



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUPPORTING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



AS COUNCILS WE RECOGNISE THE URGENT NEED TO TAKE ACTION ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA AND TO SUPPORT AND ASSIST OUR NATURAL AND ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS TO THRIVE.

3



732

ACRES OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES MANAGED BY THE COUNCILS



1011

ENERGY SAVING MEASURES INSTALLED THROUGH THE LEAP ENERGY ADVICE SERVICE



100%

OF THE COUNCILS' ELECTRICITY IS GENERATED FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES



Our existing sustainability framework for Adur and Worthing (developed in 2018) has been added to by the Declaration of a Climate Emergency by both Councils in July 2019 and the adoption of a serious and demanding plan to achieve carbon neutrality across the Councils' operations by 2030.

On carbon reduction, the Councils have joined the UK100 Cities early in 2019 to pledge 100% clean energy by 2050. We have also made the 2020 Emissions Reduction Pledge direct with Central Government. And we recognise our work already goes further and we seek to build upon it.

We set out here our plans around energy use, water, biodiversity, waste reduction, transport, climate adaptation and resilience, food and land use, leadership and learning, active citizenship and planning and development control.

One of the major reasons that people choose to live, work and settle here is our stunning coast, downland, river and urban park environment. We see a real appetite across our communities for the stewardship, conservation, protection and enhancement of this beautiful natural environment. As Councils we recognise the importance of providing an enabling platform for people to participate in this.

At times this is about us getting our own 'house in order' at other times leading and encouraging other partners to step up and it's about enabling the many individuals and 'small platoons' who want to do something to conserve or steward their natural environments to be able to participate. They may be parks groups, allotmenters, real food or growing enthusiasts or people with a particular interest in ecology, our role is to help hold the work together.



And we recognise this can be contested policy space. At times there will need to be challenging debates about the respective trade-offs (such as between development and conservation) and it is the role of the Councils (often wearing Local Planning Authority hats) to make them. We don't seek to shy away from those debates and from seeking the best possible outcomes balancing the different demands.

Whilst our financial expenditure is perhaps not as significant as some may think we recognise that we should be using our own procurement and resources to set examples and drive good standards of environmental stewardship. Strong environmental stewardship and strong civic resource management are often one and the same thing.

Given the level of community interest in environmental sustainability and Climate Change we are keen to trial different forms of civic participation in the agenda. We know, and work with, a number of organisations and individuals already active in environmental sustainability and we look forward to developing a powerful coalition with them to lead the agenda across our places.

Themes for Climate Resilience:

- Reducing Carbon Emissions to carbon neutral by 2030
- Transitioning to clean, secure and affordable energy
- Improving water quality and reducing consumption
- Rewilding to create more and better spaces for wildlife
- Managing our land, promoting local food
- Engaging our communities in the use and stewardship of our open spaces
- Reducing waste and increasing reuse, recycling and composting
- Sustainable transport and improving air quality
- Improving our Climate Resilience
- Showing leadership and engaging our communities
- Rethinking the role of land use planning and development



3.1 Strategic influencing and shared leadership

3.1.1	Convene a large Climate Change Event to bring businesses, public organisations and communities together and developing ongoing engagement and co-production opportunities.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	Transition Town Worthing, Worthing Climate Action Network	Climate Change Event - Spring 2020. Development thereafter
3.1.2	Publish a regular bulletin, " Sustainable AW ", to share community initiatives, update on the Councils' actions, and encourage strong networking and collaboration.	Director for Digital & Resources, Head of Communications, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Transition Towns, Worthing Climate Action Network, Green Spaces Partnership 'Green Tides' including many local community organisations, WSCC, all Sussex Local Authorities, Biosphere Partnership, Sussex Wildlife Trust, Plastic Free groups, SDNP, Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust, AECOM, Sustrans, Sussex Air; AW Walking & Cycling Action Group, Sustainable Business Partnership, Green Growth Platform and many others.	Quarterly publications starting early 2020
3.1.3	Develop and publish a sustainability code of practice for application to all suppliers to the council, through procurement and contract management cycles.	Head of Finance, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Contractors and suppliers	Winter 2020
3.1.4	Develop an area wide (not just Council) carbon reduction plan .	Strategic Sustainability Manager	Adur & Worthing Community	Spring 2021

3.2 Becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030

3.2.1	Produce a Council Carbon Reduction Plan responding to the Councils' commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	AECOM	Spring 2020
3.2.2	Secure additional resource to help drive delivery of the carbon reduction action plan, developing metrics for carbon use by the Councils, using data analysis to develop prioritised programmes of work.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	Recruitment websites	Early 2020
3.2.3	Deliver year on year carbon reduction across council buildings and transport use, reporting annually to the government and public.	Director for Digital & Resources, Strategic Sustainability Manager	BEIS	Final report - late 2020
3.2.4	Review capital building programmes to ensure development of renewable and low energy approaches, de-commissioning our uses of gas, improving insulation, LED lighting, etc.	Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Technical Services, Head of Major Projects & Investment, Head of Housing	Contractors	Review complete - Summer 2020
3.2.5	Install electric vehicle charging points at council sites and develop a programme to switch the fleet to electric or hybrid vehicles, including exploration of EV and hydrogen options for larger vehicles.	Head of Environmental Services, Head of Digital, Strategic Sustainability Manager	West Sussex County Council, Enterprise	Spring 2022
3.2.6	Establish a SALIX fund to increase financial resources to deliver the Councils' Carbon Reduction Plan.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	SALIX, Government Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy	Summer 2021

3.3 Transitioning to clean, smart, secure and affordable energy

3.3.1	Deliver the Smart Local Energy Systems (SLES) project in Adur & Worthing, a £32 million public/private investment programme deploying multiple local energy systems, connected into a smart local energy grid. This includes 250 EV charging points, air source heat pumps in 250 social housing properties, four to five large EV charging hubs (PV canopies and battery storage), one large and nine medium energy storage systems using second life batteries, 100 small energy storage systems (solar PV + batteries), and a heat network at Shoreham Port.	Director for Digital & Resources, Strategic Sustainability Manager	West Sussex County Council, Smart Hubs Consortium, Innovate UK, Adur Homes, Worthing Homes	Spring 2022
3.3.2	Investigate options for a solar farm , and additional options for widespread solar PV, including a resident group-buying programme.	Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Major Projects & Investment	West Sussex County Council, Smart Hubs Consortium, South East Energy Hub, solar installers, iChoors, Your Energy Sussex, Retrofitworks	Winter 2022

3.4 Improving water quality and reducing water consumption

3.3.3	Continue to source 100% renewable electricity for the Councils.	Head of Technical Services	Energy Suppliers, LASER	Ongoing
3.3.4	Explore a Heat Network to deliver carbon savings on the Worthing Civic Quarter site.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	Government Heat Network Delivery Unit	Summer 2021
3.4.1	Conduct a detailed review of water consumption and billing, ensuring leaseholders are appropriately billed and water saving measures are in place at all sites.	Head of Technical Services, Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Environmental Services	Team Energy, Water Utility Company	Winter 2021
3.4.2	Obtain and Maintain Blue Flag award status for our foreshore area.	Head of Environmental Services	Keep Britain Tidy, Southern Water, EA, IFCA	Early 2021

3.5 Creating and expanding spaces for tree-planting, biodiversity and wildflower schemes

3.5.1	Work to increase the number of parks with Green Flag status, ensuring best practice understood and obtained within the sector.	Head of Environmental Services	Keep Britain Tidy	Spring 2020
3.5.2	Develop a major tree-planting campaign across the area to support air quality and carbon sequestration, and tackle the challenge of ash dieback.	Head of Environmental Services, Director for Digital & Resources, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Woodland Trust, West Sussex County Council, South Downs National Park, Education partners, Community	Spring 2021
3.5.3	Develop plans to improve biodiversity in our open spaces, identify areas for community-led planting and growing working to create a resilient landscape and community.	Head of Environmental Services	TCV, Wildlife Trust, South Downs National Park, RSPB	Spring 2021
3.5.4	Work with farmers and landowners to support coordinated biodiversity schemes.	Head of Major Projects & Investment, Head of Environmental Services, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Neighbouring farmers and landowners	Spring 2021

3.6 Reducing waste, increasing reuse, recycling and composting

3.6.1	Work with WSCC and partners to create the conditions to meet requirements required by the Government's Waste and Resources strategy by 2023 including: a) The potential for the collection of food waste being made mandatory b) Supporting the widest possible range of materials to be recycled c) Supporting producer pays and other models to reduce waste in our system	Director For Communities, Head of Environmental Services, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Community groups	Summer 2021 (or other timetable set)
3.6.2	Trial a new commercial food waste collection service.	Head of Environmental Services	Business partner	Summer 2021
3.6.3	Adopt Councils' Plastics Strategy to reduce the use of single use plastics across the Councils.	Strategic Sustainability Manager	Plastic Free Worthing	Summer 2020

3.7 Shifting to sustainable transport and improving air quality

3.7.1	Agree a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Adur & Worthing. Secure investment to deliver improvements from the plan.	Head of Place & Economy, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Sustrans, West Sussex County Council, WSP, A&W Walking & Cycling Action Group	Summer 2020
3.7.2	Partner with West Sussex County Council on the delivery of EV charging infrastructure for our area.	Head of Digital & Customer Services	West Sussex County Council, EV chargepoint installer	Winter 2023
3.7.3	Expand DonkeyBikes , the bike share scheme to train stations and identified other locations.	Head of Place & Economy	Cycle Brighton, West Sussex County Council, Sussex Community Rail Partnership	Winter 2021
3.7.4	Continue to expand the number of local companies using the easitADUR & WORTHING public transport discount scheme.	Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Place & Economy	easit	Spring 2020
3.7.5	Implement the Staff Travel Action Plan , including discounted bikes, incentivising use of electric vehicles, switching pool cars to electric, promoting car sharing, cycling and walking.	Director of Digital & Resources	easit, Sodexo, Enterprise, public transport providers	Summer 2021

	<p>3.7.6 Review and enhance the Air Quality Action Plans for Adur and Worthing to reduce the air quality impacts (NO_x, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) of transport across Adur & Worthing, in particular within the Air Quality Management Areas.</p>	Head of Wellbeing, Public Health & Regulation	West Sussex County Council, Highways England	Winter 2020
	<p>3.7.7 Develop effective partnerships with WSCC and Highways England to deliver the air quality action plans.</p>	Head of Wellbeing, Public Health & Regulation	West Sussex County Council, Highways England, Sussex Air	Spring 2021
<p>3.8 Improving the climate resilience of Adur & Worthing</p>	<p>3.8.1 Work to create ‘resilient landscapes’ with diverse stock, across both urban and green areas.</p>	Head of Environmental Services	South Downs National Park, Sussex Wildlife Trust, TCV, RSPB, Southern Water, Friends of Park Groups	Ongoing
	<p>3.8.2 Review drought, heatwave and extreme cold plans.</p>	Head of Technical Services	Environment Agency	Winter 2021
	<p>3.8.3 Deliver Adur and Worthing coastal defence programmes with the Environment Agency and other partners, maximising opportunities to leverage community benefit schemes.</p>	Head of Environmental Services, Head of Technical Services	Environment Agency	Ongoing
	<p>3.8.4 Review flood risk management plans, including drainage network and opportunities for sustainable drainage.</p>	Head of Technical Services	Environment Agency, Southern Water	Winter 2021
<p>3.9 Develop a fairer, more sustainable, local food system</p>	<p>3.9.1 Develop Food Partnerships to strengthen networks of local producers, farmers markets, outlets and the food waste circular economy.</p>	Strategic Sustainability Manager	PH&R, Wellbeing, Food Matters, Adur & Worthing stakeholders	Winter 2022
	<p>3.9.2 Map council owned land for opportunities for community growing projects, rewilding and tree planting.</p>	Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Environmental Services, Head of Major Projects & Investment	Food Matters	Winter 2020
<p>3.10 Planning, Land Use and Development Management</p>	<p>3.10.1 Review the Draft Worthing Local Plan for a robust approach to carbon reduction, sustainability, climate resilience, nature, biodiversity net gain, and continue to work through the adoption process to improve the sustainability of the plan.</p>	Head of Planning & Development, Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Environmental Services	RTPI, developers, agents, local architects	Ongoing
	<p>3.10.2 Reviewing and update the Adur Local Plan in relation to carbon reduction, sustainability, climate resilience, nature and biodiversity net gain.</p>	Head of Planning & Development, Strategic Sustainability Manager, Head of Environmental Services	RTPI, developers, agents, local architects	Winter 2022
	<p>3.10.3 Explore resources to create and adopt a Planning Sustainability Checklist to clarify policy, educate applicants, enable monitoring, and improve the sustainability standards of development through the planning process.</p>	Head of Development & Planning, Strategic Sustainability Manager	Developers, agents, local architects	Spring 2023
	<p>3.10.4 Embed the Air Quality Emissions Mitigation approach within the Worthing Local Plan.</p>	Head of Wellbeing, Public Health & Regulation	Planning Policy	Spring 2023