

Sevenoaks District Council

Net Zero 2030

Action Plan 2022/23



Contents

1. Background	3
2. Net Zero 2030 Arrangements	6
3. Carbon Reduction Plan	8
4. Net Zero 2030 Actions 2022/23	8
5. Reporting and Review	20

1. Background

Introduction

- 1.1 Climate change is an all-encompassing issue, and achieving Net Zero carbon emissions is a top priority that encompasses all aspects of the Council. It incorporates energy efficiency and generation, sustainable transport and active travel, air quality, health and wellbeing, habitats and biodiversity, flooding, water supply and consumption, and more.
- 1.2 We have made a commitment to work towards achieving net zero carbon emissions for the Council and its assets by 2030 (Council emissions). We will also work with local communities to reduce carbon emissions within the District (District emissions) and to improve the resilience of the District to a changing climate (resilience). This is collectively known as our Net Zero 2030 commitment.
- 1.3 We will continue to actively and enthusiastically tackle the challenge of climate change by ensuring that it is at the heart of decision-making and have developed actions that are ambitious, specific and measurable.
- 1.4 The Net Zero 2030 commitment will be incorporated into Council plans and strategies including the Council Plan, Corporate Plan, Community Plan and the Local Plan.
- 1.5 In addition, we will continue to lobby higher levels of government to ensure that we are given the local powers needed to achieve this commitment and the resources to match these powers.
- 1.6 This document sets out the main ways in which we are working towards achieving Net Zero Carbon Emissions by 2030 and will be reviewed annually.



What is the Scope of Net Zero 2030?

Council Emissions

- 1.7 We have committed to working towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030 for the Council and its assets. This includes the Council offices, depot, buildings, land and services that we provide.
- 1.8 A list of the land and buildings included in this commitment will be identified as part of the Carbon Reduction Plan.
- 1.9 We are committed to reducing carbon emissions through services we provide and how we deliver those services. Being as efficient as possible and embracing positive behaviour change for staff and members.
- 1.10 Initially we will be considering the emissions that are owned and controlled by the Council (mostly the Scope 1 and 2 emissions). Once we have an understanding of these emissions we will look in more detail at the Scope 3 emissions, the emissions that are as a consequence of Council activities but occur from sources not owned or controlled by us.



District Emissions

1.11 The Council cannot control all the emissions within the District, it is the responsibility of individuals, businesses, visitors, Kent County Council (KCC) and communities to all play a part to reduce the District's emissions.

1.12 The Council will use its position to communicate the steps it is taking and to exercise local leadership in helping others meet their environmental obligations. We will seek to lead the community to reduce emissions within the District in various ways, including through:

- Working with local communities to encourage individuals to reduce their personal emissions
- Advising and partnering with Town and Parish Councils to identify opportunities reduce local emissions
- Supporting sustainable movement opportunities that reduce transport emissions
- Requiring sustainability standards in new development through the Local Plan
- Supporting the work of businesses (including agricultural), partnership authorities and landowners to reduce emissions

1.13 We also commit to working with partners such as KCC, Town and Parish Councils, schools and others to reduce emissions. We have endorsed the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy and work together with other Kent authorities to make positive changes across the county.



Supporting a Resilient Natural Environment and Adapting to Climate Change

- 1.14 Reducing carbon emissions goes hand in hand with environmental conservation and improvement. The connection between climate change and nature has been recognised nationally through the Climate Change Act 2008, the Government's 25 year Environment Plan "A Green Future" and the recently enacted Environment Act.
- 1.15 Climate Change is expected to cause hotter, drier summers and warmer, wetter winters in Kent. There will be increased frequency and severity of storms causing additional flooding. The changing climate will also have an impact on health and wellbeing, and biodiversity and wildlife causing the natural environment to be under increased pressure.
- 1.16 Therefore, the Net Zero 2030 work undertaken by the Council will include measures and projects to mitigate the causes of climate change, namely through reducing carbon emissions, and also adapt to the expected effects of a changing climate. This will help the Council and District to be more climate resilient.
- 1.17 Adaptation measures could include:
- Conserving existing habitats, creating new ones, and increasing connectivity for wildlife
 - Natural flood alleviation measures to protect places from fluvial and surface water flooding
 - Improving the quality and resilience of green spaces and making the most of new opportunities
 - Sustainable water management to ensure water is used efficiently in an area already classed as "water stressed".
- 1.18 We are planning to produce a climate resilience and adaptation plan will be produced as part of the Net Zero work to identify potential actions and implications for Council services, plan and strategies in more detail.



How does Net Zero 2030 Relate to the Council Aims and Objectives?

- 1.19 The Net Zero commitment is fully aligned with the commitments contained in the Council Plan: placing wellbeing at the heart of everything we do; employing our values of excellence, value for money, and innovation; and, working together to improve the District's environment, economy, housing, safety and health.
- 1.20 Net Zero 2030 will influence many Council services and also directly relates to a number of other projects and strategies already being produced by the Council. These projects and strategies take account of the Net Zero commitment, and seek to make the most of any opportunities. Net Zero should be the rule not the exception. A selection of related plans and strategies are shown in figure 1.
- 1.21 The commitment will also influence the work processes of the Council. A positive behaviour change agenda has begun to be implemented in partnership with the human resources and communications team. This SMART agenda covers:

See – Showcasing positive responses to carbon reduction measures to show examples of what can be achieved and help people to positively engage with the net zero agenda.

Measure – Using measurements, expressed in a tangible, relatable way using familiar terminology to give scale and context, to inspire us to do better, encourage us to keep going or to congratulate success.

Act – Set up a group of Net Zero champions from different teams across the council to regularly encourage others and lead by example.

Respond - Making tangible changes to how we operate due to the Net Zero agenda that can be seen by staff.

Talk - We will be organising events and opportunities to engage staff to discuss climate change and to listen to views and ideas. We will also provide training for all staff and members to help them better engage with the Net Zero Agenda.



What are the Risks associated with the Net Zero 2030 commitment?

1.22 The failure to achieve the Net Zero 2030 commitment has been included on the strategic risk register.

1.23 The following risks have been identified for the Net Zero 2030 commitment::

- Technology does not sufficiently advance to allow the Council to replace the fleet
- Technology is too expensive to allow the Council to replace fleet
- Cost of work to Council assets (prohibitive)
- Retrofitting of assets not technically feasible
- Delay in delivering actions and projects beyond 2030



2. Net Zero 2030 Arrangements

Net Zero 2030 Member Working Group

- 2.1 The commitment to Net Zero 2030 was made at Full Council in November 2019. Initial actions were agreed and a Member Working Group was established to oversee and lead the on-going development and implementation of the Council's transition to Net Zero 2030. The Member Working Group discuss the Net Zero 2030 actions, potential projects and new opportunities.
- 2.2 Progress on achieving the Net Zero 2030 commitment is reported to the Portfolio Holder for Cleaner and Greener. Regular updates are reported to the Cleaner and Greener Advisory Committee (CGAC) alongside the annual Net Zero 2030 actions, and any relevant projects and strategies..



Net Zero 2030 Officer Working Group

- 2.3 A Net Zero Officer Working Group was established in 2020 and meets quarterly. It is chaired by the Net Zero Project Co-ordinator, with the policy officer as deputy and includes representatives from the key SDC service areas, in order to embed Net Zero 2030 responsibilities across the Council and within teams and service areas.
- 2.4 The Officer Working Group is made up of Officers from relevant service areas and will consist of representatives from:
 - Net Zero Team
 - Strategic Planning (Local Plan & Strategic Transport)
 - Environmental Health
 - Facilities Management
 - Property (Asset Maintenance & Regeneration)
 - Economic Development
 - IT
 - Finance
 - Direct Services
 - Health and Communities
 - Housing
 - Parking
- 2.5 In order to deliver the actions project teams are likely to also involve staff from other areas of the Council not listed above and all staff and members are expected to engage positively with the Net Zero 2030 agenda.
- 2.6 Officers support the Cabinet Working Group towards meeting the Net Zero 2030 ambition through devising and delivering the projects to meet the Net Zero 2030 Actions.



Resources Arrangements

- 2.7 The Net Zero commitment will be integrated into the existing work of the Council and therefore many of the actions and projects will be resourced and funded through existing budgets e.g. the Air Quality Action Plan.
- 2.8 Other projects will be resourced through external funding and by working closely with partners such as Kent County Council to deliver joint schemes.
- 2.9 Existing internal funding schemes such as the Community Infrastructure Levy will also be utilised to support projects that deliver infrastructure and have benefits for the Net Zero 2030 commitment e.g. active travel and sustainable movement projects. The Council will also consider how other funding can be raised to support the Net Zero commitment.
- 2.10 A separate budget, for the Net Zero 2030 work that is not already covered by other budgets, has been allocated. This is for projects which provide added value to the Net Zero ambition, or to enable the delivery of projects, for example through match funding.
- 2.11 The Carbon Reduction Plan will set out the Council's path to reaching Net Zero by 2030 and will include costed recommendations that will inform future action plans and budgetary arrangements.



Partnership Working and Working with the Community

- 2.12 Achieving Net Zero for the Council assets and services, and also reducing the carbon emissions within the District can only be achieved through strong partnership working.
- 2.13 We will continue to work with existing partners and will seek to establish new partnerships. Many other organisations, businesses and individuals are seeking to reduce carbon emissions and have made similar commitments. By working together, we can share best practice, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of projects, share skills and experience, and make greater improvements.
- 2.14 Officers and Members will continue to work closely with Kent County Council through already established channels such as the Kent Leaders Group, Kent Chief Executives and the Kent and Medway Environment Group. In December 2020 the Council endorsed the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emission Strategy.
- 2.15 SDC are members of the Kent Climate Change Network, have established good working relationships with the officers at KCC including the Transport Innovations Team and the Sustainable Business and Community Team.
- 2.16 We already work with various countryside and ecological organisations including Kent Wildlife Trust, the Kent Nature Partnership, the Kent Downs and High Weald AONB units and the North West Kent Countryside Partnership. Together we will make the most of existing projects such as the Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme and develop new projects including delivering natural flood management, wildlife and biodiversity conservation, and carbon sequestration.
- 2.17 Town and Parish Councils play a vital role in our work with communities. We are encouraging all town and parish Councils to start to think about how their local communities could reach Net Zero and have shared both an individual and parish level tool for calculating emissions on our webpages.
- 2.18 We are keen to work with local communities, businesses, schools and landowners to help reduce carbon emissions. Once we know more about the District emissions this will help us to target our work with communities. We will ensure communities are aware of and able to take part in schemes and projects to reduce their emissions.
- 2.19 We will also share our experience of different projects that can be replicated by local communities. We will share what we have learnt with local communities if they wish to undertake similar projects themselves.
- 2.20 We are also making contact with local communities, primarily through the Council's communications channels but also through the dedicated email **netzero2030@sevenoaks.gov.uk**.



3. Carbon Reduction Plan

- 3.1 In order to ensure that the Council can reach net zero carbon emissions by 2030 we will commission a Carbon Reduction Plan to map out our path to net zero.
- 3.2 The Carbon Reduction Plan will be focused on how the Council can reduce the carbon emissions from its assets but will also consider the wider District emissions, opportunities for renewable energy generation and carbon offsetting.
- 3.3 The Plan will include in-depth analysis of the carbon emissions from the Council's assets to produce a baseline inventory and forecast emissions using modelling. A carbon reduction strategy, with a trajectory that shows targets and carbon "budgets" from now to net zero will be produced that will lead to a specific and measureable action plan for the Council and its assets.
- 3.4 The plan will also consider the carbon emissions of Sevenoaks District. Although many of these emissions are not within the control of the Council, we have an important role to help residents, businesses and visitors reduce emissions and therefore reduce the overall emissions across the District. This analysis will lead to specific actions to be incorporated into the Net Zero Action Plan.
- 3.5 It is highly likely that the Council will need to offset some carbon emissions in order to reach net zero in 2030. The plan will set out the level of emissions likely to need offsetting as well as potential opportunities for renewable energy generation to further reduce the remaining carbon emissions.
- 3.6 The Carbon Reduction Plan is scheduled to be completed in 2022/23 and lead to future specific and measurable actions to be incorporated into the action plan.



4. Net Zero 2030 Actions for 2022-23

- 4.1 In November 2019, the Council agreed a series of actions to begin the process of achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. These actions have now been updated and revised to take account of new opportunities and innovations. Additional actions have also been added.
- 4.2 The actions are grouped into a series of work areas relevant to the Net Zero commitment. Each action is accompanied by a delivery milestone for 2022/23 which is the forecasted progress to be made on the action for that year.



SDC Building Emissions

- 4.3 We are committed to reduce the carbon emissions from SDC buildings. We have started with buildings that we use and/or deliver services from and will also work with leaseholders and tenants to reduce emissions across our assets. We have already made some changes such as LED lighting and water savings and we will continue to make improvements.
- 4.4 SDC has a wide property portfolio with some buildings used directly for Council services such as the Council Offices and Dunbrik, others operated on our behalf such as the leisure centres and others which are leased to other organisations. The Carbon Reduction Plan will look at the contribution our buildings make to the Council's carbon emissions and suggest how the leaseholders of our investment assets, many of whom already have their own climate change strategies, should be engaged on this important agenda.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
SDC1 - Reduce carbon emissions in Council buildings resulting from energy use	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon Reduction Plan Implement initiatives to reduce energy use in Council buildings at source Using digital solutions to reduce carbon emissions Positive Behaviour Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission the Carbon Reduction Plan and share the findings with Members and staff and other stakeholders. Research green energy suppliers and SDC to move to a renewable electricity supplier when the current contract expires this year. Begin to implement the positive behaviour change SMART agenda. 	Carbon Reduction Plan to be funded from existing Net Zero Budget. Smaller scale projects to be delivered through existing budgets and staff resources. Larger scale projects to be costed via the Carbon Reduction Plan. Additional funding likely to be needed.	SDC – Staff and Members Tenants/ Leaseholders
SDC2 - Work with partners and leaseholders to reduce emissions from Council (built) assets.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a strategy based on the Carbon Reduction Plan to reduce emissions from Council (built) assets. Ensure new tenants and leaseholders have Net Zero requirements in their leasehold agreements including annual reporting on energy consumption and carbon emissions. Develop “green leases” for all new leases which take account of the Net Zero 2030 commitment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the findings and recommendations of the Carbon Reduction Plan and agree which assets are in the scope. Share the findings of the Carbon Reduction Plan with leaseholders and tenants of assets within the scope and communicate the Council's Net Zero 2030 commitment. Develop standard green clauses for leases to be included when leases come up for renewal and new ones established. 	Smaller scale projects to be delivered through existing budgets and staff resources. Larger scale projects to be costed via the Carbon Reduction Plan. Additional funding likely to be needed.	SDC – Staff and Members Tenants/ Leaseholders

SDC3 - Water efficiency measures in Council buildings.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement initiatives to reduce water usage in Council buildings at source. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to implement the positive behaviour change SMART agenda. 	<p>Smaller scale projects to be delivered through existing budgets and staff resources.</p> <p>Larger scale projects to be costed via the Carbon Reduction Plan. Additional funding likely to be needed.</p>	SDC – Staff and Members Tenants/ Leaseholders
--	---------	---	--	--	---

Community Engagement and Leadership

- 4.5 We will support businesses, residents and visitors to reduce carbon emissions within the District. We will proactively and positively engage with our communities providing advice, sharing best practice, through education and training, and by encouraging communities to take individual responsibility for their own carbon emissions.
- 4.6 We will reach out to hard to reach groups where possible through a range of communication methods and engagement opportunities.
- 4.7 We will positively engage with schools and community groups to encourage a reduction in emissions and find ways to work together to achieve our joint aims.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
COM1 - Maintain a dedicated "Net Zero" and "Climate Change" webpage.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the Net Zero webpages updated and refreshed to ensure information is kept up to date and to help communities, businesses and visitors to access resources to reduce their own emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh the Net Zero homepage and associated pages and ensure it is prominently placed in the SDC website. 	Existing resources.	SDC
COM2 - Promote events to support wildlife awareness and opportunities to improve biodiversity.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting and devising District specific events that educate, engage and encourage communities to reduce emissions and support the natural environment in accordance with the communications plan. Working with partners to devise, promote and support opportunities for communities to improve biodiversity. Actively promote partnership projects including those of the North West Kent Countryside Partnership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver another Sevenoaks Wildlife Event. Promote partnership projects including NWKCP Hedgehog Highways, Kent Plan Bee and the Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme. Promote National Wildlife Week, Earth Day 2022, World Bee Day and other such initiatives. 	Utilising existing resources where possible such as core funding. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC North West Kent Countryside Partnership Kent Downs AONB Unit High Weald AONB Unit Kent Wildlife Trust Kent County Council

COM3 - Promote events to support "green" and low carbon initiatives such as energy & water saving, reducing waste, green travel and energy efficiency.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting and devising District specific events that educate, engage and encourage communities to reduce emissions and support the natural environment in accordance with the communications plan. Working with partners to devise, promote and support opportunities for communities to reduce carbon emissions and reduce waste. Actively promote partnership projects including those of Kent County Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Zero Waste Week, Global recycling day and other such initiatives including promoting the garden waste and composting scheme. Promote low carbon travel events such as walk to school/ work week, World Car Free Day and Bike Week. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Green partners e.g. Sustrans, Energy Saving Trust
COM4 - Encourage communities to develop and implement their own carbon emission reduction plans and initiatives.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider facilitating a climate change network for Town and Parish Councils to share information, case studies and best practice as well as opportunities for joint working and resources. When resources allow, work with and support communities to develop and deliver projects to reduce emissions and provide climate change resilience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with and support local carbon reduction initiatives and plans. Encourage Neighbourhood Plans to include climate change considerations and policies. Promote the Community Carbon Calculator. 	Existing resources. Working in partnership.	SDC Town and Parish Councils Community Groups
COM5 - Help householders and businesses improve energy efficiency by providing free advice and support for energy improvements and energy saving.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the Net Zero webpages updated and refreshed to ensure information is kept up to date and to help communities, businesses and visitors to access resources to reduce their own emissions. Promote opportunities for residents, businesses and communities to reduce carbon emissions for themselves. Provide access to climate literacy training and other opportunities to help educate about reducing carbon emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresh the Net Zero homepage and associated pages. Promote the individual carbon footprint tool calculator. Participate in and promote the Solar Together project. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Green partners e.g. Sustrans, Energy Saving Trust

Movement and Green Travel

4.8 Transport is one of the greatest sources of carbon emissions for both the District and the Council. Although we are not the highways authority for the District we will work with Kent County Council and communities to develop and encourage sustainable travel. We also commit to reducing the carbon emissions from our own fleet by efficiency measures and embracing new low emission technologies.

4.9 The Movement Strategy has been developed to set out the Council's priorities for sustainable movement in Sevenoaks District. It includes a number of aims to support the priorities including improving the cycling infrastructure, strengthening connections, embracing new technologies and promoting active travel.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
TRA1- Promote low carbon travel and sustainable movement.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the Movement Strategy. • Develop and implement the SDC Travel Plan. • Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans. • Ensure new development incorporate active travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the first Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. • Promote the annual Car Free Day and similar initiatives. • Incorporate low carbon travel, active travel and sustainable movement into the emerging Local Plan. • SDC Travel Plan. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Infrastructure Providers
TRA2- Improve the electric vehicle charging network across the District.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify suitable locations for new charging points. • Increase the number of charging points within the District. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate electric vehicle charging into the emerging Local Plan. • Undertake an Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Technical Study. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Infrastructure Providers
TRA3 - Work with schools, local communities and groups to encourage low carbon travel such as car clubs, travel plans, cycling and walking routes.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the Movement Strategy. • Engage with schools to promote low carbon travel. • Partnership working with KCC and transport providers. • Support the Community Rail Partnerships to deliver improvements to the rail networks. • Investigate the potential for low carbon car clubs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify ways to work with schools and community groups. • Complete the first Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Infrastructure Providers

TRA4 - Continue our transition to a zero-carbon emissions vehicle fleet wherever practicable.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet replacement plan to set out how the fleet can be replaced by low carbon alternatives. • Investigate the potential for bio-diesel fuel for fleet vehicles. • Undertake a waste service review to identify the options for significantly reducing carbon emissions from the fleet and operations. • Identify potential work mileage savings and implement across all Council services • Develop and implement the SDC Travel Plan.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleet Replacement Plan. • SDC Travel Plan. • Clear picture of feasibility of bio-diesel fuel and cost implications. 	<p>Utilising existing resources where possible.</p> <p>Apply for additional funding to support projects.</p>	SDC
---	---------	---	---	--	-----

Green Spaces and the Natural Environment

4.10 We commit to improving our natural environment for now and future generations, taking account of a changing climate. We will also support multi-benefit projects which conserve and enhance the natural environment whilst also increasing levels of carbon sequestration.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
NAT1 - Carbon emission offsetting through new planting including planting new trees.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with KCC to deliver the Kent Tree Strategy. • Investigate, develop and support projects for carbon sequestration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the Queen's Green Canopy Scheme. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Green partners e.g. North West Kent Countryside Partnership, Kent Wildlife Trust
NAT2 - Improve areas for biodiversity and create new habitats	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners and communities to identify opportunities to plant trees, hedges, wildflowers and other habitats. • Support and promote scheme to conserve and enhance biodiversity and wildlife at a local and landscape scale. • Biodiversity Net Gain and Environment Act delivery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate biodiversity net gain into the emerging Local Plan. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Kent County Council Green partners e.g. North West Kent Countryside Partnership, Kent Wildlife Trust
NAT3 - Natural flood management	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support natural flood management projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate natural flood management into the emerging Local Plan. 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	Kent County Council Green partners e.g. North West Kent Countryside Partnership, Kent Wildlife Trust

Engagement with Landowners, Partners and Businesses

4.11 Partnership working is key to the delivery of the Council's Net Zero 2030 commitment. We can work with others to achieve joint goals, making the most of resources and learning from best practice.

4.12 We will encourage landowners and businesses to reduce their own emissions and to incorporate climate change adaptation measures.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
PAR1 - Ensure the Net Zero 2030 commitment is incorporated into the Council's procurement process	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net Zero 2030 to be incorporated into the procurement process. To include the Procurement Initiation Form, Request for Quote and tender templates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the procurement templates to include relevant requirements from bidders and agree these with the Procurement Assurance Group. 	Existing Resources.	SDC
PAR2 - Report and promote our actions towards Net Zero, and support our partners including landowners, residents, businesses and visitors to our District to play their part	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce a yearly Action Plan and Report Regularly report to the Cleaner and Greener Advisory Committee Regularly feature Net Zero 2030 on the Council's social media accounts and other communications media Engage with the community through existing forums and groups such as the Town and Parish forum, Chambers of Commerce and Rural Landowners Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the reporting system for Net Zero progress as part of the webpage refresh 	Existing Resources. Working in partnership. Apply for additional funding to support projects.	SDC Business Partners
PAR3 - Encourage, and work with, businesses in our District to reduce carbon emissions	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Development Strategy Engage with the business community to discuss how SDC can support low carbon initiatives and advise on how they can reduce emissions Promote carbon literacy and other similar training opportunities for businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate reduction in carbon emissions into the Economic Development Strategy Proactively engage with local businesses and SDC tenants 		

PAR4 - Work with the local government family within Kent to deliver Net Zero across all our communities	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of Kent and Medway's Energy and Low Emissions Strategy and it's priority actions. • Promote and support suitable partnership projects including the Solar Together Scheme, Kent Tree Strategy and Kent Rural EV charging scheme. • Engage with KCC to promote the net zero work and identify partnership opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with the Kent Climate Change Network. • Work in partnership with KCC officers to deliver joint projects. 	<p>Utilising existing resources where possible.</p> <p>Working in partnership.</p>	<p>SDC</p> <p>Kent County Council</p> <p>Town and Parish Councils</p> <p>Other Local Authorities</p>
---	---------	--	--	--	--

Council Plans and Strategies

- 4.13 We will integrate our Net Zero 2030 commitment to all aspects of the Council's plans, strategies and services to ensure all potential opportunities are utilised. As new strategies are developed or reviewed they will incorporate elements that help to deliver the Net Zero 2030 commitment.
- 4.14 The Local Plan is a key delivery mechanism for the Net Zero 2030 commitment. The Local Plan will support the commitment and include policies to promote sustainable development in the District. The Air Quality Action Plan, Economic Development Strategy and the Community Plan are also key documents for delivery of the commitment.
- 4.15 It is important to understand the baseline carbon emissions for the Council. This will be incorporated into the Carbon Reduction Plan and is currently calculated following the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy guidance and the Local Government Association Greenhouse Gas Reporting Tool.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
STR1 - Embed the findings and recommendations of the Carbon Reduction Plan into Council Plan and a Strategies	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon Reduction Plan Identify the plans and strategies central to delivering the Carbon Reduction Plan recommendations particularly those related to the use of Council buildings and fleet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission consultants to undertake a Carbon Reduction Plan 	Utilising existing resources where possible	SDC
STR2 - Ensure all Council plans, strategies and decisions support the Net Zero 2030 commitment where possible	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and implement process that ensure the impact on the Net Zero agenda is considered in decision making Incorporate the Net Zero 2030 commitment and carbon reduction measures into all new plans and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the "Net Zero 2030 Impact Assessment" for committee reports Incorporate Net Zero 2030 in the Community Plan, Air Quality Action Plan, Economic Development Strategy and the Local Plan 	Existing Resources	SDC
STR3 - Embed positive behaviour change to reduce carbon emissions in all Council service areas	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the positive behaviour change SMART agenda Identify ways in which Council services and processes can be more carbon efficient e.g. reducing waste, paperless working and reducing work mileage. Officer and Member training on reducing carbon emissions Carbon Literacy Training as part of new learning and development offer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start implementing the SMART agenda SDC Travel Plan Investigate suitable training options for staff and members 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership Apply for additional funding to support projects	SDC

STR4 - Where everything possible has been done to achieve zero carbon but there is still a shortfall, take action through offsetting carbon dioxide emissions where necessary	Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage carbon budgets for each year in order to minimise need to offset • Develop carbon offsetting plan once Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed and viability of offsetting has been explored 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use evidence from the Carbon Reduction Plan modelling to determine the extent of offsetting that might be required • Begin to explore potential ways to offset the Council's carbon emissions 	<p>Utilising existing resources where possible.</p> <p>Working in partnership</p> <p>Apply for additional funding to support projects</p>	SDC Carbon Offsetting Partners
STR5 - Audit our current and levels of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce and publish an annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce and publish an annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report 	<p>Utilising existing resources where possible.</p> <p>Working in partnership</p> <p>Apply for additional funding to support projects</p>	SDC

Sustainable Development and Renewable Energy Generation

4.16 Buildings remain a significant emitter of carbon and therefore we commit to supporting low carbon buildings and development where possible. The Local Plan will help to deliver sustainable development within the District and residents and businesses will be encouraged to take part in retrofitting schemes.

4.17 We will also explore and support the use of renewable energy technologies and opportunities both large and small scale.

Action	Timescale	Delivery Projects	Outcomes for 2022-23	Resource	Partners
SUS1 - Support and Promote sustainable building practices and sustainable development	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote sustainable building practices across the District Support suitable retrofitting projects to improve the sustainability of buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate the Net Zero 2030 commitment and the need to reduce carbon emissions into the emerging Local Plan Investigate how the Council can incentivise sustainable building practice such as Passivhaus and BREEAM standard housing Participate in Solar Together Kent 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership Apply for additional funding to support projects	SDC Kent County Council
SUS2 – Ensure the Net Zero 2030 commitment is reflected in all new SDC and SDC owned company developments	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All new SDC and SDC owned development to achieve high sustainability standards where possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New SDC owned developments to exceed existing regulatory requirements 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership Apply for additional funding to support projects	SDC and associated companies Development partners
SUS3 - Renewable energy generation	Short/ Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a renewable energy opportunities audit for Council Assets and within the District Explore and implement suitable renewable energy schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate renewable energy into the Carbon Reduction Plan including as a means of offsetting emissions 	Utilising existing resources where possible. Working in partnership Apply for additional funding to support projects	SDC

5. Reporting and Review

- 5.1 An implementation plan to support the actions will be produced and agreed by the Officer Working Group to support the delivery of the actions.
- 5.2 Progress in achieving the actions will be delivered through specific delivery projects as set out in the implementation plan, however, new project opportunities will arise and circumstances may change and therefore the details and number of delivery projects is likely to change.
- 5.3 The Net Zero 2030 work is overseen by the Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer – Planning & Regulatory Services and the Portfolio Holder for Cleaner and Greener. Progress on the delivery projects will be periodically monitored and reported as part of the Net Zero 2030 Updates to the Senior Management Team and the Cleaner and Greener Advisory Committee.

Find out more

www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/netzero

netzero2030@sevenoaks.gov.uk