














Climate Change Management Delivery Plan


Priority 3: GBC – the community leader

	Specific Action	Baseline performance	Owner	Timescale	Resource	Officer updates
3.1	Implement an overarching Communications Strategy to clearly articulate how the council will seek to engage with residents, businesses, partners, and communities to encourage and support climate change action across the borough. Linking in with national and local initiatives, develop a programme of activities targeted at increasing awareness of climate change activities within schools.					
3.1.1	Development of a 'Stay Safe, Shop Local' campaign using EU Welcome Back funding as an ongoing publicity tool in order to reduce carbon footprint through educating and encouraging people to reduce travel to shopping centres.	The first campaign of its type, so no baseline measure is available	Communications Manager	January-March 2022	  (potential EU funding)	Completed
3.1.2	Engaging with local schools through various channels to promote and encourage climate change awareness and measures. Schools are being encouraged to sign up to national Eco Schools programme.	No schools in the Borough had completed the Eco Schools programme	Communications Team in liaison with relevant council departments	Ongoing	 	Tymerwood Academy has confirmed they are working toward Eco School status and the council is working with them to deliver this as a main project for the next academic year (2022/23). Further activity has been limited due to the school summer holidays.
3.1.3	Working with partners such as Kent Resource Partnership and WRAP to identify and participate in key national campaigns and raise awareness via social media channels		Communications Team	Ongoing	 	Campaigns delivered since the last update have focused on home composting, easter recycling, and cutting excess side waste to bring refuse tonnage under control and encourage recycling. Future partner campaigns are currently being developed.
3.1.4	Use of Your Borough and Your Home magazines to reach all residents with updates and educational material regarding council's efforts to reach Net Zero and how residents and businesses can contribute		Communications Team	Ongoing	 	The Autumn edition of Your Borough focuses on climate change activity. The Autumn Your Home features energy-saving tips and advice tied in with money-saving advice regarding the cost of living crisis.
3.1.5	Media releases/briefings regarding implementation of key measures (e.g., installation of EV charging points in council-owned car parks).		Communications Team	Ongoing	 	Media releases since the last update have focused on Electric Vehicle (EV) charging, including features in the Autumn edition of Your Borough, positive action against fly-tipping and energy efficiency works for council dwellings.
3.1.6	Consideration being given to parish events regarding Net Zero programme	No parish events had previously been held	Communications Team	Ongoing	 	A project led by representatives from the council's Wider Management Team will explore opportunities to engage more greatly with parish events. This project is due to report in March 2023.


KEY:

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3.1.7	Ensure engagement activities are undertaken with the community as required in line with key projects and directives being undertaken.		Communications Team (to lead on projects with relevant departments)	Ongoing	 £ £	Publicity material was distributed at Riverside Festival. A project led by representatives from the council's Wider Management Team will explore opportunities to develop a programme of engagement activity. This project is due to report in March 2023.
3.1.8	Consider the establishment of an action group or forum where residents can come together to share ideas on climate change and behaviours.		Climate Change Delivery Manager (with support from Communications Team)	Summer 2022	 £	A project led by representatives from the council's Wider Management Team will explore opportunities to develop a programme of engagement activity. This project is due to report in March 2023.
3.2	Work with partners to promote and deliver initiatives to enable local residents to improve the efficiency of their homes. Inform and support local residents to reduce their own energy usage and consider renewable energy sources.					
3.2.1	Active engagement in Phase Two of the Solar Together Scheme	Phase 1 had 25 registrations with 2 progressing to installation	Director (Corporate Services) Communications Manager	January 2022 to October 2022	 £	The latest report on Phase Two delivery has indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90 remote desktop surveys completed • 74 onsite surveys completed • 18 installations ready to book • 27 installations booked • 20 installations completed
3.2.2	Working with other partners in Kent to actively deliver initiatives in line with the Kent & Medway Low Emission Strategy, which meet the needs of Gravesham residents.		Climate Action Delivery Manager	Ongoing	 £	The council was part of a successful bid to the Local Government Association (LGA) Behaviour Insights Programme to secure £65k to deliver a trial programme intended to encourage and empower low/middle-income households to make low or no-cost behaviour changes that will reduce their domestic energy consumption. The trial will focus on a 'Share the Warmth' scheme that will launch in mid-October and end in March 2023. Following an internal review, the council is now represented at all levels of the county governance structure in place to direct and implement action to deliver the Kent & Medway Low Emission Strategy.
3.2.3	Actively engaging with organisations such as the Greater South East Energy hub to bring forward initiatives intended to improve efficiency in domestic properties.		Climate Action Delivery Manager	Ongoing	 £	Council Officers are now actively attending meetings/sessions/webinars provided by organisations such as the Greater South East Energy Hub and sharing funding opportunities as and when come across with relevant teams.

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
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3.2.4	In line with the Communications Strategy, ensure regular updates to residents to assist them in reducing their own energy usage and renewable energy options.		Climate Delivery Action Manager and Communications Team	Ongoing	 	Activity is underway to deliver new website content and other options for advice and guidance for residents to reduce their energy usage and, therefore, their energy bills. This action will also be taken forward by the project led by representatives from the council's Wider Management Team referenced at 3.1.6.
3.3	Work with partners to enable and support local businesses to decarbonise their premises and processes.					
3.3.1	Work with businesses to identify funding opportunities to support improvements to energy efficiency within their business.		Climate Action Delivery Manager Funding Officer Senior Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	 	<p>The council has established a Green Grant Scheme, which is being promoted by the Kent & Medway Growth Hub. The scheme is intended to benefit up to 20 local businesses with grants of up to £10,000 to improve their business' sustainability and energy use. Initial awards are expected in the Autumn once applicants have completed a zero carbon audit to help focus their activity.</p> <p>Ongoing promotion of national and more local support schemes continues to take place via Your Borough, Gravesham Business Network newsletters, and @GraveshamForBiz.</p> <p>Initial contact has been made with the Head of Place at Innovate UK and the new resource for Local Authorities (Net Zero Go), designed to provide assistance to decarbonisation plans.</p>
3.3.2	Work with the biggest emitters in the borough (as identified by BEIS) to encourage and support them in their decarbonisation plans		Climate Action Delivery Manager Senior Economic Development Officer	Commence 2022	 	<p>Council officers met with representatives from Kimberly Clark in June to discuss decarbonisation; the company has reduced its group carbon footprint by over 70% in recent years.</p> <p>A meeting is actively being sought with a large occupier at Springhead Enterprise Park to discuss the prospect of a local renewable energy generation scheme.</p>
3.3.3	A green / carbon reduction business award. To help identify local firms providing low-carbon environmental goods and services and/or successful case studies of businesses reducing the operational carbon footprint		Senior Economic Development Officer	By May 2022	 	The Gravesham Business Awards ceremony took place on 23 September. After investigation, it was established that the awards committee was not supportive of having an explicit environmental category because this is not their usual approach but there is an intention on behalf of GBC, to seek to influence changes for future awards.

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3.4	Implement a policy to ensure adequate consideration is given to the impacts on the environment of new development (residential and commercial). Ensure that such developments support sustainable living and transport infrastructure and solutions for cycling, walking, and low/zero-emission vehicles.					
3.4.1	Through the pre-application advice service, encourage applicants to submit policy-compliant schemes which minimise the impacts of new development on the environment		Assistant Director (Planning)	Ongoing	 £	<p>Officers have identified that one area where proposals are often not policy compliant, is vehicle crossovers. Officers are working on some guidance to assist potential applicants and this will include environmental considerations.</p> <p>The draft guidance is being taken to the next Strategic Environment Cabinet Committee.</p>
3.4.2	Ensure that emerging Local Plan policy, to support that in the Core Strategy, is framed with regard to the latest Government guidance, regulation and best practice		Assistant Director (Planning)	Development of Local Plan policy in line with Local Development Scheme	 £ £	The Planning Policy team are progressing the Development Management Policies document. The Core Strategy Review and Site Allocations has been delayed due to transport modelling and need for surveys to be undertaken when traffic not constrained by Covid impacts.
3.5	Develop electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the borough, both for resident, business and general public use.					
3.5.1	Support residents, where it is possible to do so, in the introduction of domestic electric vehicle charging points in individual properties. (Subject to Government Legislation)		Climate Action Delivery Manager	Ongoing from Q2 2022-23	 £	<p>There are now a number of different schemes available for flat owner-occupiers and tenants, residential landlords and residential car parks to apply for grants to plan the infrastructure necessary to install Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points.</p> <p>For more details, click on the below link https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-grants-for-low-emission-vehicles</p> <p>The link also list OZEV approved installers</p> <p>Details were shared in the Autumn Your Borough magazine.</p>
3.5.2	Explore opportunities for the provision of electric vehicle charging points within GBC-owned assets and implement actions where a sound business case can be provided.	There were no EV charge points installed on council owned land prior to these projects starting	Assistant Director (IT and Transformation) Parking & Environmental Enforcement Services Manager	March 2022	 £ £	<p>In addition to the four EV charging points provided at Parrock Street and Milton Place it is intended that an additional ten charging points will be delivered in Parrock Street under the same contract.</p> <p>Installation has commenced at seven sites within the borough with the majority of chargepoint trenches, ducting and charging posts being installed and awaiting connection to the electrical grid.</p>

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	3.5.3	Work with other businesses and service providers in the borough to support the provision of EV charging points within their own facilities.		Climate Action Delivery Manager Parking & Environmental Enforcement Services Manager Senior Economic Development Officer	Commence Summer 2022 and ongoing thereafter	1 £	Officers are currently working on developing a strategy to engage private partners in the provision of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging points within their own facilities in the borough. Parallel to this, desktop research is also being undertaken to identify financial incentives from installers / Government / third parties, which can be used to form part of an intended campaign to partner with landowners interested in installing EV points.
	3.5.4	Explore opportunities for the provision of on and off street electric vehicle charging points for taxis/ private hire vehicles and implement such charging points where it is feasible to do so		Regulatory Services Manager Parking & Environmental Enforcement Services Manager	Summer 2022	1 £ £	Viability of potential sites has continued to be a challenge due to local grid constraints and high connection costs. Officers have, however, now identified a site on Parrock Street to deliver the borough's first dedicated taxi and private hire EV chargers, with top-up funding of circa £15k to be provided from the Climate Change Reserve to deliver the project. The project is part of the 'Rapid Taxi Charger Project' (50kw dual chargers) which resulted from a joint bid made by KCC in conjunction with partnering district LAs to the Government's Round 2 ULEV Taxi Infrastructure Scheme, overseen by the Office of Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV).
3.6	Encourage active travel through the use of public transport, cycle routes and walking facilities across the borough, promoting the health and climate change benefits for all.						
	3.6.1	Working with Kent County Council to implement and publicise cycle lanes in appropriate locations across the borough.		Principal Transport and NSIP Project Manager Communications Team	Ongoing	1 £	A study is now underway following an inception meeting in mid-June.
	3.6.2	Working with Kent County Council to bring the Mobility as a Service project (MaaS) to residents in the borough (including the Electric Vehicle car club) as an alternative to car ownership		Assistant Director (IT and Transformation) Parking & Environmental Enforcement Services Manager	Until project completion	1 £ £	Assistance continues to be provided to KCC on the development of a specification for awarding a contract for an "Electric Car Club" as part of the MaaS project.
3.7	Work with partners to reduce and manage the impact of climate change impacts through adaptation, mitigation, sustainable flood risk management and promotion of the benefits of green infrastructure.						
	3.7.1	Work with key partners to progress the delivery of the new Fastrack bus lane proposed to be installed alongside the taxi rank and feeder lane in the town centre, which supports a reduction in vehicle emissions.		Regulatory Services Manager	Until project completion	1 £	KCC has consulted with the taxi trade and factored in responses received to make minor changes to the layout of the scheme. Work is expected to progress next year.

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3.7.2	Ensure the council, in its formal consultee role, ensures all planning applications and applications for Development Consent Orders, have due consideration to climate change mitigation and adaption such as EV charging points, air quality consideration, traffic management considerations etc		Regulatory Services Manager Assistant Director (Planning)	Ongoing	 £	Officers are working on some driveway/drop kerb guidance and this will include environmental considerations as well as information on permitted development rights. The draft guidance is being taken to the next Strategic Environment Cabinet Committee.
3.7.3	Work with key partners including Environment Agency and KCC and developers, via the Planning System (Local Plan development and Planning Applications), and land managers to ensure that an integrated approach is taken to sustainable flood risk management		Assistant Director (Planning) Service Manager (Planning)	Ongoing	 £ £	The Environment Agency have published Flood map for planning - GOV.UK (flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk) which gives a potential applicant the ability to find out if they need a flood risk assessment as part of a planning application. This is currently being considered by officers as to whether this can be included within the local validation support that is provided to applicants. Officer comments were provided to Southern Water's consultation on its Water Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan.
3.8	Review council procurement policies and practice to help mitigate Climate Change. Actively assess major contractors' commitment to achieving net zero by 2050 in the UK and work with these suppliers to improve their performance.					
3.8.1	Ensure that Climate Change considerations are incorporated into the Council's Procurement Strategy.		Assistant Director (Corporate Services)	September 2022	 £	The council has reviewed its Contract Procedure Rules, which govern and regulate the manner in which procurement and tendering activity takes place within the council. As part of this review, the Contract Procedure Rules now make explicit reference to how the council will consider the carbon footprint of organisations in its supply chain. The updated Contract Procedure Rules will be considered for adoption by Full Council on 11 th October. Subject to this decision, attention will then focus on reviewing and updating the council's Procurement Strategy to ensure this aligns to any updated Contract Procedure Rules.
3.8.2	For contracts over £250,000 per annum, require bidding suppliers to confirm their commitment to working towards net-zero emissions.		Assistant Director (Corporate Services)	From April 2022	 £	The proposed updates to the Contract Procedure Rules make explicit reference to ensuring that relevant tenders over a certain threshold include environmental impact considerations.
3.8.3	For construction contracts, seek supplier consideration of low emissions requirements in specifications such as the use of materials, equipment, property, travel and delivery mechanisms.		Assistant Director (Corporate Services)	From April 2022	 £	The proposed updates to the Contract Procedure Rules make explicit reference to sourcing sustainable products where possible, considering environmental impacts, and taking action to reduce the effect that the council's activity has on the environment.

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3.8.4	In accordance with Policy Procedure Note 06/21, ensure that all council procurements over £5m per annum (excl. VAT) require the bidding suppliers to provide a Carbon Reduction Plan.		Assistant Director (Corporate Services)	Commenced October 2021 and will be ongoing	 £	The proposed updates to the Contract Procedure Rules make explicit reference to ensuring that relevant tenders over a certain threshold include environmental impact considerations.
3.8.5	Actively work with strategic and/or significant suppliers to support improvement in their performance.		Assistant Director (Corporate Services)	From April 2022	 £	This action will be taken forward as procurement opportunities present themselves whilst the Supplier base is being reviewed.
3.9	Continue to develop innovative and sustainable waste management solutions and opportunities for waste recycling and disposal.					
3.9.1	Ensure that all properties across the borough have suitable recycling facilities	PI8 & PI9 Tonnages	Assistant Director (Operations) Waste Projects and Compliance Officer	Q4 2022/23	 £ £	<p>Since August 2021, 542 more flats in the borough have dry mixed recycling collections and 663 more flats have food waste recycling collections. In total, 32 blocks of flats have been given recycling provision in the past 13 months.</p> <p>Educational recycling leaflets have also been delivered to 976 flats in the borough (15.3% of total Council & private flats).</p> <p>Overall, 13 months into the project, 56.3% of flats now have access to recycling facilities compared to 49.0% at the start of the project, and 14.7% of flats now have food waste collection compared to 4.4% in August 2021.</p> <p>Waste Management continues to engage with block management companies to deliver recycling for private blocks and are supporting Housing in delivering recycling to all general housing flats.</p> <p>Projects to deliver recycling to additional private flats continue to be planned as part of a rolling schedule to deliver flats recycling to the remaining private blocks.</p>


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	3.9.2	Public education to reuse and recycle in the correct way	PI8 Pledge2Recycle Plastics Survey	Assistant Director (Operations) Waste Projects and Compliance Officer	Ongoing	 	<p>As blocks of flats receive recycling facilities, each flat receives an educational leaflet and bin areas receive bin stickers and signage. To date, 976 flats have received educational materials.</p> <p>A new service guide has been developed which is distributed with bin deliveries for new-build properties and to lettings agents and management companies. The leaflet explains our waste & recycling services and how to recycle correctly.</p> <p>Recycling contamination and excess waste procedures have been put in place to educate residents about recycling, to minimise the refuse they present for collection, and to prevent recycling loads being rejected and sent to energy from waste due to contamination. In the 9-months since the start of the contamination campaign, the rejected recycling tonnage reduced by 14.2%, or 110.9 tonnes, compared to the 9-months leading up to the commencement of the campaign.</p> <p>The Dickens Estate has been identified as an area with high levels of recycling contamination and so a new bespoke leaflet has been developed to be trialed in this area to minimise loads of recycling being rejected and sent to energy from waste plants for incineration instead.</p> <p>Since the beginning of the excess waste campaign in March 2022, our refuse tonnage has fallen by 143.9 tonnes (-1.9%) compared to the same period in 2021; and has fallen 279.2 tonnes (-3.5%) compared to the same period in 2020 during the national lockdowns. Refuse per household has also fallen by 7.4 kilograms (-3.5%) per household compared to the same period in 2021.</p> <p>Additional recycling 'on-the-go' bins have been installed in Parrock Street Car Park to support residents in being able to recycle while out and about in the borough. To date, 6.6 tonnes of street litter recycling has been collected through recycling 'on-the-go' bins, and Street Champions collecting littered plastic bottles and cans separately in clear sacks so that they can be recycled.</p> <p>Officers have engaged with schools, clubs, and community groups to engage with approximately 550 children & adults in the borough about litter & recycling. Officers have also attended an Anti-Social Behaviour Event, the Riverside Festival, and Summer Fun Programme events to engage with residents, with more than 250 Street Champion & recycling leaflets distributed.</p>


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	3.9.3	Work within the Kent Resource Partnership to develop new recycling streams and to ensure current waste disposal routes are sustainable	Bulky waste & residual waste tonnages	Assistant Director (Operations) Waste Projects and Compliance Officer	Ongoing	 	Since the last update, the Kent Resource Partnership has commenced work with Podback to trial the collection of used coffee pods from households' doorsteps and it's due to start in early 2023.
	3.9.4	Work with third sector partners to develop new reuse options.	Bulky waste & residual waste tonnages	Assistant Director (Operations) Waste Projects and Compliance Officer	Ongoing	 	Officers continue to attempt to engage with organisations such as the Ellenor Hospice and the British Heart Foundation to develop initiatives to reuse items such as furniture.


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