

# Cockermouth Town Council



12 May 2021

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the Climate Change Action Group to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Thursday 20 May 2021 at 1.00pm for the purpose of the under-mentioned business.

Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

All welcome.

Yours sincerely

Sheila Brown

1. **Minutes – To agree as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting (pages 1-4)**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Declaration of Interest** – Members to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, other registrable interest or any other interest and the nature of that interest in relation to any item on the agenda in accordance with the code of conduct.
4. **Public Participation**
  - a) To answer any questions from members of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
  - b) To receive a petition from a member of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
5. **Climate Change Emergency** – To consider our list of possible actions and decide which to take forward over the next quarter (**pages 5-9**)
6. **Local Committee Environmental Fund** – To note the funding available from CCC for environmental initiatives (**pages 10-13**)
7. **Right to Repair Law** – To note the new law which could extend the lifespan of products by up to 10 years (**pages 14-15**)
8. **Allerdale Borough Council – Action Plan to address climate change 2021** – To note the contents and assess if we can add any actions to our List (**pages 16-35**)
9. **New Carbon Footprinting Tool for Parish Councils** – To note trials being undertaken to develop and test the tool (**page 36**)

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*Joint Winners*

Council of Europe Year 2000

Europe Prize

*Previous Awards*

Plaque of Honour, Flag of Honour

European Diploma

**Press and Public Welcome**

**Minutes of a meeting of the CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP held on Thursday 11 February 2021 at 1.00pm via Microsoft Teams**

Present: Councillor S Barnes, Councillor I Burns, Councillor A Smith & Councillor A Semple

Also Present: Councillors Tyson & Watson

**143 Minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

**144 Public Participation**

There was none

**145 Declaration of Interest**

The Chairman declared a non-pecuniary interest due to his membership of various bee organisations.

**146 Climate Change Emergency**

Those present considered the replies received in respect of the actions completed at the last meeting.

Agreed – That progress be noted.

**147 Kendal's Climate Change Citizen's Jury Recommendations**

A diverse group of 20 Kendal residents who reflected their community in terms of age, disability, gender and attitude to climate change met over four months in the summer of 2020 and after listening to a wide range of outside experts worked together to come to a detailed set of recommendations in answer to the following questions 'What should Kendal do about the emergency of climate change?'

The recommendations were then ranked within the theme and allocated a number of points as well as given an overall ranking.

Agreed - That the Kendal Climate Change Citizen's Jury recommendations be noted.

## 148 Tackling Climate Change

The January 2020 Clerk Magazine contained a special feature: tackling climate change. The feature contained top tips for action now, FOE advice, discussed community energy, Government Policy and 12 case studies from parish councils large and small.

Those present considered the recommendations and discussed which could be taken forward by the Task Group.

Recommended – That the following actions be included in our list of possible actions and implemented as soon as practicable:-

Support the formation of an Allerdale Partnership Climate Change Group drawing on expertise from councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, business and skills providers. The Group will consider actions and strategies being developed by Allerdale Borough Council and partnership organisations and develop a borough wide strategy.

Vocally support applications for new renewable energy in Cockermouth

Ensure we know the climate change or nature implications of our decisions before we make them.

Be aware of planning and climate change legislation

Strive to become an Earth Protector Town

Recognise, promote and partake in:

Earth Hour

Earth Day

World Environment Day

Clean Air Day

Cycle to Work Day

Zero Waste Week

Zero Emissions Day

World Car Free Day

International Walk to School month

National Clean up Day

National Bee Day

Write to all take-away outlets and businesses in Cockermouth to reduce their waste.

Encourage paperless meetings

Use water retaining planters



Encourage members/staff to carry refillable bottles and re-useable cups

Work with Allerdale and CCC to convert footway lighting to LED and/or trial solar lighting.

Speak to the Chamber of Trade about the introduction of a Cockermouth Cup for use in cafes and restaurants. Customers pay £1 deposit for a Cockermouth Cup, enjoy their drink and return the cup to any participating café to get their £1 back. Cups are then washed ready to be used again.

Promote safe walking routes through TIC

Promote/help organise litter picking events

Residents to be encouraged to let their gardens become wildlife havens

Ask CCC to provide a selection of climate change books for our library

Organise speakers and children's activities relating to climate change in the library

Hold information events to inform residents

Consider how we can reduce food waste – find out what is being done locally

Ask local chefs to suggest seasonal meals

Lobby Government for the development of a country wide food and farming strategy

Work with CAfS to produce a training and accreditation scheme to enable local builders/trades persons to gain all the necessary skills for retrofitting homes

Work with CAfS to provide an ongoing awareness scheme to every home in Cockermouth informing owners of the steps they can take to retrofit homes, the help available and provide a list of accredited companies

Appoint a climate change lead councillor and officer

Encourage councillors and staff to take part in suitable climate change education programmes to ensure that they are better able to make the informed decisions required.

Include such trainings as part of their induction.

Encourage the Creation of a one stop shop/climate change hub/information centre in Allerdale.

Do an audit of what activities/groups are already taking action to address climate Change

Include continue our subsidised bus routes into town centre

Liaise with ABC & CCC to Improve cycling provisions

Encourage car sharing

Establish a tree sponsorship scheme

Continue to budget yearly to help us fund our aspirations

The meeting closed at 1.40pm

Climate Change Task Group Actions	Rank within the theme and number of points	Overall Rank	Completion Date
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Cease providing plastic water bottles at TC Events – IN HAND			June 2019
Express concerns about river pollution to MP/Environment Agency – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Scheme for shops/businesses to refill water bottles – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Tree-planting on council-owned land – 1212 trees to be planted Harris Park Extension			June 2019
Green pages on TC website – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Volunteers to provide advice on growing vegetables (like WW2 'Dig for Victory')			June 2019
Recycle Halloween outfits, Christmas jumpers, dressing up outfits and re-distribute through library – IN OPERATION – currently suspended due to Covid			June 2019
Cease/restrict use of 'pesticides' on Council land – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to Tivoli. Tivoli have drastically reduced the use of Glyphosate usage in Allerdale by 75% by using a residual herbicide in February/March which prevents germination. The hanging baskets we provide already contain plants that will attract bees and other pollinators			June 2019
Plant wild-flower meadow areas in Memorial Gardens and/or elsewhere – IN HAND – Rotary to plant wild flower meadow in Memorial Gardens			June 2019
Support carbon offset schemes run by local travel agents (tie in to tree planting) – IN HAND – No reply from Craig Travel, tree planting scheme already in existence with Cockermouth Travel			June 2019
Floral displays in town centre to use plants which attract bees and other pollinators – IN HAND – Tivoli have confirmed that they use such plants			June 2019
Encourage County Council to plant wildflower verges on approaches into town – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to CCC about planting wildflowers on verges on approaches into town and on banking in their ownership opposite Gote Road allotments. In general the soil on the verges is too rich for wildflowers. Verges need to have the soil stripped off. A bee corridor will be created across North Cumbria. It mainly follows the A591 but will include the A66 from the Low Road roundabout heading out towards Workington. This will be funded through National/charitable funding to support bees			June 2019
Create a bee-garden – DELETE the creation of a single garden. Chair instead to speak at a future meeting of the Allotments Association about bee keeping and pollinator friendly allotments. Allotment Association to discuss this issue at their meeting on January 28 <sup>th</sup> . Chair to draw up a scheme			June 2019

Give and Take Day – Funding available from CCC. Idea supported by Town Council. Delayed due to Covid			June 2019
Best Pollinator Allotment and Best Pollinator Garden categories to be added to Garden Competition. Delayed due to Covid			June 2019
The aim of Cockermouth Town Council is for its activities to be carbon-neutral by 2030 at the latest. This will require an audit of the council's current carbon footprint and concerted efforts to reduce it. Some of the measures that will be necessary are included above, e.g. ensuring that the town council buildings are fully insulated and that energy is purchased from 'green' suppliers			June 2019
Vocally support applications for new renewable energy in Cockermouth			
Write to all take-away outlets and businesses in Cockermouth to reduce their waste.			
Encourage paperless meetings			
Use water retaining planters			
Encourage members/staff to carry refillable bottles and re-useable cups			
Work with Allerdale and CCC to convert footway lighting to LED and/or trial solar lighting.			
Speak to the Chamber of Trade about the introduction of a Cockermouth Cup for use in cafes and restaurants. Customers pay £1 deposit for a Cockermouth Cup, enjoy their drink and return the cup to any participating café to get their £1 back. Cups are then washed ready to be used again.			
Establish a tree sponsorship scheme			
<b>FOOD AND FARMING</b>			
<b>HOUSING AND ENERGY</b>			
Town Council buildings – ensure insulation up to spec and energy from green supplier, (eg Good Energy or Ecotricity) PARTIALLY IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to procurement at CCC to find out if green energy suppliers included in their tender process and if they would be willing to move to 100% green energy. Npower supply brown energy which is cheaper. Having said that 8.5% coal, 57.9% natural gas, 17.4% nuclear, 12.6% renewable, 3.6% other.			June 2019
<b>PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS</b>			



Work with other businesses to increase recycling facilities (e.g. Aldi/Lidl for clothing) – IN HAND – Mayor has spoken to Lidl			June 2019
Carry out a 'green' survey of businesses asking them to score themselves against a set of criteria (e.g. recycling, use of plastic packaging etc.)			June 2019
Where possible councillors to walk or cycle to meetings – IN HAND			June 2019
Encourage shops to use paper bags			June 2019
Consider starting an Incredible Edible Group – deferred due to Covid			June 2019
CafS are looking to recruit 20 volunteers across Cumbria to help them deliver a brand new programme to boost knowledge about climate science solutions and inspire people to take action in their own lives – advertised on our social media 4/2/21.			June 2019
Neighbourhood Plan – specs for new builds on insulation, green energy etc.			June 2019
Promote bike paths, lanes, parking places, electric bike charging points			June 2019
Planting fruit trees on council land			June 2019
Encouraging shops to sell more seasonal produce			June 2019
Town centre litter bins with separate compartments for plastic, paper and general rubbish – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to Allerdale to request these. No reply to date. Councillor Smith to chase a response			June 2019
Support the formation of an Allerdale Partnership Climate Change Group drawing on expertise from councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, business and skills providers. The Group will consider actions and strategies being developed by Allerdale Borough Council and partnership organisations and develop a borough wide strategy.			
Strive to become an Earth Protector Town			
Recognise, promote and partake in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earth Hour</li> <li>• Earth Day</li> <li>• World Environment Day</li> <li>• Clean Air Day</li> <li>• Cycle to Work Day</li> <li>• Zero Waste Week</li> <li>• Zero Emissions Day</li> <li>• World Car Free Day</li> <li>• International Walk to School month</li> <li>• National Clean up Day</li> </ul>			

Promote/help organise litter picking events			
Residents to be encouraged to let their gardens become wildlife havens			
Ask CCC to provide a selection of climate change books for our library – Pamela Wilkinson is drawing up a list.			
Organise speakers and children's activities relating to climate change in the library			
Hold information events to inform residents			
Consider how we can reduce food waste – find out what is being done locally			
Ask local chefs to suggest seasonal meals			
Work with CAFS to produce a training and accreditation scheme to enable local builders/trades persons to gain all the necessary skills for retrofitting homes			
Work with CAFS to provide an ongoing awareness scheme to every home in Cockermouth informing owners of the steps they can take to retrofit homes, the help available and provide a list of accredited companies			
Appoint a climate change lead councillor and officer			
Encourage councillors and staff to take part in suitable climate change education programmes to ensure that they are better able to make the informed decisions required.			
Include such trainings as part of their induction.			
Encourage the Creation of a one stop shop/climate change hub/information centre in Allerdale.			
<b>TRANSPORT</b>			
Work with Allerdale/County/business to provide electric vehicle charging points in town – Cumbria LEP is currently considering the approach to electric vehicle infrastructure. This is likely to result in the development of an electric vehicle strategy which would look at a range of issues including the future development of charging points across the County and the approach for installation of charges at residential properties. Allerdale are in discussions with Charge my Street. TC encouraged residents to take part in the charge my street on line survey which ended on 8/1/21. Electricity North West are introducing a £1million Reinforcement Fund to enhance their network in the next 2 years where connection requires extensive re-inforcement.			June 2019
Support/encourage cycling-friendly businesses			June 2019
Continue Town Service			June 2019

Promote safe walking routes through TIC			
Include our subsidised bus routes into town centre			
Liaise with ABC & CCC to Improve cycling provisions			
Encourage car sharing			
<b>OTHER ACTIONS</b>			
Support the Local Electricity Bill – the Bill, if made Law, would empower local communities to sell locally generated clean energy directly to local customers by establishing a statutory right to supply. This is currently impossible because of the huge set up and running costs involved in doing so – SUPPORTED 18.03.20 TC MEETING			June 2019
Support the Climate & Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill – SUPPORTED 20.01.21 TC MEETING			June 2019
Ensure we know the climate change or nature implications of our decisions before we make them.			
Be aware of planning and climate change legislation			
Lobby Government for the development of a country wide food and farming strategy			
Do an audit of what activities/groups are already taking action to address climate change.			
Continue to budget yearly to help us fund our aspirations			



## Assistant - Cockermouth TC

**From:** Clerk - Cockermouth TC  
**Sent:** 23 March 2021 07:46  
**To:** Assistant - Cockermouth TC  
**Subject:** FW: Cumbria County Council Environment Fund and Green Recovery  
**Attachments:** New Cumbria Community Forest area.png

Please print off for our climate change task group – leave on my desk

ta

**Sheila Brown**  
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**From:** Hutchinson, Sonia D <Sonia.Hutchinson@cumbria.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 22 March 2021 11:36  
**To:** Cumbria Association, of Local Councils <calc@cumbria.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Cumbria Association, of Local Councils <calc@cumbria.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: Cumbria County Council Environment Fund and Green Recovery

Dear Colleague

Please find attached and below an update on a number of funding bids and initiatives the County Council is leading or supporting.

### Local Committee Environment Fund

In February Cumbria County Council agreed the revenue and capital budget for 2021/22. Within the budget is an Environment Fund – one-off increase to invest in environmental activities to enhance the lived environment in localities. This includes £1.2m to the Local Committees. The six Local Committees have received £200k to enable further investment in our local environment. The purpose of this ring-fenced fund will be to support a range of environmental improvements or enhancements, covering for example:- enhanced verge maintenance; tree maintenance and replacement; footpath maintenance; nature recovery; biodiversity improvements; and improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'. Local Committees are encouraged to work with their Districts, Parishes and Town Councils to make best use of the money, including identifying match funding where possible.



## **Cumbria Community Forest – Expression of Interest**

The County Council is the lead authority for the submission of an Expression of Interest to the Department for Environment, Farming and Regulatory Affairs (DEFRA) for the creation of a Cumbria Community Forest. This would establish a new candidate community forest as part of the national network of Community Forests.

The broad area in scope is the Western fringe of Cumbria, including Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow in Furness and South Lakeland, as well as the relevant parts of the Lake District National Park (area in scope highlighted yellow in the map attached). The plan is to focus this opportunity in places that will provide benefits to local communities, to provide accessible and affordable options to enjoy a range of different outdoor experiences and access to nature. This is not about a single forest, but an increase in a whole range of woodland habitats including trees, scrub, hedgerows and open areas to create a diverse network of connected places, for people and nature, across our urban and rural areas. The bid is supported by 5 District Councils, 6 Cumbria MP's, LDNP and a wide range of other partners. The County Council hope to hear soon if they have been successful. If the bid is successful a report will go to Cabinet to seek approval for the County Council to be the accountable body for the funding.

## **Local Authority Treescapes Fund**

Defra has announced the Local Authority Treescapes Fund (LATF) to increase tree planting and natural regeneration in local communities. £2.7 million will be available this year (2021/22), building the pipeline of projects for community planting in future years. The fund is available to County Council and Unitary Authorities. Up to £300,000 is available to each Local Authority.

This fund is aimed at establishing more trees in non-woodland settings such as in riverbanks, hedgerows, parklands, urban areas, beside roads and footpaths, in copses and shelterbelts, including neglected, disused and vacant community spaces. Trees in these settings are particularly valuable as they can provide the greatest levels of benefit to ecosystems and society, such as carbon absorption, flood protection and support for biodiversity, as well as connecting fragmented habitats.

The fund opens in April 2021 and local authorities are encouraged to work together with District Councils, Parish and Town Council's, community groups, volunteers and other non Government organisations. Successful applicants will be informed by the end of July. The funding will provide an opportunity to complement the Local Committee Environment Fund.

## **Green Recovery Challenge Fund - Pollinator for Plants**

Cumbria is home to an amazing variety of wild pollinators including bumblebees, hoverflies, butterflies and moths. Cumbria Wildlife Trust are currently looking at ways to continue work that benefits pollinators - building on Get Cumbria Buzzing project which ends in April 2022. The Wildlife Trust have joined up with Cumbria County Council to submit a bid to the Green Recovery Challenge Fund to take this forward. The project will look to restore or create pollinator habitat (this could be any habitat that has an obvious pollinator benefit e.g. hedges, verges, species-rich grassland, orchards etc) anywhere in Cumbria but ideally along the Cumbria B-lines. Please follow this link for maps of [B-Lines North England | Buglife](#). If successful the County Council will look to start the project in June/July and it would run for at least 18 months. Again this funding could complement the Local Committee Environment Fund.

## **Resourcing**

Finally the County Council are recruiting an Environment and Sustainability officer to lead and support existing and new projects across the key areas of Environment, Natural Capital, Sustainability and Biodiversity. The Lead officer will ensure the projects and other Environment Fund initiatives are coordinated across the County, working with elected Members, community groups, Parish and Town Councils, key partners and stakeholders.

Kindest Regards

**Sonia**

Sonia Hutchinson  
Cumbria Association of Local Councils

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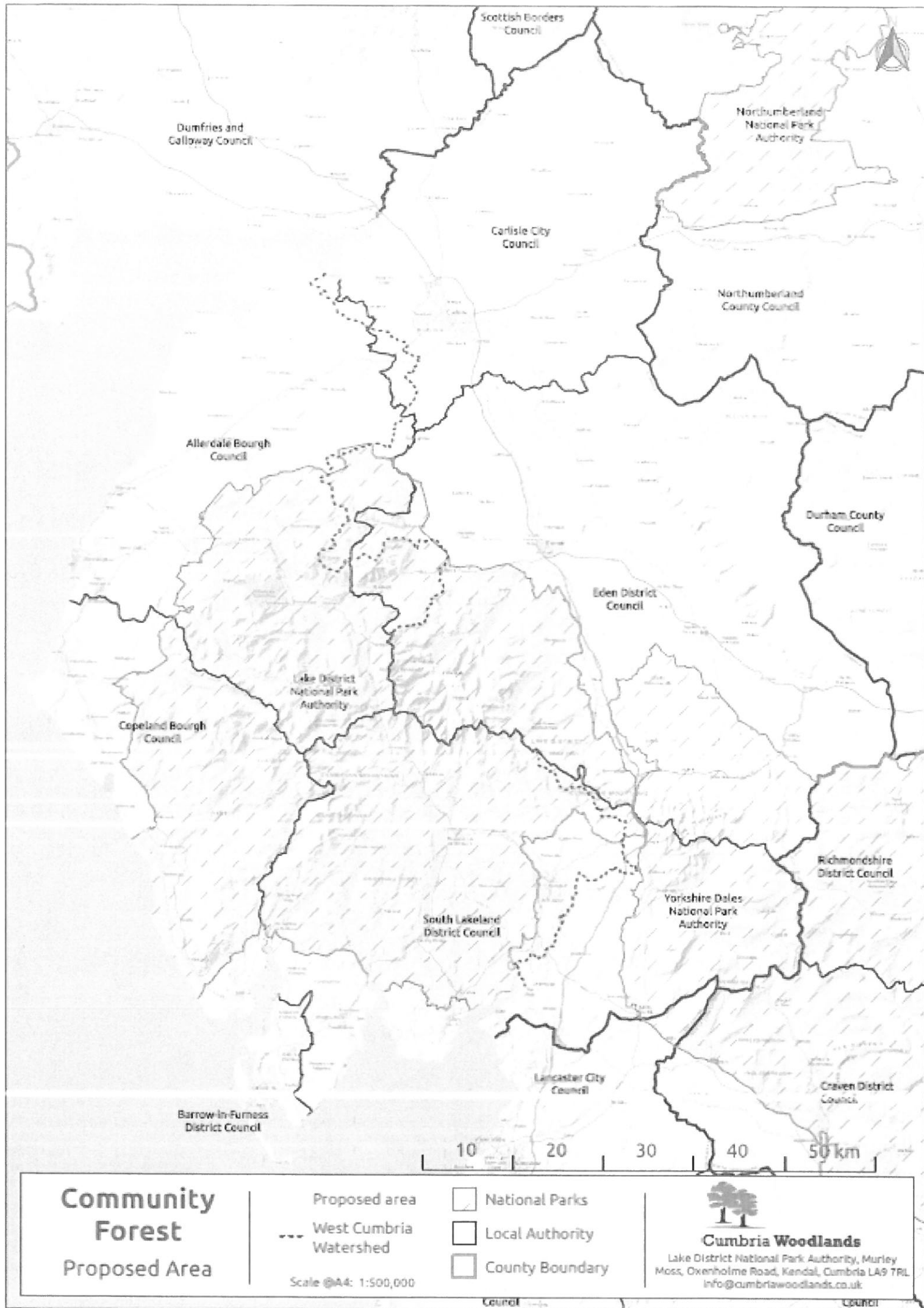
**Web:** [www.calc.org.uk](http://www.calc.org.uk)



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## 'Right to repair' law will save households £75 a year when it kicks in this summer

The new consumer right could extend the lifespan of products by up to 10 years, while officials estimate that higher energy efficiency standards will save households an average of £75 a year

Consumers will get more rights on expensive appliances such as fridges and televisions under new legislation set to come into force this summer.

The 'right to repair' law means firms will legally have to make spare parts available to consumers for the first time.

It is hoped that the change could extend the lifespan of products by up to 10 years, while officials estimate that higher energy efficiency standards will save consumers an average of £75 a year on bills.

Consumers have been complaining about the quality of white goods for decades. People claim they don't last long enough and cannot be repaired cheaply at home.

In many cases, a new appliance can offer 'better value' compared to paying to repair an old one.

But from summer 2021, manufacturers will be legally obliged to make spare parts for products available to consumers.

Appliances such as fridges, washing machines and TVs should, in theory, last longer and be cheaper to run when it comes into force.

It's part of a wider government green pledge to help reduce both waste and household bills.

The new rules will be estimated to reduce the 1.5million tonnes of electrical waste the UK generates a year and to contribute to reducing carbon emissions overall.

Business and Energy Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said: "Our plans to tighten product standards will ensure more electrical goods can be fixed rather than thrown on the scrap heap - putting more money back in the pockets of consumers whilst protecting the environment."

Consumer rights platform Resolver.co.uk has received more than 16,000 complaints about white goods last year, with faulty items featuring prominently.

Spokesman Martyn James told The Mirror: "Selling goods that are virtually impossible to repair and have a short life makes no sense in the modern world and this legislation is sorely needed.

"But without raining on anyone's parade, these rules have already been adopted by the EU, so if we want to sell them our white goods, we'll have to comply anyway.

The new regulations should come into force in the summer. They reflect what was agreed by the UK and the EU member states two years ago.

They will apply in Great Britain, while EU rules will continue to apply in Northern Ireland.

Manufacturers will have to make sure that appliances like washing machines, fridges and other white goods last for up to 10 years.

It also applies to things like lighting and televisions – but not your smart phones or other tech devices.

So in plain English, the items shouldn't pack in within these times – and if they do, you have a right to repair.

Here are the items the new rules apply to in full:

- Refrigerators
- Washing machines
- Dishwashers
- Electronic displays (including televisions)
- Light sources and separate control gears
- External power suppliers
- Electric motors
- Refrigerators with a direct sales function (e.g. fridges in supermarkets, vending machines for cold drinks)
- Power transformers
- Welding equipment

## **Are the repairs free?**

You'll still need to be within warranty or guarantee to get the repairs free of charge.

But in the past, the sheer complexity of repairing these goods meant that it was often more cost-effective to buy a new one.

## Allerdale Borough Council Action plan to address climate change 2021



### Introduction

In March 2020, Allerdale Borough Council established a Climate Change Working Group with a series of tasks to address, including the development of a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

The target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030 is very challenging. While we recommend it should be retained as a target and used to keep up the pressure on central Government to support our work, it is more important that the Council focuses on developing and delivering a viable, sustainable response to the challenge of climate change, rather than risk becoming distracted by and disheartened by, a deadline. The 2030 date should be kept under review and could possibly be revised as our understanding of what is possible improves.

The Council has a vision for a low carbon future and is seeking to address climate change concerns within all key Council services. The Council can make positive impacts through the quality of the environment, housing, planning decisions, choice of transport use, energy savings and reducing carbon emissions. Local authorities generally represent around 2 – 5% of local emissions through their own activities, resulting directly from energy used in council operations, vehicle fleet, buildings, and electricity purchased. Importantly, Local Authorities can also potentially influence around a third of an area's emissions through place shaping, partnerships and leadership (*'So you've declared a climate emergency: what next?' APSE*)

This Council's Climate Change Action Plan is broadly grouped into the headers proposed in the recommendations of *'A blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level'* (ADEPT and partners January 2021).

- Growing the Zero and Low Carbon Economy
- Retrofitting homes and buildings to reduce consumption and emissions
- Decarbonising transport
- Planning to deliver Zero Carbon development that protects and enhances nature
- Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption
- Restoring nature for all
- Developing local authority funding, governance and accounting systems that are fit for purpose

This action plan is intended as a living document which will be annually reviewed and updated by this Council's Climate Change Working Group. The Council intends to set specific targets for carbon emission reductions, but we are constrained by the lack of consistent information available to us. Further Government direction and work is needed to carry out detailed appraisals of baseline data and data collection guidelines. Some of our actions and targets



will change in line with the Bills currently going through Parliament. These are the Environment Bill, the Decarbonisation and Economic Strategy Bill and the Climate and Ecology Bill. Added to these, the Glasgow COP26 in November this year, will bring new ambitions which will be reflected in future revisions of this action plan.

## Global implications of climate change

There has been wide debate about the causes of global warming. What is clear is that global temperatures are rising and the scientific consensus is now that human activities, including population growth, significantly affect climate change. The 20th century was the warmest century in the last 1,000 years with 0.6°C warming. The 1990s was the warmest decade in Central England since records began in the 1660s. The main influence on global climate is the emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane. At present, about 36.4 billion tonnes of MtCO<sub>2</sub> (2019 [www.globalcarbonatlas.org](http://www.globalcarbonatlas.org)) is emitted globally each year, mainly through burning coal, oil and gas for energy. Increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere over the last 200 years have trapped more energy in the lower atmosphere, altering our climate.

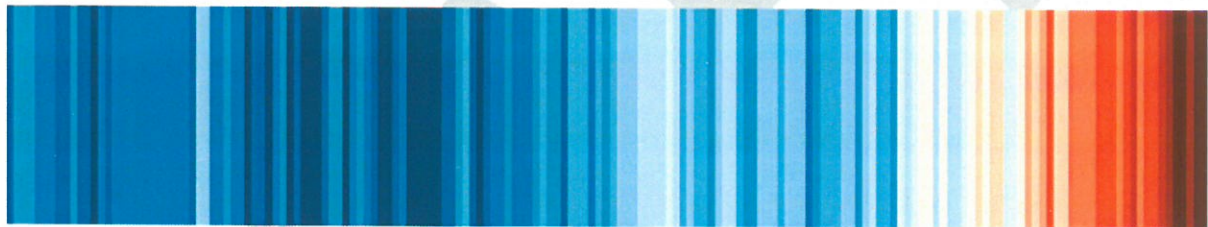


Figure 1 "Warming stripes" – based on the global annual average temperatures 1850-2020  
Source: [www.climate-lab-book.ac.uk](http://www.climate-lab-book.ac.uk)

The 'warming stripes' illustration at Figure 1 represents how the average temperatures globally have increased over the last 170 years, using the blue colours for cooler temperatures from the 1850s and reds for more warmer temperatures.

As well as the predicted temperature rise, we are experiencing changing rainfall, more stormy weather and more extreme weather events. The melting of polar ice caps will lead to an increase in sea levels and extensive flooding of low-lying areas of land. It has also been predicted that in future centuries the Gulf Stream may slow down and result in dramatic cooling of North West Europe. Predicted global impacts include flooding, drought, increased disease, famine and conflict or war because of water or food. Two overall strategies can help address these issues: mitigation and adaptation:

**Mitigation** – this refers to actions that reduce human contribution to the causes of climate change. This means reducing our emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), through energy efficiency and using alternative forms of transport and energy.

Mitigation is important in the long term as it is only by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions that we can hope to minimise human-induced climate change. Many of the measures to help reduce emissions may also have other benefits such as saving money and encouraging a more sustainable society.

**Adaptation** - addresses the impacts and opportunities resulting from a changing climate. Irrespective of the success of mitigation efforts, there will still be some degree of unavoidable climate change. This stems from our historic greenhouse gas emissions and the persistence of these gases in the atmosphere.

Governments around the world have pledged to reduce their emissions to limit the degree of warming. The most recent was the 2016 Paris Agreement in which world leaders committed to take action to keep a rise in global temperatures this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. In climate models, this 2°C rise by the end of the century represents sizeable cuts in global emissions.

## The national context

The Climate Change Committee (an independent non-departmental public body, formed under the Climate Change Act 2008 to advise the United Kingdom and devolved Governments and Parliaments on tackling and preparing for climate change) has advised that the UK government sets its Sixth Carbon Budget (i.e. the legal limit for UK emissions of greenhouse gases over the years 2033-37) to require a reduction in UK emissions of 78% by 2035 relative to 1990 levels, a 63% reduction from 2019 as an appropriate contribution to the UK's Net-Zero target. In England, there is no overall plan on how local authorities fit into delivering Net Zero although the Climate and Ecology Bill seeks to address this.

Over half of the UK's emissions cuts are dependent on purchasing decisions, behaviours and habits of individuals, businesses and organisations.

Local authorities are currently constrained by a lack of detailed benchmarking information, government targets and clear trajectories for decarbonising activities for energy, buildings, transport and land use. Hence this Action Plan will need to be regularly reviewed as targets, pathways and funding streams are created.

## Local impacts of climate change

Climate change is a global issue which also has local impacts. By the end of the 21st century, all areas of the UK are projected to be warmer, more so in summer than in winter with hotter, dryer summer months, wetter winters and a change in the pattern of extreme weather events. This projected temperature rise in the UK is consistent with future warming globally. By 2070, in the high emission scenario, this range amounts to 0.9°C to 5.4°C in summer, and 0.7°C to 4.2°C in winter.



In Cumbria, it is estimated that the average daily temperature will rise between 1 and 2 degrees by 2050 and that summer rainfall will reduce by 15% but that winter rainfall will increase by between 15% and 30%. The Allerdale area has experienced severe adverse flooding events over the last decade with millions being spent locally to mitigate possible future flooding events.

The Joint Cumbria Public Health Strategy 2019 provides the following priority areas which are addressed in Allerdale's Climate Change Action Plan:

### **Green Spaces and Biodiversity**

The co-benefits of protecting nature sites and creating new rich green space include better mental and physical health for local people, greater resilience to future climate change extremes and more resilient food production

Some example of local authority work in this action plan include:

- Protection and restoration of nature through nature recovery strategies
- Carbon sequestration through nature-based solutions such as restoring peatland, considerate land management and additional tree planting
- Habitat restoration and green infrastructure growth
- Wildflower verges, reduced pesticide used and changed mowing patterns

### **Air Quality**

By supporting low carbon infrastructure and transport initiatives, Allerdale Borough Council can reduce resource use, reduce CO2E emissions and improve air quality. Hence improving health and wellbeing of our residents and protecting the planet.

Our action plan addresses air quality in its sections; 'growing the low carbon economy' and 'decarbonising transport'

- Support development of safe walking and cycle routes
- Rapid transition to low carbon vehicle in our fleets and EV charging points for our communities
- Developing interventions that reduce the need to travel

### **Climate Change**

Slowing, stopping and then removing the greenhouse gases from our atmosphere is an ambitious target – achievable only with joined up thinking and commitment across all areas of local government and our communities. Local Councils are an indispensable partner in reaching the national target of net zero by 2050.

- Seek funding and partnership activities to support re-skilling, retraining and local research
- Work with partners on promotion of retrofitting properties to reduce energy use and emissions
- Supporting partnerships to bring green jobs to Allerdale

## Waste reduction

We cannot easily recycle our way out of the strain on natural resources and the quantity of waste that is currently produced locally. New solutions to reduce single-use items and unnecessary products that soon end up as waste are needed.

- Awareness campaigns to lead to minimisation of residual waste
- Promote re-use and recycling initiatives
- Create additional recycle streams to use waste as a resource
- PR Campaigns to raise awareness of possibilities
- Look at our own procurement policies to ensure that 'whole life costs' are considered in the value of products

Allerdale Borough Council's role in partnerships and with the public, places us at the heart of the climate conversation and in developing and replicating local solutions. However, these levers alone are not sufficient to deliver our Carbon Neutral ambitions, due to gaps in key powers that prevent systems-scale or holistic approaches, policy and funding barriers, and a lack of capacity and skills caused by funding cuts. Figure 2 below shows local authorities' leverage and influence through their services, planning and enforcement roles, housing, regeneration, economic development activities, education and skills services and investments.

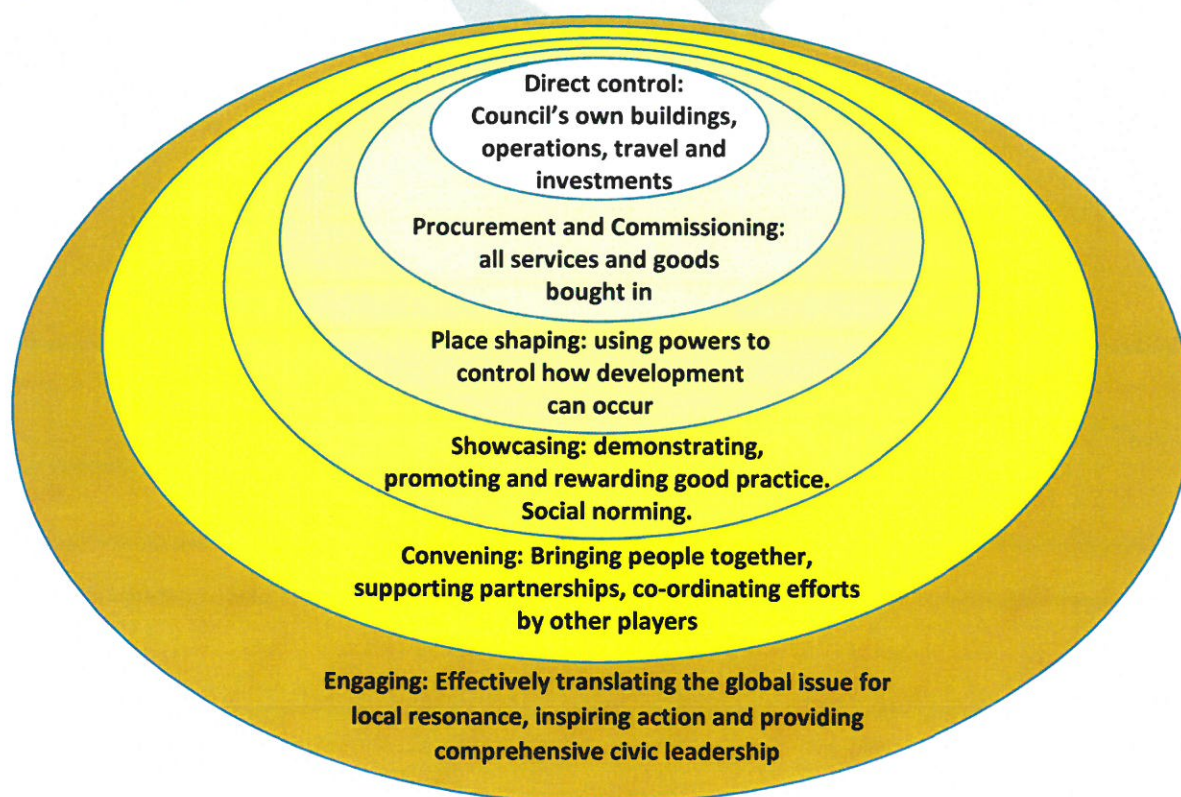


Figure 2 local authority levers of influence – the 'onion diagram'  
Source: Rachel Coxcoon at the Centre for Sustainable Energy

## What is Allerdale Borough Council already doing to tackle climate change?

**Growing a Zero and Low Carbon Economy** – within its sphere of influence as a local authority we seek to influence around a third of the area's emissions through place shaping, partnerships and leadership. The Council's Procurement Strategy makes reference to environment and sustainability in a purchasing context. Ongoing work with the other Cumbrian local authorities through EPiC (Effective Procurement in Cumbria) should help establish a consistent approach in helping to address climate change across Cumbria through sustainable procurement.

**Reducing consumption and emissions:** Council staff are encouraged to switch off computer equipment when not in use. Allerdale House was designed to be energy efficient though further improvements can be made. Audits for energy performance certificates are ongoing in relevant Council buildings. It is a legal requirement to display energy certificates in large public sector buildings. Work to reduce fuel poverty is ongoing. Inspections on homes under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System to assess decent homes includes energy efficiency.

**Decarbonising transport:** the staff travel policy requires staff to make efficient journeys and consider public transport. Close working with partners has led to an extensive cycle network in West Cumbria. The Council currently promotes a scheme to encourage staff to cycle to work. Electric vehicles have been recently purchased for some Council Services. COVID19 has led to a change in travel and working patterns which has massively decreased road miles. Many of these adaptations will be retained for the future.

**Planning to deliver Zero Carbon development:** the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, which involves three overarching interdependent objectives – economic, social and environmental. These objectives are delivered through the preparation and implantation of plans and the application of policies in the NPPF. The environmental objective includes mitigating and adapting to climate change. Section 14 of the NPPF relates specifically to meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change. Our Local Plan is consistent with the NPPF.

Building Control are ensuring that new developments have appropriate thermal insulation as required by the current Building Regulations and are helping construction companies build environmentally-friendly homes.

**Reducing waste:** Allerdale Borough Council is delivering a recycling rate of 34% with a particular focus on the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste that was previously sent to landfill, and contributed to greenhouse gases from the landfill site. Ongoing work with the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership assists in waste reduction and recycling.



The recycling facilities for staff in Council offices in main offices include cans and bottles in addition to paper. The design and print tender specifications will include the need for use of recycled paper. Electronic versions of meeting papers are now the standard method of distribution. Old computer equipment is reused or recycled. Water coolers supplied from the mains are present in most Council offices which reduce the need for staff to use bottled water.

**Restoring nature:** The Council's AONB team manage the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The Parks and Open Spaces team manages the Council's two nature reserves at Harrington and Siddick Pond with help from community groups, and through an extensive programme for volunteers and education. The management plans for these areas are regularly reviewed to increase biodiversity, create carbon sinks and help slow run-off of water.

A Shoreline Management Plan for the North West of England and North Wales has been developed. This sets out the long-term direction for managing risk to our coastline. The Cumbria Coastal Strategy has recently been developed and is currently going through the approval process with all partners (Spring 2021).

## Baseline data and reporting on progress

At this point we are reviewing the data available to the Council to establish current baselines. The Council is participating in the project to determine the level of need to decarbonise public sector buildings in the North West, funded by the Local Energy Hub and government, which is intended to lead to a programme of activity based on the identification of urgent need for remedial action, and through the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership we are addressing the outcomes of the carbon audit for Cumbria. We recognise we need to both understand the scale of the need through accurate current data and prioritise our activities accordingly.

Local authorities do not currently have to monitor or report reductions in their own or area emissions. This will change as the Environment Bill and Climate and Ecology Bill pass through their due Parliamentary process.

The Climate Change Committee recommends that local authority action plans should state how progress will be monitored and reported back to partnerships and residents, along with methods of ongoing engagement. The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's 2020 recommendations give us guidelines for self-scrutiny.

General guiding principles are:

- Measure and report Scopes 1 and 2 as a minimum. Scope 1 is direct GHG emissions from sources owned or controlled by the local authority, for example emissions from boilers and vehicles. Scope 2 accounts for emissions of purchased electricity consumed by the local authority.

- Define and report on Scope 3 as actively as possible. Scope 3 includes indirect emissions from wider supply chains, emissions from the use of local authority services, contracted out services and investments. Local authorities should assess the significance of emissions and level of control they have over different types of Scope 3 emissions and focus on the areas with the most emissions over which they have the most control or influence.

See the Terminology section at the end of the document for a definition of the scopes.

Work gathering baseline data is ongoing and methodology will be improved to provide more accurate and specific information.

From the latest figures available (BEIS 2017) the greenhouse gases emissions (excluding removals from Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry – LULUCF) which originated in Allerdale were 629.1 ktCO<sub>2</sub>, with just over a third of this being attributable to industrial and commercial fuel use (289.4 ktCO<sub>2</sub>), alongside roughly equal amounts attributable to domestic energy use (178.2 ktCO<sub>2</sub>) and transport (181.4 ktCO<sub>2</sub>). The per capita emissions have fallen between 2005 and 2017 from 13.4 ktCO<sub>2</sub> to 6.5 ktCO<sub>2</sub>.

The data allocates emissions on an “end-user” basis where emissions are distributed according to the point of energy consumption (or point of emission if not energy related). Except for the energy industry, emissions from the production of goods are assigned to where the production takes place. On this basis, emissions from the production of goods which are exported have been included, and emissions from the production of goods which are imported are excluded.

The Allerdale area emissions have been recently benchmarked through work commissioned by the Cumbria Climate Change Working Group, now known as Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership and carried out by Small World Consulting, and summarised as part of a countywide profile in ‘A Carbon Baseline for Cumbria’, 2020 (available via [www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk](http://www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk)).

The Tyndall Centre’s (University of Manchester) assessment of a carbon budget for Allerdale as a district (<https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/reports/E07000026>) shows that for the area to make its fair contribution to delivering the Paris Agreement's commitment to staying “well below 2°C and pursuing 1.5°C” global temperature rise, then an immediate and rapid programme of decarbonisation is needed. At 2017 CO<sub>2</sub> emission levels, Allerdale will exceed the recommended budget available within 8 years from 2020. To stay within the recommended carbon budget Allerdale will, from 2020 onwards, need to achieve average mitigation rates of CO<sub>2</sub> from energy of around -11.2% per year. This will require that Allerdale rapidly transitions away from unabated fossil fuel use. For context, the relative change in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy compared to a 2015 Paris Agreement reference year are shown in Table 1.

Year	Reduction in Annual Emissions (based on recommended pathway)
2020	35.8%
2025	64.5%
2030	80.4%
2035	89.2%
2040	94.0%
2045	96.7%
2050	98.2%

**Table 1:** Percentage reduction of annual emissions for the recommended CO<sub>2</sub> only pathway out to 2050 in relation to 2015

Source: The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

The carbon budgets recommended should be reviewed on a five yearly basis to reflect the most up-to-date science, any changes in global agreements on climate mitigation and progress on the successful deployment at scale of negative emissions technologies.

These budgets do not downscale aviation and shipping emissions from the UK national level. However if these emissions continue to increase as currently envisaged by Government, aviation and shipping will take an increasing share of the UK carbon budget, reducing the available budgets for combined and local authorities. **The Tyndall Centre recommends that Allerdale seriously consider strategies for significantly limiting emissions growth from aviation and shipping.** This could include interactions with the UK Government or other local authorities and local enterprise partnership discussions on aviation that reflect the need of the carbon budget to limit aviation and shipping emissions growth.

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the carbon budget related to electricity use from the National Grid in Allerdale are largely dependent upon national government policy and changes to power generation across the country. The Tyndall Centre recommends **that Allerdale promote the deployment of low carbon electricity generation within the region and where possible influence national policy on this issue.**

The Tyndall Centre also recommends **that the LULUCF sector should be managed to ensure CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration where possible. The management of LULUCF could also include action to increase wider social and environmental benefits.**

## In summary

This Council's Climate Change Action Plan is broadly but not specifically grouped into the headers proposed by the LGA and partners in their recommendations '*A blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level*' January 2021.

- Growing the Zero and Low Carbon Economy
- Retrofitting homes and buildings to reduce consumption and emissions
- Decarbonising transport
- Planning to deliver Zero Carbon development that protects and enhances nature
- Reducing Waste and Encouraging Sustainable Consumption
- Restoring Nature for all
- Developing local authority funding, governance and accounting systems that are fit for purpose

We also consider the themes fitting within the Council Strategy 2020 – 2030 and the Cumbria Joint Public Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2019-2029).

This action plan has been developed across Political parties within the Council. Each section is led by different Council members according to their own areas of knowledge and special interest who work as sub-teams within the Climate Change group. The work is supported and delivered by relevant senior managers and Lead Officers across all departments.

A Climate Change Action Plan cannot be delivered by one person alone, nor solely by Allerdale Borough Council. In order to be carbon neutral, we need to embed climate actions across all functions, policies and service areas and work with people living, working and visiting the area to achieve these outcomes.

We will be engaging with our communities across the borough to rise up and take action to address what is arguably the most difficult, but most important, challenge of our age.



## Section A: Growing the low carbon economy – skills and infrastructure

We want to create thriving resilient economy that supports a fair transition to Net Zero Carbon, through communication, training and skills, support for businesses and a procurement approach that influences the emissions of supply chains and products. We encourage bold use of technology to decarbonise our operations.

	Actions	Activity
A1	Reduction in the impact of climate change on our services and community	Assess the risk associated with climate change for the Council Services and our communities and produce plan to adapt accordingly
A2	Review council policies and strategies to consider impact of climate change	Ensure climate change actions are reflected in both existing and any new strategies and policies
A3	Develop a stakeholder engagement strategy	Devise a programme in conjunction with partners for: a) stakeholders b) members c) the community to raise awareness of climate change including engagement with young people d) communications strategy for the work of the group
A4	Work with key partners	a) develop and deliver strategic projects which deliver best practices on sustainable development. b) develop plans to address the causes and impact of climate change according to local priorities
A5	Support the work of the network of local partnerships in raising awareness of climate change in Cumbria	Participate in the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership including working closely with other Cumbrian authorities
A6	Building relationships with and lobbying the area's three MPs	Preparation for COP26 as a priority in working towards improvements
A7	Increased skills in local workforce to implement changes	a) better understanding among Council officers of climate change implementation b) sufficiently skilled local workforce to resource necessary changes
A8	Provide and co-ordinate training on climate change for staff and members, particularly front line staff	Introduce programme of carbon literacy training as soon as possible and awareness raising (ongoing)
A9	Inward investment in renewables energies and other 'green job' opportunities	Support large scale projects

**Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups** - CAFS, Centre for Alternative Technology, SusKes, Climate Emergency West Cumbria, TWIG, Friends of the Earth, Schools and Colleges, Copeland Borough Council, Parish Councils, MPs



## Section B: Retro-fitting homes and buildings

**We want to improve housing stock and the wider built environment to reduce carbon emissions, build resilience to future climate change, reduce fuel poverty and influence improved living conditions**

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Activity</b>
B1	Work with Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS) to promote energy efficiencies in households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) promote availability of energy saving measures in homes in conjunction with CAfS</li> <li>b) promotion of government schemes to improve homes</li> <li>c) promote full occupancy of homes</li> </ul>
B2	Running energy efficiency schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) targeting deprivation and fuel poverty, including working with Housing Associations (HAs), environmental groups and other agencies</li> <li>b) promotion of government schemes to improve homes</li> <li>c) build knowledge through working with social housing providers</li> <li>d) regularly run a collective energy switching scheme</li> </ul>
B3	Ensure Private Rented Accommodation in Allerdale does not have an EPC rating below an E	Enforcement activity in accordance with the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) regulations
B4	Raise awareness of funding available for energy efficiency	Improve awareness amongst front line staff, visiting officers, Customer Service Advisors and partners
B5	Encourage awareness of emissions from domestic heating sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) promote eco-friendly sources inc. ground and air source heat pumps and PV options</li> <li>b) promote awareness of emissions from log burners</li> </ul>
B6	Work with tenants, leases and occupants of Council owned buildings (GLL) to identify energy savings	Once work to identify which buildings require work to address emissions is complete, begin to develop solutions
B7	Review energy use and plan for energy efficiencies in Council buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) identify potential for energy efficiencies and sustainability for operational buildings</li> <li>b) produce prioritised action plan</li> <li>c) implement prioritised action</li> </ul>
B8	Investigate the potential for installing renewable energy generation in existing or new Council buildings	Explore potential for improvements initially at Allerdale House e.g. solar panels and other sources of energy creation, then other Council owned buildings
B9	Review energy suppliers for Council building and seek to move towards 100% supply from 'green' sources or suppliers	Work to ensure Council purchases of electricity and gas are from renewable sources
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> – CAfS, social landlords and housing associations, Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership, energy companies, Cumbria LEP		

## Section C: Decarbonisation of transport & reducing road miles

We want to reduce traffic and shift to more sustainable modes of transport. This will lead to improvements in emissions, air quality, noise and safety.

	Actions	Activity
C1	Contribute to addressing wider community-based transport issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) transport savings by holding virtual meetings</li> <li>b) lobbying for more bus services</li> <li>c) Lift share apps</li> </ul>
C2	Review existing car user policy to identify sustainable travel incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) consider staff pool bicycle scheme</li> <li>b) continue supported purchase schemes for staff</li> <li>c) encourage staff use of public transport</li> <li>d) regularly promote sensible driving message to staff and members</li> </ul>
C3	Work with main partners to achieve reduction in energy use and greenhouse gases in the delivery of Council services	Particularly in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) planning replacement of vehicles</li> <li>b) encourage transition from petrol fuelled equipment to electric</li> <li>c) Reducing distances and frequency of travel</li> </ul>
C4	Maximise benefits of projects by partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Support projects such as Charge My Street (electric vehicle charge points)</li> <li>b) Further promote Local Cycling and Walking Plans (LCWiPs)</li> </ul>
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> - CAFS, Cumbria County Council, LDNPA, Sustrans, Allerdale Waste Services, other initiatives - Liftshare (app), Bicycle Mayor for Cumbria, Slow Roads Network,		

## Section D: Planning to deliver zero carbon development that protects and enhances nature

We want to ensure that new development is carbon neutral, makes space for nature and links with walking and cycling routes to essential facilities.

	Actions	Activity
D1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Ensure forthcoming legislation is effectively implemented and supported within the authority</li> <li>b) Regularly review planning policies to incorporate sustainable development taking into account the needs and character of the area through the Local Plan</li> <li>c) Ensure robust strategies are in place to support legislation</li> <li>d) Ensure interdepartmental coordination enables continuous improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) i. Ensure all senior managers are aware of the impacts of proposed legislation</li> <li>ii. Ensure the Council is able to service the requirements of implementing the proposed new planning requirements</li> <li>b) Develop supplementary planning documents relating to biodiversity and environmental gains.</li> <li>c) Continue to collaborate with other Cumbrian authorities on the draft local nature recovery strategy and ensure this is implemented when adopted.</li> <li>d) Enable close communication between all relevant staff, particularly planning policy and development control in conjunction with parks and open spaces</li> </ul>
D2	Examine existing supplementary planning guidance for sustainable development and determine if any change is required to bring guidance in line with best practice	Consider if planning conditions can <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) enable the commissioning of independent monitoring of planning applications as a condition of approval</li> <li>b) require the installation of electric vehicle charge points in public facing developments</li> </ul>
D3	Promote higher building quality standards that include sustainable and green building principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) monitor use of pre-planning checklist</li> <li>b) promote biodiversity support inc. swift bricks, hedgehog runs etc.</li> <li>c) expand list and use of appropriate external organisations as consultees</li> </ul>
D4	Review existing main Council policies and consider making amendments to assist in tackling climate change	Development and phasing in of 'green clauses' (such as requiring energy efficiency) into Council leases and rental contracts
D5	Protect below market value (BMV) land to grow crops for local consumption.	Local Plan policy S36 and para 329 page 142 sets out the principle of protection of most versatile agricultural land for food production.
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> – Lake District National Park Authority, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Workington Nature Partnership, Natural England, Local Government Association		

## **Section E: - Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption: within Allerdale Borough Council estate**

**We aim to reduce waste and support sustainable consumption and production, through a more circular economy. We want to be bold in our use of technology to reduce resource use and greenhouse gas emissions. Communications and newsletters**

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Activity</b>
E1	a) Review departmental and central printing strategy b) Review potential for further reducing volume of paper for Committee work c) Consider extending the use of video conferencing	a) Encourage greater use of electronic devices by staff b) Encourage greater use of electronic devices by staff and councillors c) i. explore alternative methods and providers ii. Develop hybrid provision to allow combined in-person and virtual meetings
E2	Continue re-use schemes when disposing of furniture/ equipment	a) Repair and extend life where possible b) Offer spare or replaced items to community groups and voluntary organisations
E3	Consider impact of on staff and the community in accessing and delivery of services at current and potential Council Centres.	Review options for the delivery of Council services
E4	Monitor working temperatures and other factors adversely affecting workforce.	Ensure steps are taken to mitigate any changes in working conditions or wellbeing in Allerdale Borough Council workplaces.
E5	Regularly review the Council's Strategic Procurement Strategy to increase the purchase of sustainable goods and services	Ensure any new climate change aspects are incorporated into Procurement Policy
E6	Review the Council's use of outside caterers and include need for locally sourced food and reusable or recyclable utensils.	Public health needs may challenge actions intended to alleviate climate change, however choosing sustainable resources should continue to be the intended solution.

## **Reducing waste and encouraging sustainable consumption: Allerdale Borough Council residents and businesses**

**We aim to reduce waste and support sustainable consumption and production, through a more circular economy. We want to discourage wasteful lifestyles that create environmental problems both here and abroad, on land and in the marine environment.**

E7	Improve recycling knowledge and practices in Allerdale including awareness of service	a) review trade waste options b) review bulky waste collection and potential re-use system for furniture c) review information on bin calendars d) update Council website and information links e) run PR campaign to raise awareness of facilities and services
E8	Extend provision of doorstep recycling facilities in accordance with annual programme	a) Work with Allerdale Waste Services to determine programme. b) Address issues for areas of the borough not covered by current services

E9	Minimisation of residual waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) continue to work on Tetra-Pak recycling scheme options</li> <li>b) Investigate anaerobic digestion for food waste</li> <li>c) Soft plastic recycling</li> <li>d) Electrical</li> <li>e) Furniture</li> <li>f) Extended Producer Responsibility scheme</li> <li>g) Food waste/Sustainable Food Action Plan</li> <li>Deposit return scheme (bottles)</li> </ul>
E10	Minimisation of residual waste at source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) raise awareness of staff and public on waste minimisation and recycling</li> <li>b) work on a waste minimisation campaign</li> <li>c) work to improve attitudes and actions regarding environmental crimes e.g. fly-tipping with a particular focus on identified hotspots</li> <li>d) carry out educational campaigns to support the above</li> </ul>
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> – Cumbria Action for Sustainability, Allerdale Waste Services, Cumbria LEP, BEC, Copeland Borough Council, SK, CEWC, FotE, Refill initiative, Schools and Colleges, Parish Councils, businesses		

## Section F: Restoring nature for all: Biodiversity, land use, land use change and forestry

We want to provide easy access to quality natural spaces, supporting wellbeing for individuals and communities. We want green spaces to have the co-benefits of providing natural potential for flood water slowing, carbon capture, flourishing insect friendly pollination areas and wildlife habitats, in addition to human focussed leisure facilities.

F1	Nature reserves become sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) progress the Solway Coast AONB Management Plan</li> <li>b) development of management plans for the Council's nature reserves at Harrington and Siddick Ponds</li> </ul>
F2	Support for community focused projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Encourage orchards &amp; allotments</li> <li>b) support development of horticultural businesses</li> <li>c) develop a small grants scheme</li> <li>d) complete the Allonby to Silloth coastal cycle path extension</li> </ul>
F3	Promote biodiversity by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) planting to minimise maintenance/ links to biodiversity</li> <li>b) identify areas of land for tree planting</li> <li>c) encourage composting</li> <li>d) promote/develop more Get Cumbria Buzzing sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) change bedding plants to perennials/use peat free compost</li> <li>b) work with the Woodland Trust and local groups such as TWIG; be part of the emerging Partnership project for a West Cumbria Community Coastal Forest</li> <li>c) reduce the use of Glyphosate as a general weed killer</li> <li>d) i - work with Cumbria Wildlife Trust and local groups ii – work with town and parish councils</li> </ul>
F4	Reduction in overall flood risk	Planting to mitigate the effects by slowing the flow in rivers and streams
F5	Reduce flood probability and severity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Continue to promote and ensure urban run-off through SUDS (sustainable urban drainage systems)</li> <li>b) Work with United Utilities with regard to reviewing water management from Thirlmere</li> </ul>
F6	Explore carbon capture potential	This would include both usage and storage
F7	Explore hydrogen-related energy possibilities	Continue to monitor the project research being undertaken for Cumbria LEP
F8	Increased community awareness of climate change issues in AONB area	Communication and community engagement
F9	Prevent import of pests, diseases through local docks	Work in collaboration to ensure adherence to legislation

## Restoring Nature for All: Water, flooding and coastal change

We want to address water wastage and develop grey water systems. We want to work with partners to improve flood resilience, consider coastal erosion, shoreline management, improve biodiversity and address beach litter.

F10	Implement results of trial using water saving devices in Council	Improve ABC utilities supply/usage
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	buildings and assess scope for extending	
F11	Assess scope for reuse of grey water in Council buildings and prioritise for action	Improve ABC utilities supply/usage
F12	Recognise the Council's role in ensuring sufficient public water for agriculture, industry, council use including statutory duties with regard to private water supplies and improving water sanitation (SDG 6)	Work with Environment Agency, United Utilities, Cumbria County Council and other partners
F13	Raise awareness of staff and community on water saving measures	a) develop goals to reduce water leakage, wastage b) consider feasibility of installing rainwater and/or grey water recovery systems
F14	Work to address coastal issues	a) Work with partners to support the implementation of the Cumbria Coastal Strategy b) Work with partners to support the implementation of the Shoreline Management Plan c) Work with partners and Cumbria County Council on coastal issues, particularly in relation to the B5300 d) Participate in the LGA Coastal Special Interest Group
F15	Increase river and coastal flood resilience and safety	a) assess risk for people, livelihoods and prosperity b) ensure access to flood-readiness information (for evacuation) c) ensure access to flood-resilience and support information d) Work closely with the EA and respective flood action groups throughout the borough e) Assist EA and CCC with all flood alleviation methods including improving river defences NFM catchment management
F16	Review beach cleaning activities	Work with a range of groups to help clean beaches but of greater importance to ensure the profile of dirty beaches and how the public can help reduce this.
F17	Support ongoing work with partners to address diffuse pollution and improve bathing water quality.	Promote the benefits of domestic travel and blue spaces for recreation and health, in conjunction with initiatives such as LoveMyBeach and Active Coast.
F18	Support ongoing action plan for Allonby as a priority bathing water.	Ensure compliance with Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 14
<b>Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups</b> - Solway Coast AONB, Solway Firth Partnership, Workington Nature Partnership, Northside Community Garden and Recreation Society, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust, Sustainable Keswick (SusKes), Climate Emergency West Cumbria (CEWC), Get Cumbria Buzzing, TWIG, RSPB, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, West Cumbria Rivers Trust, Natural England-Solway Coast AONB, Solway Firth Partnership, Workington Nature Partnership, Environment Agency, United Utilities, Cumbria County Council, Marine Management Organisation (MMO), West Cumbria Rivers Trust, 'Love my Beach',		

## Section G: Developing local authority funding, governance and accounting systems that are fit for purpose

We want to develop a strategic approach to influencing climate and biodiversity problems. We hope to provide citizens with appropriate engagement opportunities based on transparent proposals, processes and performance, which will deliver innovative solutions. We aim to influence investment strategies and procurement policies to ensure they are in line with this Council's Climate Change ambitions and contribute to a local, circular economy

	Actions	Activity
G1	Scrutiny of treasury and procurement via Overview and Scrutiny or Audit Committee to ensure actions are in line with Climate Change Strategy aims	Ensure that whole life costs and local, ethical purchasing guidelines are followed Address policies to include the economic costs of Climate change adaptation and mitigation
G2	Innovative funding and financing mechanisms	Look at community bonds and funding partnerships
G3	Use the UK shared prosperity fund to fund the transition to the low carbon economy	Lobby Government
G4	Provide LA's with the evidence that helps to apply policies and target resources to deliver necessary cuts in emissions	Lobby Government
Key Partners / Stakeholder Groups –		



## Terminology

Below are explanations of some of the terms used in this document.

'Net Zero' greenhouse gas emissions means that while some greenhouse gas emissions (not only CO<sub>2</sub>) are still being generated by a process, these emissions are being balanced by forestry or removed by technologies making the overall net emissions zero.

'Carbon Neutral' means that while some carbon dioxide emissions are still being generated by a building/process these emissions are being offset somewhere else making the overall net carbon dioxide emissions zero. This is also termed net-zero carbon dioxide emissions.

'Zero Carbon' means that no carbon dioxide emissions are being produced from a product/service e.g. zero-carbon electricity could be provided by a 100% renewable energy supplier.

'Scopes' are defined as emissions broken down into three categories by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol in order to better understand the source.

Scope 1 – All Direct Emissions from the activities of an organisation or under their control. Including fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers, fleet vehicles and air-conditioning leaks.

Scope 2 – Indirect Emissions from electricity purchased and used by the organisation. Emissions are created during the production of the energy and eventually used by the organisation.

Scope 3 – All Other Indirect Emissions from activities of the organisation, occurring from sources that they do not own or control. These are usually the greatest share of the carbon footprint, covering emissions associated with business travel, procurement, waste and water.

# New carbon footprinting tool for parish councils

22 June 2020

Over the next six months, and in partnership with [Midlands Energy Hub](#), CSE will develop a tool that will enable parish councils and local communities to estimate baseline carbon emissions for their area. This will be calculated using information about energy use, travel behaviours and the consumption of goods and services modelled at household level and scaled up to better reflect individual communities.

The tool will enable the development of meaningful and locally appropriate carbon reduction strategies by parish councils that allow them to support their district and county councils with well-targeted activity that focuses on big-emissions sectors rather than spending time on well-meaning but low-impact activities. It will allow users to test out a number of scenarios designed to demonstrate the potential impact of different projects on their overall carbon footprint.



Parish council responsibilities can include planning, traffic calming, community transport, street lighting, allotments, bridleways & footpaths, car parks, commons and open spaces, leisure, litter bins and street cleaning, tourism and youth projects

CSE's Annette Lamley said, "To tackle the climate emergency, we need the involvement of all levels of government, from the commanding heights of Westminster down to parish councils. The latter have a critical role to play being uniquely placed to inspire grassroots movements, set a leadership example and deliver practical local action.

And we know from the many requests for assistance that CSE receives from parish councillors that many are determined to play their part. So we're hugely encouraged by that BEIS (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy) has recognised the role of parish councils and is funding a project to develop a community-level footprinting tool."

## Helping us build it ...

Thanks to the many parish councillors and clerks who are helping us develop and test the tool. We put out a call and around 170 parishes signed up to trial the prototype and provide feedback on its format and content. Amazing response, and we look forward to cracking on with the development!