



Climate Change & Air Quality Strategy + Tree Planting Programme

Update to Community Boards and Sub-Groups



Strategic Approach

- Central to the Strategy is recognising the different roles the Council can play in addressing climate change. These roles are principally driven by our relationship to the emissions source
 - **Direct Control:** such as in our buildings – we can take direct action to reduce emissions (e.g. by installing more solar panels)
 - **Financial / Regulatory Role:** for example using our local planning powers to reduce emissions from new developments.
 - **Enabling Change:** for example by providing electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
 - **Inform and Influence:** for example by raising public awareness of climate change and air quality issues.

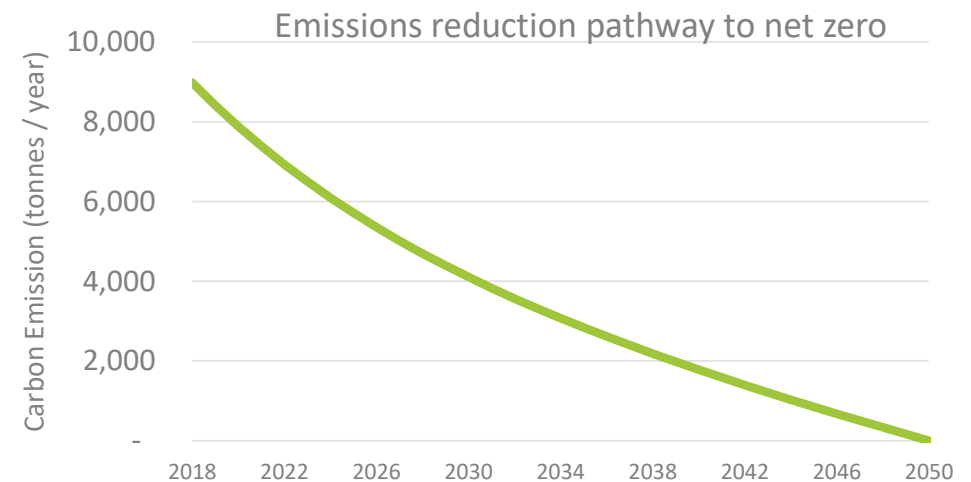
Range of Actions

- The strategy contains 60 actions to address climate change covering the council's direct emissions, those of suppliers and partners as well as Buckinghamshire wide emissions.
- Examples include:
 - A large scale tree planting programme across the estate for over 543,000 trees – one for every resident of Buckinghamshire.
 - Help communities address climate change and air quality, including through Community Boards
 - Improve infrastructure for active travel (such as walking and cycling) and electric vehicles.
 - Review the council's fleet and develop proposals to reduce emissions from its operation.
 - Use opportunities coming out of changes to national planning policy to enhance environmentally sustainable aspects of developments.

Emissions Reduction Targets

- We have set ambitious but achievable carbon reduction targets for 2030 and 2040, on our way to reaching net zero by 2050
- We have had to estimate our 1990 emissions in order to allow these to be compared to the UK's national targets (which are based on 1990 emissions)

	Compared to 1990
2030	At least 75%
2040	At least 90%
2050	100% (net zero)



Tree Planting

- We have committed to planting 543,000 trees in a 10 year long programme – one for every Buckinghamshire resident.
- This will require over 200 hectares of land; 1 hectare can absorb 300-400 tonnes of CO₂ after 30 years.
- This programme will absorb over 60,000 tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere and will help us achieve 'net zero' emissions.
- The planting of new forests will provide multiple benefits beyond the carbon they absorb including supporting biodiversity gains, flood alleviation and amenity access for the public.

Outline Capital Programme

- An outline programme of measures has been developed which will reduce emissions from across the council's activities and are central to how we will reach net zero emissions
- As an outline programme, pre-detailed business case development, we expect the precise costs and carbon savings to vary as these projects are developed.

	Salix (Loan)	Climate Change Fund (£5m)	Grants	Total Value
Building Measures	£0.70m	£0.35m	-	£1.05m
Solar Car Ports	£0.60m	£0.34m	-	£0.94m
Street Lighting	£1.80m	-	-	£1.80m
Fleet	-	£0.60m	£0.20m	£0.80m
Tree Planting	-	£2.50m	£1.80m	£4.30m
Capital Total	£3.10m	£3.79m	£2.00m	£8.89m
Tree planting – revenue costs (e.g. maintenance)		£0.79m		£0.79m
Total Spend		£4.58m		£9.68m

Links to Full Documents

- **Climate Change & Air Quality Strategy -**
 - [Cabinet Report](#)
 - [Executive Summary](#)
 - [Full Strategy](#)
- **Large Scale Tree Planting on Buckinghamshire Council landholdings**
 - [Cabinet Report](#)