extreme weather events	Upskilling staff; improved emergency preparedness; reduced health and safety/financial/legal/ reputational risk from climate change impacts
Built infrastructure	Flooding	Assess flooding risks (coastal/ river/surface water) to built infrastructure including buildings and roads. Ensure Local Plan requires new developments and those requesting permission for improvements to be resilient to climate change impact e.g. appropriate SUDs	Protect assets from physical damage; safeguard users of the built infrastructure; reduce legal/financial/ reputational risks from flooding; implementation of non-emergency adaptation measures; more efficient and cost-effective adaptation solutions
Natural infrastructure	Flooding	Assess flooding risks (coastal/ river/surface water) to natural infrastructure including trees and protected habitats	Biodiversity protection; implementation of non-emergency adaptation measures
Catchment partnerships	Flooding	Work with partners to ensure effective water and flooding management to reduce likelihood and severity of flooding incidents	Biodiversity protection; implementation of non-emergency adaptation measures; shared resources; join bids for external funding
Christchurch Bay / Harbour FCERM	Coastal Erosion	Continued delivery of projects within the Christchurch Bay / Harbour FCERM Strategy	Reduced risk; stakeholder engagement; identification of funding and resource requirements; protection of ecosystem services
North Solent SMP	Coastal Erosion	Continued delivery of projects within the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan	Reduced risk; stakeholder engagement; identification of funding and resource requirements; protection of ecosystem services
Durlston to Hurst SRM Programme	Coastal Erosion	Continued delivery replenishment projects within the Durlston to Hurst SRM Programme	Reduced risk; stakeholder engagement; identification of funding and resource requirements; protection of ecosystem services
NHS / Public Health	Heatwaves	Ensure that advice and guidance is available and appropriate to reduce to impacts of extreme heat on human health	Reduced risk to health and wellbeing; stakeholder engagement; identification of funding and resource requirements

Community Resilience Plans	Heatwaves	Work with health and community partners to ensure that robust plans are in place for residents, businesses and visitors to manage prolonged heatwaves effectively	Reduced risk to health and wellbeing; management of cost and availability of emergency measures; stakeholder engagement; identification of funding and resource requirements
Water Conservation	Heatwaves	Understand freshwater capacity and pressures for the NFDC area and create a proactive procedure for managing risk in the event of prolonged heatwaves	Reduced risk of water scarcity; stakeholder engagement; identification of funding and resource requirements

## NATURE RECOVERY PROGRAMME

Activity		Objective	Co-benefits
Nature protection, enhancement and partnerships	BAU	Understand full implications of activities in the New Forest District area on the natural environment and biodiversity	Safeguard ecosystem services; limit environmental damage and subsequent reparation; maximise carbon sequestration; reduce objections to plans/decisions; leverage external funding
Environmental surveys / data	Biodiversity	Assess the size, variety and quality of natural space/habitats/ biodiversity on non-NFDC owned land, in addition to opportunities to deliver biodiversity net gain projects	Informed land use decisions; environmental protection and enhancement; potential for staff/public involvement in surveys
Habitat protection	Biodiversity	Creation of, for example, Recreational Mitigation Strategies to reduce impact of new development on the natural environment	Environmental protection and enhancement; opportunities for biodiversity net gain; education and engagement
Habitat creation	Biodiversity	Actively support partners in the creation of new habitats where conditions are favourable to encourage biodiversity net gain and/or connectivity or segregated habitats	Environmental protection and enhancement; opportunities for biodiversity net gain/species introduction; education and engagement for staff and public

Local Nature Recovery Strategies	Connectivity	Work with others to establish key locations within the district for nature recovery projects. Input into the LNRS seeking to agree priorities for nature's recovery, map the most valuable existing areas for nature and map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals	Safeguarding of ecosystem services across administrative boundaries; partnership working; access to external funding opportunities
Connectivity of strategic sites	Connectivity	Ensure the connectivity of strategic sites to ensure that biodiversity net gain and movement of species across and between areas is facilitated	Safeguarding of ecosystem services across administrative boundaries; partnership working; access to external funding opportunities; enhanced value of strategic sites to the local environment
Active travel/accessibility	Connectivity	Work with local transport partners, landowners and other stakeholders to improve access to/through green spaces via sustainable transport modes e.g. walking, cycling, EV	Connectivity and expansion of active travel routes; greater uptake of sustainable travel modes; support for local economy e.g. bike shops, cafes; reduced environmental impact of vehicular transport; improved air and water quality
Environment Act / regulations	Stewardship	Ensure plans/strategies/projects align with national, regional and local environmental regulations and objectives	Legislative compliance; access to government funding; demonstration of climate leadership; consistency with public sector peers
BNG Credits / habitat banking	Stewardship	Investigate opportunities for financial investment and associated benefits through the introduction of schemes such as Biodiversity Net Gain credits and habitat banking	Reduced local funding requirement; recognition of support for Central Government initiatives
Ecology without boundaries	Stewardship	Working with partners to ensure that conservation efforts are not hampered by administrative boundaries e.g. working with Bird Aware and partners in the Solent Water area to prioritise biodiversity across land in multiple ownership	Environmental protection and enhancement; opportunities for biodiversity net gain; education and engagement

## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Activity	Priority Area	Objective	Co-benefits
Residents, businesses, visitors support CC&NE principles	BAU	Increase local action on carbon reduction, climate change resilience and nature recovery, supporting sustainable behaviour change in communities and businesses.	Shared responsibility; partnership working; shared resources; reduced negative impact for future mitigation; environmental improvements
Social/online/print media	Communications	Provide climate and nature information to residents, businesses and visitors through online channels, traditional media. Ensure messaging is consistent with insights from Residents Survey 2022	Public education and engagement; greater uptake/support of projects; evidence log of activities for reporting; promotion of local action
External webpages	Communications	Ensure NFDC website provides up to date information and guidance on responding to the Climate Change and Nature Emergency - what the Council is doing and what residents/businesses/visitors can do	Public education and engagement; greater uptake/support of projects; partnership working; promotion of local action
Public events	Communications	Creation of new events and/or attendance at non-NFDC climate and nature events to raise awareness, gather feedback and provide information and guidance	Public education and engagement; greater uptake/support of projects; partnership working; promotion of local action
Carbon/climate/nature data	Data	Seek to improve the quality and accuracy of data used to monitor and communicate climate action	More accurate monitoring and reporting; possibility of external validation; better transparency of true impacts (positive and negative)
Public reporting	Data	Explore the use of public reporting platforms to communicate NFDC Council/Area actions to address the Climate Change and Nature Emergency	Raised awareness of NFDC Council/Area activities; reputational benefits; potential access to alternative funding sources

External verification	Data	External validation of NFDC Council/Area performance data	Raised awareness of NFDC Council/Area activities; reputational benefits; confidence in progress to date, awareness of underlying problems with data gaps/sources/ assumptions
Hampshire County Council	Partnerships	Continued work with HCC to maximise carbon reduction, climate adaptation and nature recovery in the New Forest, particularly around unitary services delivered by HCC in or on behalf of the NFDC area e.g. transport infrastructure, waste disposal etc. Alignment of activities and support for county-wide climate initiatives such as Retrofit and Pathways	Carbon reduction; climate resilience; consistent public messaging; complimentary programme development and delivery
New Forest National Park Authority	Partnerships	Continued work with the NFNPA to maximise carbon reduction, climate adaptation and nature recovery in the New Forest. Alignment and support for delivery of the Re:New Partnership Plan	Carbon reduction; climate resilience; consistent public messaging; complimentary programme development and delivery
Professional Organisations	Partnerships	Membership of professional networks/organisations such as IEMA, LGA, HCOG to maintain up to date industry knowledge and maximise partnership working opportunities	Raised awareness of NFDC Council/Area activities; reputational benefits; potential access to alternative funding sources