

Arun District Council

REPORT TO:	Policy and Finance Committee – 7 March 2023
SUBJECT:	Carbon Action Work Plan Update
LEAD OFFICER:	Joe Russell-Wells, Group Head of Environment and Climate Change and William Page, Climate Change and Sustainability Manager
LEAD MEMBER:	Councillor Shaun Gunner
WARDS:	All

CORPORATE PRIORITY / POLICY CONTEXT / CORPORATE VISION:

This work supports one of the key areas within the Council's vision 2022-2026 by: supporting our environment to support us

- Develop and implement the Carbon Neutral Strategy and Climate Change and Biodiversity Strategies for the council and the wider district through Planning Policy
- Review the council's estate and seek to maximise the use of renewable or alternative energy generation, including the installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) changepoints
- Engage and incentivise business to commit to working practices which minimise their impact on the environment
- Support information campaigns that promote carbon reductions and funding opportunities
- Working with our community improve waste reduction and recycling to meet future targets of 55% recycling by 2025 and 60% by 2030
- Ensuring that climate change and sustainability is at the heart of all council services
- Support Sussex bay project to restore marine, coastal and intertidal habitats to improve the biodiversity and carbon footprints of the district

DIRECTORATE POLICY CONTEXT:

Improve and support the Council's target to become carbon neutral by 2030.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

A budget of £200,000 was provided for the 2022-2023 financial year in order to help support activities which reduce the Council's carbon emissions. Work funded from this sum have included consultancy costs, building energy audit work and training. The remaining budget will be placed in reserve budgets for next year for use on this council priority.

	£,000
Budget	200
Officer**	45
Operational Budget	155
Expenditure:	
Training	8
Consultant	10
Building Audit Fund	37
Total estimated spend 2022/23	55
Balance*	100
* to be carried forward to 2023/24	
** remains unspent	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. This report provides an update on projects within the Action Plan and an overview of the Council's Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions for the 2021-2022 financial year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1. Continues to support the work of the Climate Change and Sustainability Manger in reducing the Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions produced by the Council
- 2.2. Notes the report, particularly the challenges identified in reducing Co2 emissions referred within the conclusion of the report.
- 2.3. Considers the separate reporting within the KPIs of the Scope 1 & 2 emissions from the Scope 3 emission in order to provide clarity.

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 3.1. This report will show how the updated emission results for the 2021-2022 financial year and baseline have impacted targets and provide an update on some of the Council's key projects in reducing its emissions. This is an ever-evolving document so provides a snapshot of the work that is currently going on within the Council.

4. DETAIL

- 4.1. In January 2020 Full Council declared a Climate Emergency and announced its ambition for Arun District Council to be carbon neutral by 2030 (Decision Notice C/029/091219). A Climate Change and Sustainability Manager was appointed in February 2021. Following this the first carbon audit was undertaken for the 2020-2021 financial year which was used to inform the Carbon Neutral Strategy 2022-2030 (adopted in October 2021) and the first iteration of the Climate Action and Biodiversity Work Plan 2022-2023 (adopted in February 2022). The Council has also adopted a new vision document which showcases its four key priorities. One of these areas is ensuring that we 'support our environment to support us'. This showcases that climate change and biodiversity is at the forefront of the Council's activities.
- 4.2. To help ensure the Council achieves the 2030 carbon neutral target, and to allow for the monitoring of projects, it was agreed that the Climate Action and Biodiversity Work Plan will be updated each year; to reflect changes in projects and incorporate updated figures from the annual carbon emission audit. This is the first update of this document since it was adopted in February 2022.
- 4.3. To reach the 2030 carbon neutral target it will be important to ensure reductions occur across all service areas and scopes:
- 4.4. Scope 1 - emissions directly attributed to burning of fuels
- 4.5. Scope 2 - indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity and directly controlled by the Council
- 4.6. Scope 1 and 2 make up 0.75% (205.4 TCO₂e) of the Council's total emissions.
- 4.7. Scope 3 emissions - from the activities of the Council but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the Council. This makes up 99.25% (26,956.76 TCO₂e) of the Council's total emissions. The largest single emitter is purchased goods and services (91.20%, or 24,771 TCO₂e), with the second largest emitter being leisure centres (3.66%, or 995.46 TCO₂e).
- 4.8. Results of the carbon audits can be seen in appendix A and B of this report.
- 4.9. It is important to note that Scope 3 is incredibly difficult to quantify with exact results, for this reason it is often not included within carbon neutral/net zero targets.
- 4.10. Projects within the action plan have been roughly separated into numerous areas with rough time frames being applied to each project.

4.11. **Scope 1 and 2**

- 4.12. Scope 1 gas emissions will be addressed by undertaking improvements to the Council's corporate estate to help reduce energy consumption. Work is currently being undertaken on building audits for the Civic Centre and Bognor Town Hall. Reports are still being developed and once completed will be reviewed and the best course of action will be discussed with relevant officers. Any upgrades will take a fabric first approach.
- 4.13. It is expected that these audits can be used to help apply for the Public Sector Decarbonisation fund which is set to open in Spring 2023. However due to increased criteria there is uncertainty on if requirements will be met. Where practicable the £100k budgets will be used to aid this work.
- 4.14. Additional audits are also set to take place on more of the Council's cooperate estate to ensure reductions in emissions are seen across the Council.
- 4.15. Scope 1 petrol/diesel emissions are being addressed by transitioning the Council's vehicle fleet to electric vehicles, where practical. Currently 17 out of 18 vehicles are being transitioned to full electric, 1 will be diesel. As technology evolves this remaining vehicle will be fully transitioned to electric. To support this transition EVCPs have also been installed at the Civic Centre (#5) and Harewood Road (#5). The Council will continue to review the requirement to install additional charging points for staff/fleet usage.
- 4.16. Scope 2 electric emissions have shown a reduction in emissions, based on the information provided by the consultant who undertook the carbon emission audit. This is due to the Council continuing to source its electricity from 100% renewable sources. The Council will continue to look for more reliable sources of locally produced renewable energy where its origins can be confirmed. The installation of more PV arrays within Arun will also help the Council move away from grid dependency and protect it from sharp increases of electricity costs.

4.17. **Scope 3**

- 4.18. Scope 3 emissions continue to be the most challenging to reduce, with purchased goods being the most difficult. To address this significant work will be required to greenify and review the Council's procurement process. This will include ensuring that sustainability and climate change is incorporated into the procurement process. Work is currently being undertaken to produce a sustainable procurement policy. This document will highlight the importance of reducing emissions and highlight green procurement options. An accompanying document has been produced to be included within tender documents to showcase to suppliers/contractors the Council's stance on climate change and to highlight targets. Work is also being undertaken with Hampshire around next steps and to determine how they can support the Council in this journey. Both these exercises are complex and challenging to produce so work has been slow.

- 4.19. Our top suppliers will also be contacted to scope out next steps and determine the best way to aid them in reducing emissions. Many of these will require contracts to be renewed before more suitability reequipments can be incorporated. BIFFA is the largest single emitter within purchased goods and work has started on reducing their impact to the Council.
- 4.20. Encouraging behavioural change is another important area to aid in the reduction of Scope 3 emissions. Several training sessions have been completed or booked in to aid in behavioural changes across the Council, and to help officers keep updated and informed around how their actions and decisions are impacting emission production.
- 4.21. This includes a taster session in Carbon Literacy which has allowed the Council to become Bronze Certified in this. This was attended by a small group of senior members of staff and Climate Champions to provide feedback and to see if it would be beneficial to roll out on a larger scale. Off the back of this session more carbon literacy training will be taking place in the future.
- 4.22. An additional training course has also been completed which is available to both members and officers. This is a short e-learning module which introduces climate change, sustainability, what emissions are and what the Council has done to help combat Climate Change. There is also information around how to get more involved and how to reduce emissions at work/home. This will further aid behavioural changes across the Council in order to ensure suitability/climate change becomes more and more embedded in all actions across all service areas and projects.
- 4.23. The Council's Leisure Centres (Scope 3) continue to be the second largest single emitter for the Council. Work is continuing to help support Freedom Leisure reduce their emissions by improving the energy efficiency of the leisure facilities. Over the summer months the flood lighting for the Arun Leisure Centre synthetic turf pitch was converted to LED lamps. Freedom Leisure has also reduced the temperature in its buildings and closely managing the use of air-conditioned spaces through improved Building Management Systems (BMS) to ensure that the temperatures are appropriate for the activities taking place. The Council is working with Freedom Leisure by commissioning energy saving audits at the Wave and Arun Leisure Centre. These have now been completed and are being reviewed on next steps. It is hopeful that, where applicable, public sector Decarbonisation funding will be applied to help improve these sites.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 Overall total emissions have been reduced across the Council, from 27,774.59 tCo2e in 2020-2021 to 27,162.16 tCo2e. Please see appendix A for the full set of results for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 financial years. Appendix B shows the results from the original baseline to the updated baseline. **The results show a step in the right direction, but not at a fast enough rate. If this reduction does not see a sharp increase in the coming years, the 2030 Carbon Neutral target is unlikely to be reached.**

- 5.2 The Climate Change and Biodiversity Action plan has been updated and revised in accordance with these updated results along with updates to specific action to provide a snapshot on what the Council is doing to fight climate change.
- 5.3 Members will be aware that the threat of climate change continues to grow, and therefore it is important that the Council continues to work to reduce its emissions and impact on the environment, and where possible, support those within the wider District to do so as well. Continued work will be undertaken to ensure that Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions are reduced, with a particular focus on purchased goods and services along with the leisure centres as these are currently the two largest emitters for the Council.
- 5.4 To help make emissions tangible, according to the WWF carbon footprint calculator ([WWF Footprint Calculator](#)) the average UK citizen footprint for 2022 is roughly 9.5 tCo2e, compared to the world average at 6.3 tCo2e. 1 tCo2e is equal to: using 5,171 kWh of electricity which could power the average mid-terrace house or flat for roughly a year and 10 months, 500 CO2 fire extinguishers or driving a small petrol car for 9,234km. In turn to remove just 1 tCo2e you would need 50 trees growing for a year ([What is 1 Ton of Carbon Dioxide and how it relates to daily life? - EMSmastery](#))

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. No consultation has been required at this stage.

7. OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 7.1. There are no alternative options to be considered.

8. COMMENTS BY THE INTERIM GROUP HEAD OF FINANCE/SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 8.1. The actions detailed in the report support one of the key areas contained in the Council's Vision 2022-26 Supporting our Environment. The remaining budget for 2022/23, with the exception of the established post (as this was included in the base budget for 2023/24), will therefore be carried forward to 2023/2024 to allow the work to be completed.

9. RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1. There is no direct impact on the above areas arising from this report.

10. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP HEAD OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE & MONITORING OFFICER

- 10.1. There are no direct legal or governance implications associated with this report.

11.HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT, HEALTH & SAFETY IMPACTS, PROPERTY & ESTATES IMPACT, EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) / SOCIAL VALUE, CRIME AND DISORDER REDCTION IMPACT, HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT, FREEDOM OF INFORMATION / DATA PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS

11.1. There are no direct impacts on the above arising from this report.

12.CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT/SOCIAL VALUE

12.1. Though there will be no direct reduction from this report the results from this analysis will provide the Council with vital information around sources of emissions. This will, in turn, be used to inform next steps and ensure that the Council remains on track to hit the 2030 carbon neutral targets.

12.2. Impacts will be seen across the Council in all areas and departments.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Officer report Carbon Neutral Strategy 2022-2030 - [AGENDA ITEM NO \(arun.gov.uk\)](#)

ADC Carbon Neutral Strategy 2022-2030 - [Item 7 - Carbon Neutral Strategy - Appendix.pdf \(arun.gov.uk\)](#)

Officer report Climate Action and Biodiversity Work Plan 2022 – 2023 - [AGENDA ITEM NO \(arun.gov.uk\)](#)

Officer report Carbon Emission update for the 2021-2022 financial year - [Model report with explanatory text - August 2008 \(arun.gov.uk\)](#)

ADC Climate Action and Biodiversity Work Plan 2022 – 2023 - [Item 6 - Appendix - Climate Action and Biodiversity Work Plan 2022 - 2023.pdf \(arun.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendix A

Scope	Service Area	Year (financial)	Carbon (tonnes of CO2e)	Spend (£)	% Emissions	% spend in £	
One and two	Gas	20-21	132.42	15,188	0.48	0.03	
		21-22	164.21	24,921	0.60	0.05	
	Petrol/diesel	20-21	43.3	22,113	0.16	0.04	
		21-22	41.19	24,592	0.15	0.05	
	Electricity	20-21	216.3	195,828	0.78	0.39	
		21-22	0	201,795	0	0.43	
SCOPE 1/2 TOTAL		20-21	392.02	233,130	1.4	0.46	
		21-22	205.4	251,308	0.75	0.53	
Three	Purchased goods	20-21	25,066.10	49,429,017	90.25	99.18	
		21-22	24,771.49	46,326,837	91.20	99.02	
	Fuel & energy outside Scope 1/2	20-21	35.82	-	0.13	-	
		21-22	28.11	-	0.10	-	
	Water/Sewage	20-21	80.02	103,250	0.29	0.21	
		21-22	103.53	133,584	0.38	0.29	
	Council Waste	20-21	16	20,650	0.06	0.04	
		21-22	20.71	26,717	0.08	0.06	
	Business Travel	20-21	36.11	51,582.76	0.13	0.10	
		21-22	11.50	46,709	0.04	0.10	
	Employee commuting	20-21	397	-	1.43	-	
		21-22	397	-	1.46	-	
	Leisure centers	20-21	1,051	-	3.79	-	
		21-22	995.46	-	3.66	-	
	Investments	20-21	700	-	2.52	-	
		21-22	628.96	-	2.32	-	
	SCOPE 3 TOTAL		20-21	27,382.57	49,604,500	98.6	99.53
			21-22	26,956.76	46,533,847	99.2	99.47
COUNCIL TOTAL		20-21	27,774.59	49,837,631	-	-	
		21-22	27,162.16	46,785,155	-	-	

Figure 1 shows the results from the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 financial year analysis.

Appendix B

Scope	Service Area	Year (financial)	Carbon (tonnes of CO2e)	Spend (£)	% Emissions	% spend in £
One and two	Gas	Updated	132.42	161,944	0.48	0.32
		Original	132.42	161,944	0.64	0.32
	Petrol/diesel	Updated	43.3	22,113.74	0.16	0.04
		Original	43.3	22,114	0.21	0.044
	Electricity	Updated	216.3	542,057	0.78	1.09
		Original	216.30	542,057	1.05	1.08
SCOPE 1/2 TOTAL		Updated	392.02	726,114.74	1.4	1.4
		Original	392.02	726,115	1.9	1.4
Three	Purchased	Updated	25,066.10	48,936,033	90.25	98.19

Scope	Service Area	Year (financial)	Carbon (tonnes of CO2e)	Spend (£)	% Emissions	% spend in £
	goods	Original	17,942.98	48,936,033	86.88	98.19
	Fuel & energy outside Scope 1/2	Updated	35.82	-	0.13	-
		Original	35.82	-	0.17	-
	Water/Sewage	Updated	80.02	103,250	0.29	0.21
		Original	80.02	103,250	0.39	0.21
	Council Waste	Updated	16	20,650	0.06	0.04
		Original	16	20,650	0.08	0.04
	Business Travel	Updated	36.11	51,582.76	0.13	0.10
		Original	36.11	51,583.76	0.17	0.10
	Employee commuting	Updated	397	-	1.43	-
		Original	397	-	1.92	-
	Leisure centers	Updated	1,051	-	3.79	-
		Original	1,051	-	5.09	-
	Investments	Updated	700	-	2.52	-
		Original	700	-	3.39	-
	SCOPE 3 TOTAL	Updated	27,382.57	49,111,516	98.6	98.6
		Original	20,259.45	49,111,516	98.1	98.5
	COUNCIL TOTAL	Updated	27,774.59	49,837,631	-	-
		Original	20,651.47	49,837,631	-	-

Figure 2 shows the updated and original results for the 2020-2021 baseline year

Appendix C – action plan – attached a separate appendix