

Climate Change Action Plan

2025-2029



Key:					
Timescales		Indicative Costs		Carbon Impact	Co-Benefits
S	Short - < 2 years	£	Low - £0 - £50k	Indicative carbon emissions saving potential of delivering the objective, related to the Council's operational emissions or Borough wide emissions.	Financial savings/income, energy savings, water savings, biodiversity enhancement, waste reduction, health & wellbeing, other environment benefits or other benefits.
M	Medium – 2- 4 years	££	Medium - £50k - £250k		
L	Long – 4+ years	£££	High - £250k - £1m		
O	Ongoing	££££	Very High - £1m+		
		NQ	Not yet quantified		

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THEME 1 – Council Leadership and influencing others									
1	Develop and deliver a Local Plan and associated policies that contribute positively and demonstrate the Council’s commitment to climate change	Adopt a Local Plan with design policies addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation. Inclusive of low carbon design, energy efficient buildings; sustainable transport; circular economy; minimising environmental impact.	Aligned to formal published Local Plan timetable	Head of Place Development	Within agreed Local Plan budget	Local Plan adoption inclusive of climate change mitigation and adaptation policy	Borough	High	Energy Water Waste reduction Health & Wellbeing Air Quality Resident comfort Biodiversity
2	Identify how to integrate ‘sustainability’ into procurement requirements (contract procedure rules) and update our procurement strategy.	This could include, ensuring that there is consideration of carbon impact into procurement policies and processes, for goods, works and services. Prioritising low carbon alternatives helps to reduce our total carbon footprint in relation to supply chains.	Short term	Procurement & Contracts Officer	Within existing budget	Sustainability / carbon policy incorporated in updated procurement strategy	Council & Borough	Medium	Lower impact products Local sourcing
3	Identify the Council’s most significant suppliers in terms of carbon emissions and seek to proactively engage with them to establish a more accurate carbon footprint of the goods and services they supply and ways in which they can reduce emissions.	Reduced emissions from our procurement (scope 3 emissions)	Medium term	Procurement & Contracts Officer	Within existing budget	Top suppliers in terms of carbon emissions identified Measures implemented by suppliers to reduce emissions	Council & Borough	Medium	Lower impact products Local sourcing

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4	Communicate how EEBC is achieving its climate change commitment to work with partners to reduce our impact on the environment and move closer to becoming carbon neutral, to both internal and external stakeholders.	On-going	Comms & Engagement Manager	Within existing budget	No, type and reach of activities undertaken	Borough	Medium	
	<p>EEBC web pages that are a trusted and useful source of information on actions that residents and businesses can take to combat issues created by climate change, and information on how to reduce their carbon footprint, including links to guidance and third-party expertise</p> <p>Use owned communications channels to raise awareness around changes in behaviour that will help reduce carbon emissions across our borough in an inclusive way (e.g. promoting fuel poverty grant schemes) and adaptation messages that are targeted at those who are most vulnerable to climate change impacts</p>							
5	Raise awareness and work to ensure all staff reduce unnecessary emissions	Ongoing	Comms & Engagement Manager	Within existing budget	Reduction in building energy usage & carbon footprint	Council	Low	Financial Energy

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6	Promote and provide practical support for residents to access energy efficiency/fuel poverty grant schemes	Reduce fuel poverty in Epsom & Ewell, making homes more energy efficient and decrease carbon emissions from heating	On-going	Principal Housing Grants Officer	Grant scheme funding (i.e. ECO4, HUG, GBIS)	No of properties that have had a measure installed via grant/scheme	Borough	Medium	Financial Energy Health & Wellbeing Resident comfort
7	Support, where resource permits, Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) to ensure that private rental residents are in properties which have an EPC rating of E and above (or as required by future Regulations) to capture non-compliance	Improved energy efficiency of private rented properties in Epsom & Ewell	Medium term	Public Protection Manager	£	No. of private rentals identified with EPC F or G No of landlords engaged No of private rentals improved to EPC – E or above	Borough	Low	Energy Health & Wellbeing Resident comfort Public health
8	Work with our housing association partners and other housing providers to share knowledge and accelerate low carbon measures for social housing	Encourage social housing providers to undertake energy efficiency measures and access relevant funding (i.e. Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund)	Ongoing	Strategic Housing Manager	Within existing budget	No of contacts / engagement events with housing associations	Borough	Medium	Financial Energy Health & Wellbeing Resident comfort Share learning
9	Explore opportunities with partners for a local area retrofit strategy and support implementation of its resulting action plan	Improved energy efficiency of local housing in Epsom & Ewell	Short term	Surrey Greener Futures Team EEBC Officers as required	Within existing budget	Local Retrofit Strategy & Action Plan	Borough	High	Financial Energy Resident comfort

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10	Promote the benefits of local food production, maintaining levels of allotment take up and supporting local food markets	Ongoing	Head of Operational Services	Within existing budget	Allotment tenancy no.	Borough	Low	Health & Wellbeing Local sourcing
11	Ensure a robust reporting and monitoring process for all Epsom & Ewell Borough Council emissions	Ongoing	Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	Annual operational carbon emissions report to Env Committee	Council		
12	Work to improve the collection and baselining of the Council's Scope 3 emissions	Short term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	Baseline of Scope 3 emissions Annual reporting of Scope 3 emissions	Council		
13	Explore opportunities, with partners, for Small & Medium Enterprise (SME) grant schemes that would support energy saving and decarbonisation measures (as a replacement for LoCASE)	Medium term	Head of Place Development	NQ - Individual schemes will be assessed for funding needs	No. of businesses engaged/supported No. of grant schemes delivered	Borough	Medium	Financial Energy Local economy
14	Support Surrey County Council (SCC) initiatives and plans to develop Green Skills across the region to bridge the skills gap and foster local job creation.	Medium term	Surrey Greener Futures Team EEBC Officers as required	Within existing budget	Course uptake against places offered Learners progressed to green jobs	Borough	Low	Local economy Build capacity & skills

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15	Explore and advance opportunities for securing joint funding opportunities with SCC and other boroughs	Identifying and securing joint funding that will support delivery of actions within the action plan	Ongoing	All staff	Within existing budget	No & type of funding opportunities explored	Council & Borough	Financial Share learning Partnership working
16	Deliver both general and targeted training to officers and members on a range of environmental sustainability issues to aid understanding and to assist in the delivery of the action plan	Council officers and Members to have the necessary skills and understanding to support the delivery of the action plan	Ongoing	Head of HR Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget Need for external training support to be assessed	No, type and reach of activities undertaken No of staff trained No of Members trained	Council	Low Build capacity & skills Share learning
17	Review the Surrey Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Strategy (Surrey Adapt) and its action plan to determine those actions relevant to EEBC. Where these actions align with our priorities, work with SCC and other D&Bs to deliver those actions.	Preparedness and long-term resilience to climate change impacts (i.e. flooding, droughts, heatwaves, wildfires, biodiversity impacts)	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer Business Assurance Manager	Within existing budget	Surrey Adapt Strategy reviewed Measures implemented	Council & Borough	Adaptation
THEME 2 – Council buildings and energy use								
18	Identify & implement opportunities to reduce energy consumption from Council owned & operated buildings	Deliver a programme of energy saving measures to Council owned buildings	Medium term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	£££	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint Measures installed	Council	High Financial Energy

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19	Develop detailed feasibility studies of our pavilions and smaller buildings to identify viable energy efficiency projects that are funding ready	Short term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	£££	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint Measures installed	Council	Low	Financial Energy
20	As part of the Town Hall move project identify and implement viable measures to decarbonise the new building (70 East Street)	Short term	Head of Property & Regeneration	£££	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint Measures installed	Council	Medium	Financial Energy
21	Plan for the future replacement of gas fired boilers in all Council buildings and review all options available including air source/ground source heat pumps or other state of the art technologies to reduce/eliminate carbon emissions (heating feasibility study). Implement at earliest opportunity in line with heating system life cycles.	Long term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	££££	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint Measures installed Feasibility studies completed	Council	High	Energy

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22	Identify all remaining traditional lighting at Council assets and replace with energy efficient LED lighting where feasible (i.e. stage lighting at Epsom Playhouse & Bourne Hall).	Develop and deliver a programme based on business cases to switch all remaining Council owned asset lighting to LED	Short term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	££	Reduction in electricity consumption & carbon footprint Measures installed	Council	Low	Financial Energy
23	Investigate the potential for the installation of PV panels, solar storage and solar car ports on Council operated assets and land. Implement where economically and technically viable.	Appraise options for installation of solar panels on Council assets through a feasibility study. Submit business cases for each viable asset.	Short term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager Env & Sustainability Officer	£££	Amount of renewable energy generated No of buildings with renewable energy installed No of feasibility studies conducted	Council	High	Financial Energy
24	Bid for future central government funding and other green energy funding available for investments in energy efficiency and decarbonisation measures in the Council's corporate buildings.	Identification of funding opportunities and development and submission of bids.	On-going	Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	No & type of funding opportunities explored Amount of funding secured	Council		Financial Energy
25	Work with tenants to identify and implement measures to improve the energy efficiency of the Council's leased assets (i.e. leisure centre)	Support delivery of programme of energy saving measures to the Council's leased assets	Medium term	Head of Property & Regeneration	£££	Measures implemented Reduction in building energy usage	Council	Medium	Financial Energy Share learning

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26	Continue discussions with our energy provider as their green product offers increase and to explore opportunities to include e.g. green gas or local renewable energy into the contract going forward.	Maximise supply of green energy to Council assets	Ongoing	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	NQ – will be assessed as new options arise	% of Council electricity from a renewable tariff % of Council gas from a renewable tariff	Council	Low	Energy
27	Investigate measures to reduce water consumption in Council owned assets	Efficient use of water across all Council assets	Medium term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	££	Water consumption per Council asset Measures implemented	Council	Low	Financial Water
28	Build awareness and support opportunities for community energy projects in conjunction with other stakeholders	Promote and link to the support offered by Community Energy South-East	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	Projects/schemes supported	Borough	Low	Build capacity & skills Share learning

THEME 3 – Transport improvements and switch to lower polluting vehicles

29	Develop a fleet strategy to move to zero emissions by 2035. Commit to swapping vehicles owned by the Council and its service providers for zero emission versions, where they exist, are suitable and affordable, by 2035. Maximise the environmental credentials of any remaining petrol and diesel fleet in the meanwhile.	Green (Zero Carbon) Fleet Strategy	Short term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Within existing budget	Fleet Strategy completed	Council	High	Air quality
		Small Fleet vehicles transition to electric	Medium term		££££	No. of low emissions vehicles in fleet or in pipeline Reduction in diesel use			

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30	Investigate the feasibility and costs of installing the electric infrastructure needed at the Council's Depot (and other sites) to enable the transition of the Council's fleet.	Short term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Expect to be within existing budget	Investigation complete	Council		
31	Monitor & review the use of public electric vehicle charge points installed in Council operated car parks. Assess need to increase no. of charge points where high demand exists.	On-going	Parking Manager	Within existing budget	EV charge point usage No of EV charge points	Borough	Low	Air Quality
32	Work with Surrey County Council to facilitate on-street residential electric vehicle charge points where there is no scope for off-street charging	On-going	Surrey Greener Futures Team EEBC Officers as required	SCC Funded	No of on-street EV charge points	Borough	Low	Air Quality
33	Implement the Councils adopted Taxi Emissions Policy	Short term	Public Protection Manager	Within existing budget	No of Euro 6 vehicle's licensed No of electric taxi's licensed in the Borough	Borough	Low	Air Quality
34	Support & facilitate the greater take up of car clubs and car sharing in the borough	Medium term	Head of Place Development	Expect to be within existing budget	No of car club vehicles	Borough	Low	Air Quality

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35	Continue to publish DEFRA Air Quality Annual Status Report and seek to revoke Ewell High Street Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) at earliest opportunity	Continued improvement in air quality within AQMA to enable the revoking of the AQMA	Short term	Public Protection Manager	Within existing budget	Annual Status Report Published AQMA revoked Improvement in annual air quality monitoring results for nitrogen dioxide	Borough		Air Quality
36	Support development of an Air Quality Strategy <i>Dependant on revoking of AQMA (action 35)</i>	Improvement in air quality within the Borough	Medium term	Public Protection Manager	Expected to be within existing budget	Air Quality Strategy developed & adopted	Council & Borough		Air Quality
37	Support the delivery of the Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan to improve walking and cycling in the Borough	Increased opportunities for exercise through walking and cycling and improving air quality by reducing car dependency, promoting walking and cycling as alternatives to car use and improving walking and cycling infrastructure within the Borough	Long term	Surrey County Council Lead Head of Place Development	NQ - Funding sources will be explored (e.g. external grants, CIL)	No of schemes / infrastructure delivered	Borough	Medium	Air Quality Health & Wellbeing
38	Investigate measures for incentivising Council employees to walk, cycle or use other lower emission modes of transport for their commute	Increase in staff members able to commute by low emission modes of transport	Short term	Head of HR Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	Schemes & initiatives implemented	Council	Low	Air Quality Health & Wellbeing

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THEME 4 – Improvements to the environment									
39	Identify & implement opportunities to act locally where managing, protecting and enhancing Biodiversity can assist with global priorities of environmental sustainability, aligned with objective 5 of the Biodiversity Action Plan (2020-2030)	This could include appropriate tree and hedgerow planting, supporting local research into climate impacts & carbon sequestration, delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), supporting actions against climate related issues such as invasive plants, pests and diseases	On-going	Countryside Manager	Within existing budget	Progress reporting on the delivery of Objective 5 of the Biodiversity Action Plan	Council & Borough	Low	Biodiversity
40	Implement the tree establishment plans as set out in the Council's adopted Tree Management Plan	Increase in tree cover in the Borough	Long term	Tree Officer Env & Sustainability Officer	£££	No of new trees planted	Council & Borough	Low	Biodiversity
41	Engage with a range of partners, and relevant specialist groups in the community, via existing networks to deliver shared sustainability objectives and share best practice. Seek to develop new groups and networks as appropriate	Partnership working to share knowledge, skills and resource to support delivery of the climate change objectives	Ongoing	All staff	Within existing budget	No of engagements No of people engaged with Type of engagement & audience type	Council & Borough	Low	Share learning Build capacity & skills

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42	Establish a project group to explore options for council owned larger scale sustainable energy production on land in the borough i.e. solar farm	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Expected to be within existing budget	Project group established No of sites assessed/identified	Council	Medium	Financial Energy
43	Explore effective methods and principles for carbon offsetting. To meet our carbon neutral target, we will need to consider offsetting any remaining carbon emissions from 2035 onwards.	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	Options reviewed No of viable options identified	Council & Borough	NQ	Financial Energy Biodiversity
THEME 5 – Tackling and minimising waste								
44	Utilise the incoming new legislation for simpler business recycling to enable increased recycling by private companies through our Business Bins service	Short term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Dependant on business interest (new lorry approx. £180k per annum)	Tonnage recycled from business bins	Borough	Low	Waste reduction
45	Develop and deliver initiatives aimed at increasing participation in food waste recycling	Medium term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Within existing budget	No of properties added to food waste collections Tonnage of food waste	Borough	Low	Waste reduction

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46	Develop and deliver initiatives aimed at reducing the contamination of dry mixed recycling (DMR) to help increase the quantity and quality that is recycled	A reduction in contamination of DMR bins across the Borough	Short term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Within existing budget	No of initiatives delivered Tonnage reduction in DMR bin contamination	Borough	Low	Waste reduction
47	Continue to deliver the Council's Single-use Plastics Policy	Eliminate where possible the use of single-use plastics at Borough buildings and venues	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Within existing budget	No of initiatives delivered	Council	Low	Waste reduction
48	Support sustainable practices at the Epsom Market Place	This could include encouraging use of sustainable packaging, reduction in single use items, recycling and reuse, efficient use of energy and water	Medium term	Head of Operational Services	Within existing budget	No of initiatives implemented	Borough	Low	Energy Waste reduction Local economy
49	Explore opportunities to promote reuse across the Borough, such as setting up a 'Library of Things'.	Facilitate increased opportunities for reuse and a reduction in waste	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	NQ – individual initiative costs will be assessed	No of initiatives implemented	Borough	Low	Waste reduction

THEME 6 – Use of technology and information systems

50	Continue to implement and develop agile working practices to reduce employee journeys and business miles	Utilise conference technology and roll out the IT equipment necessary to enable staff and partner organisations to meet virtually and reduce journeys	Short term	Head of ICT	Within IT Roadmap budget	Business mileage Measures implemented	Council	Low	Air quality
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51	Continue to improve the Council's digital conferencing facilities and wider digital transformation to reduce the need for staff, customers, Members and partners to travel.	Short term	Head of ICT	Within IT Roadmap budget	Measures implemented	Council & Borough	Low	Waste reduction Air quality
52	Progressively move the Council's systems to more energy efficient cloud solutions	Short term	Head of ICT	Within IT Roadmap budget	No of servers reduced Reduction in electricity consumption of server room	Council	Low	Financial Energy