

Climate Change Action Plan

2025-2029



Current Progress 2025

RAG rating key							
C	Completed		On track		Slippage		Significantly off track

ObjectiveDesired Outcome/sTimescaleLeadPerformance IndicatorRatingCurrent Progress (2025)						
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	Local Plan adoption inclusive of climate change mitigation and adaptation policy	<div></div> <div>Part of the Local Plan process.</div> <div>The Regulation 19 consultation for the draft Local Plan was undertaken between December 2024 and February 2025.</div> <div>The draft Plan was submitted for examination on 10 March 2025. The programmed examination hearings took place in August and October 2025. Further work has been requested to be undertaken by the planning inspector following the hearings. The Plan remains at examination.</div> <div>Draft Local Plan inclusive of: an overarching climate change and mitigation policy; a net zero carbon residential development policy; a minimum BREEAM ‘excellent’ UK New Construction standard for non-residential development; 20% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirement for specified greenfield sites; water efficiency standards beyond building regs standard to reflect water stressed status of Southeast region.</div>

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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	Sustainability / carbon policy incorporated in updated procurement strategy		<p>A new Procurement Strategy (2025-2028) was agreed in July 2025.</p> <p>The procurement policy objective relating to social value, sustainability and addressing the climate emergency (5.1) has been strengthened to ensure that procurement activities are aligned with our second Climate Change Action Plan and support our commitment to be carbon neutral by 2035.</p> <p>Key areas include encouraging suppliers to reduce waste, increase energy efficiency, adopt circular economy procedures, improve resource efficiency and implement carbon reduction plans.</p> <p>The tender for the new leisure centre contract was inclusive of a weighted question on sustainability.</p>
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	<p>Top suppliers in terms of carbon emissions identified</p> <p>Measures implemented by suppliers to reduce emissions</p>		<p>A high-level baselining exercise of procurement emissions covering 2022/23 has been undertaken.</p> <p>The exercise provides a low level of accuracy due to the calculation method (using spend against industry carbon factors) but it has indicated our top suppliers in terms of carbon emissions.</p> <p>Supplier engagement to be considered as next step.</p>

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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.	<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>	On-going	Comms & Engagement Manager	No, type and reach of activities undertaken		<p>Focus in 2025 was on producing the 'Green Your Home Guide' which was launched in Autumn 2025. The guide will form the basis of external comms messaging on climate change going forward. The guide contains an array of measures that can be implemented by residents at home, including to save or generate energy, reduce water use and encourage and support nature.</p> <p>In line with the Climate Change Comms Plan, themed msgs, posts and progress have been put out on social media throughout the year (for example Own Your Impact; Great Big Green Week; World Environment Day; 5-year achievements in delivering the CCAP; Surrey Prepared (adaptation)).</p> <p>The Council continues to have a designated Climate Change section on the website which is kept updated. Includes accessible information on the Council's progress in delivering the Climate Change Action Plan and annual operational figures. Information is included on what residents can do at home and links to further schemes and advice.</p> <p>Energy grant schemes available to residents have been regularly promoted including the Boiler Upgrade Scheme, Solar Together, Warm Homes Local Grant, Switch Together Heat Pumps, Big Community Switch.</p>

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							Attended with stalls at Eco Fair 2025, organised by Sustainable Epsom & Ewell at St Martins Church.
5	Raise awareness and work to ensure all staff reduce unnecessary emissions	Reduce the energy usage and emissions from unnecessary sources such as leaving equipment on standby	Ongoing	Comms & Engagement Manager	Reduction in building energy usage & carbon footprint		<p>A new section on Climate Change was developed and launched on the internal staff Hub in May 2025. It includes sections on energy efficiency in the workplace and when working from home and on active and sustainable travel.</p> <p>The mandatory training module for all staff on Climate Change has been updated and relaunched at the start of 2025.</p> <p>Energy usage at the Town Hall has reduced by 30,000kWh (2024/25) and 6tCO2e from previous year (2023/24).</p>
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	No of properties that have had a measure installed via grant/scheme		<p>In June 2025 Action Surrey closed permanently. The work of Action Surrey has been taken on by Surrey County Council enabling the continuation of the collaborative partnership across Surrey to support low carbon communities and deliver energy grant schemes for residents.</p> <p>Continued support for ECO funding delivery. 1,361 grant measures implemented in total in E&E homes since 2013, according to latest government statistics up to June 2025 – 39 measures since late 2024.</p>

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							<p>In April 2024 we launched a boiler repair and upgrade grant scheme, funded through the Disabled Facilities Grant. Targeted at households with low income and a low EPC rating. Boiler replacements are to a higher energy efficiency standard. The scheme ended in June 2025 and 53 boiler upgrades were completed this year, resulting in a total of 65 households being supported through the life of the scheme. A further 9 households were supported through the Warm at Home grant with boiler replacement/repair.</p> <p>Supported a third round of the Solar Together scheme, which ran up to March 2025, with 37 household solar installs, including batteries, in Epsom & Ewell. A fourth round of the scheme launched in Summer 2025 and is now at the quote acceptance and installation stage.</p>
7	Explore options to enforce 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	<p>No. of private rentals identified with EPC F or G</p> <p>No of landlords engaged</p> <p>No of private rentals</p>		<p>A project plan for MEES enforcement was developed in 2021 as part of an unsuccessful external funding bid. Progressing this action and the project plan is reliant on securing funding.</p> <p>Continue to monitor for funding opportunities but there remain limited options.</p>

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				improved to EPC – E or above		An opportunity for a joined-up approach to delivering MEES may be possible in line with the Draft Local Retrofit Strategy (see action 9).
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	No of contacts / engagement events with housing associations	<p>The ‘One-Stop Shop’ Home Retrofit Scheme was launched by SCC in Autumn 2024, in partnership with Furbnow. The scheme is offering support to residents in upgrading homes with energy efficiency measures through Home Energy Plans and support in progressing the upgrades to their homes.</p> <p>14 households with completed Home Energy Plans and 4 projects completed.</p> <p>Local housing associations were engaged and involved in the 3 stakeholder workshops to develop the Draft Local Retrofit Strategy (see action 9).</p>
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	<p>Surrey Greener Futures Team</p> <p>EEBC Officers as required</p>	Local Retrofit Strategy & Action Plan	<p>SCC, with support of Surrey Boroughs including Epsom & Ewell, secured government funding and support through the Local Authority Retrofit Accelerator (LARA) Pilot scheme in late 2024. In 2025 the funding and support has been used to bring together key stakeholders within the area, including housing associations and Borough Council’s, in a series of 3 workshops to co-develop an area wide retrofit strategy and action plan.</p>

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							A final draft of the strategy and action plan is now being developed with the aim of adoption by all stakeholders. A provisional cross stakeholder delivery group has been set up to support the future delivery of the plan.
10	Promote the benefits of local food production, maintaining levels of allotment take up and supporting local food markets	Maintain level of allotment ownership and promote take up where required	Ongoing	Head of Operational Services	Allotment tenancy no.		<p>Allotments remain highly popular with residents and are promoted through the website and contact centre. Due to popularity, there are waiting lists on all managed sites. To make use of limited available space some plots are now being offered as half or quarter size.</p> <p>Continue to support monthly Epsom Farmer's Market.</p> <p>A Whole System Food Strategy for Surrey has been developed by SCC with one of the key strands being reducing climate impact of the local food system. A Surrey Food Partnership has been set up to support delivery of the strategy.</p>
11	Ensure a robust reporting and monitoring process for all Epsom & Ewell Borough Council emissions	Process in place for accurately collecting and calculating the Council's Operational emissions (Scope 1 & 2) on an ongoing basis	Ongoing	Env & Sustainability Officer	Annual operational carbon emissions report to Env Committee		<p>Work with the electricity sub meter provider in 2025 has led to access to more accurate historic energy data. This led to a revision of the emissions reports for 2019/20 and 2020/21 ensuring we are working with the most accurate data available.</p> <p>Emissions data for the period 24/25 collated and reported. Shows a 19% reduction in operational emissions against baseline year.</p>

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						An annual report including operational emissions data continues to be presented to Env Committee.
12	Work to improve the collection and baselining of the Council's Scope 3 emissions	Process in place for collecting and calculating the Council's Scope 3 emissions on an annual basis	Short term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Baseline of Scope 3 emissions Annual reporting of Scope 3 emissions	<p>Progress has been made in the collection of Scope 3 emissions data.</p> <p>A high-level baselining exercise of procurement emissions covering 2022/23 has been completed. The exercise used spend data against industry carbon factors to calculate emissions, recognising this provides a low level of accuracy. The process for collating the data and calculating emissions proved to be complicated and time consuming, making it challenging to undertake on a yearly basis. It will be reviewed in 2026 for ways to make the process easier to undertake and achievable for an annual reporting process. (2022/23 baselined procurement emissions: 3,668tCO2e)</p> <p>Tonnage data for waste generated from our own operations is now more accessible, enabling on going reporting. (2024/25 waste emissions: 1.02tCO2e)</p> <p>Business mileage data collected and baseline was set from the year 2019/20. (2024/25 business mileage emissions: 4.47tCO2e)</p>

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							Processes for collating water consumption data, staff commuting emissions and leased assets energy usage continue to be explored.
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)	Local businesses enabled to access energy efficiency and low carbon measures which may have otherwise not have been possible to reduce emissions	Medium term	Head of Place Development	No. of businesses engaged/supported No. of grant schemes delivered		<p>Following the end of the LoCASE scheme in 2023, funding to support grant schemes for SME's has been limited.</p> <p>Whilst there is limited grant funding to support new schemes focus has been on increasing visibility of resources available to SME's via our website and comms channels.</p> <p>The Epsom Business Awards for 2025 now include an award category for 'Most Sustainable / Green Business'.</p>
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.	Promotion of green careers resources to school, community groups etc. Promotion of green construction/retrofit skills training available	Medium term	Surrey Greener Futures Team EEBC Officers as required	Course uptake against places offered Learners progressed to green jobs		<p>Take up of courses Surrey-wide for 2024/25 has been very positive with 131 learners enrolling on courses across retrofit, green electricity, heat pumps, sustainability and carbon management.</p> <p>The next wave of Skills Bootcamps is running for 2025/26 with a funding package of £2.8m.</p> <p>Wave 7 (FY 26/27) is expected following the Budget announcement and it is anticipated the Skills Bootcamps will continue into this year.</p>
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	No & type of funding opportunities explored		The Surrey consortium, including SCC and all Surrey Boroughs, submitted a funding bid to the Warm Home Local Grant scheme and successfully

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						secured just under £14m. The funding is now being used to deliver the scheme over the next 2 years.
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	No, type and reach of activities undertaken No of staff trained No of Members trained	<p>The mandatory training module for all staff on Climate Change has been updated and relaunched at the start of 2025.</p> <p>The officer and members working groups include subject focused agenda items, presented by the relevant officer, to increase knowledge and understanding on specific actions within the plan (i.e Decarbonising Council buildings and assets).</p> <p>Sustainability Masterclass training for the Chairs of Environment Committee and Environment & Sustainability Working Group has been organised for early 2026, which will lead to carbon literacy accreditation.</p>
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)	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer Business Assurance Manager	Surrey Adapt Strategy reviewed Measures implemented	<p>An initial review of the Surrey Adapt Strategy has been undertaken. The related action plan has not yet been published and now awaiting this document to ascertain alignment of actions and priorities for EEBC to consider.</p>

THEME 2 – Council buildings and energy use

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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		Delivery of this action is aligned with measures reported under actions 19, 21, 22 & 23. Building energy usage from the grid has continued to decrease. For 2024/25, electricity has reduced by 245MWh's and gas by 265MWh's from the baseline year.
19	Develop detailed feasibility studies of our pavilions and smaller buildings to identify viable energy efficiency projects that are funding ready	Identification of options for implementing energy efficiency measures at Council owned pavilions and smaller buildings through a feasibility study. Submit business cases for each viable asset.	Short term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint Measures installed		3 Feasibility studies conducted in 2025 for solar PV and battery systems at Nonsuch Mansion garages, Harrier Centre and Auriol Pavilion. Business cases/funding options being explored.
20	As part of the Town Hall move project identify and implement viable measures to decarbonise the new building (70 East Street)	Enable an environmentally sustainable and energy efficient Town Hall	Short term	Head of Property & Regeneration	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint Measures installed	N/A	Full Council decision taken in May 2025 to no longer proceed with move from existing Town Hall to 70 East Street. Action no longer relevant and will be archived.
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	Undertake a review of our current heating systems and identify options for tackling the highest emission buildings.	Long term	Buildings Services & Facilities Manager	Reduction in building energy usage and carbon footprint		Project completed at Bourne Hall to replace all windows with double glazing, to improve heat retention, and including a solar glaze, to reduce heat gain in the Summer. Total of 290 windows replaced. Expected annual saving in gas

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	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.	Develop business cases for viable measures.			Measures installed Feasibility studies completed		<p>consumption of over 100,000kWh and carbon emissions of 20tCO₂e.</p> <p>A final version of the Heat Decarbonisation Plan (HDP) for Bourne Hall was completed in early 2025. This has fed into a business case and capital bid submission to replace the heating system, with one of two potential options: Fully replace with a heat pump based system or a hybrid of reduced number of gas boilers and heat pump combo.</p> <p>The HDP has also fed into a business case and capital bid for improving the insulation of the high-level roof at Bourne Hall.</p> <p>A business case and capital bid has been developed and submitted for the replacement of the heating system at Epsom Playhouse. Includes a proposal to replace the existing gas heating systems with an ASHP.</p> <p>All Capital bids awaiting outcome.</p>
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		The stage lighting at Epsom Playhouse was replaced with LED lighting over Summer 2025. Expected to reduce electricity consumption by 20,000kWh and carbon emissions by 4tCO ₂ e

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					Measures installed		
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		109kWp of existing solar PV installations across 3 buildings: Bourne Hall, Epsom Playhouse and Longmead Depot. Contributes to 7% of overall electricity consumption (in 2024/25). 3 Feasibility studies conducted in 2025 for solar PV and battery systems at Nonsuch Mansion garages, Harrier Centre and Auriol Pavilion. Business cases/funding options being explored. Solar PV & battery installation at Longmead Community & Wellbeing Centre had capital funding agreed in 2023 but remains on hold due to review of future of building.
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	No & type of funding opportunities explored Amount of funding secured		External funding opportunities have been limited in 2025. Many of the most relevant grant schemes were closed including the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS), Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF), Local Authority Treescape Fund (LATF), Empty Homes Reallocation Fund (EHRF) and Shared Prosperity Fund (which only provided funding at County level in 2025).
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		Focus has been on the Rainbow Leisure Centre due to its high energy usage. Completed the installation of a 177kWp solar array on Rainbow leisure centre roof in February

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							2025. The array has generated 140,000kWh's over the first 7 months since installation, 30% of the electricity demand at the leisure centre during the period, saving 29tCO2e.
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	% of Council electricity from a renewable tariff % of Council gas from a renewable tariff		100% of the Council's purchased electricity for Council operated buildings continues to be Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) certified. Options for a green gas supply remain limited.
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		Focus has remained on energy reduction schemes due to limited capacity and higher carbon savings potential, but water saving measures are considered in conjunction with building upgrade works. Continuing to work to improve access to water consumption data. A proportion of sites have submeters providing accurate data through an online portal.
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	Projects/ schemes supported		Surrey Community Energy (SCE) has been launched, a Community Benefit Society run by volunteers to develop, own and manage clean energy installations in Surrey (and beyond). Providing opportunities for public to invest in renewables projects, help to identify sites and

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						<p>volunteer time. SCE has been promoted through our comms articles, Climate Change web pages and Green Your Home Guide.</p> <p>The Home Energy Advice Scheme (HEAT) has continued to operate in 2025. The scheme was launched by SCC, with support from Borough Council's, in late 2023. The scheme aims to deliver community led home energy surveys for fuel poor and low energy efficient homes.</p> <p>A partnership, through SCC, with the Big Community Switch, enabled the launch of a group buying scheme for 100% renewable energy for residents in Surrey. The registration period was open through Autumn and closed in mid-November and is now at the supplier competition stage.</p>
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	<p>Green (Zero Carbon) Fleet Strategy</p> <p>Small Fleet vehicles transition to electric</p>	<p>Short term</p> <p>Medium term</p>	Transport & Waste Services Manager	<p>Fleet Strategy completed</p> <p>No. of low emissions vehicles in fleet or in pipeline</p>	<p>Significant challenges to reducing fleet emissions remain.</p> <p>The existing fleet lease contract was due to end in mid-2027. Agreed at S&R Committee on 15 July 2025 to extend the contract for a period up to 10 years (to 2037).</p>

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	of any remaining petrol and diesel fleet in the meanwhile.				Reduction in diesel use		<p>The HGV fleet is due to be replaced with new diesel vehicles, with limited viable low carbon alternatives currently available for split body vehicles.</p> <p>An assessment of the smaller fleet vehicles was undertaken to ascertain those where fully electric options are available. Up to 19 vehicles with electric options. Environment Committee on 24 June 2025 considered a report on options for smaller fleet vehicle replacement. In view of potential additional costs, the decision taken was not to pursue electric for these vehicles but replace with diesel or hybrid where available.</p> <p>There remain 4 fully electric vehicles and 1 hybrid vehicle in the Council fleet.</p>
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.	Understanding of the infrastructure and cost requirements to inform plan for installation of the appropriate charging infrastructure.	Short term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Investigation complete		This has not been progressed in view of the decisions taken on fleet replacement as per the update for action 29.
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.	Support & enable the public to transition to low emissions vehicles, with appropriate provision of EV charge points in council owned car parks	On-going	Parking Manager	EV charge point usage No of EV charge points		<p>There are 14 charge points installed across 5 Council owned car parks.</p> <p>Consistent usage across all charging points. 12 months data up to Oct '25 shows 7,098 individual charging events, drawing 256,515kWh of electricity charge, an increase in usage from 2024.</p>

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						Plans for a charge point at Bourne Hall have not been able to progress following engagement with SCC. Complications with feeder pillar connection, agreement for highway works and listed building consent have made a charge point located here unviable at this time.
32	Work with Surrey County Council to facilitate on-street residential electric vehicle charge points where there is no scope for off-street charging	Increase in the number of on-street residential EV charge points	On-going	Surrey Greener Futures Team EEBC Officers as required	No of on-street EV charge points	<p>SCC agreed a long-term contract with EV charging provider in 2023 to deliver large scale rollout of charge points across Surrey, including in Epsom & Ewell.</p> <p>Ongoing collaboration with SCC on the scheme through Surrey EV Forum.</p> <p>In 2025 SCC completed EV On-Street charge point installations at 8 locations. The installations at Vale Road, Victoria Place & Wheelers Lane are all live, 5 remaining sites are awaiting final connection. 4 lamppost charge points have also been installed in 2025 at Elmwood Drive, Grafton Road, BrettGrave & Northcroft Road.</p> <p>In total 24 live On-street charging sockets. With a further 20 awaiting final connection.</p> <p>A further 4 sites were assessed and proceeded to consultation. 2 of the sites have been confirmed to progress to installation in 2026.</p>

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33	Implement the Councils adopted Taxi Emissions Policy and incentivise the take up of hybrid or fully electric taxis through subsidising of the license fee.	Decrease emissions from local taxi trips	Short term	Public Protection Manager	No of Euro 6 vehicle's licensed No of electric taxi's licensed in the Borough		Taxi Emissions Policy continues to be implemented since its adoption in 2023. The Council has continued to offer a small subsidy for licensing electric/hybrid vehicles (£70 discount).
34	Support & facilitate the greater take up of car clubs and car sharing in the borough	Increased car club provision in the Borough	Medium term	Head of Place Development	No of car club vehicles		Linked with the planning process for new developments. Transport policy (S18) of emerging Local Plan supports the delivery of a sustainable transport network, including that new development in the borough will provide opportunities to establish car clubs and cycle rental schemes or other similar schemes. Opportunities for a wider network will be explored in line with new development sites and existing schemes. 2 existing car club vehicles through Enterprise scheme in Epsom (St Martin's Avenue and The Woodcote).
35	Continue to publish DEFRA Air Quality Annual Status Report and seek to revoke Ewell High Street Air Quality	Continued improvement in air quality within AQMA to enable the revoking of the AQMA	Short term	Public Protection Manager	Annual Status Report Published		Air Quality Annual Status Report published annually on Council website (latest 2025). There has been a sustained and long-term improvement

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	Management Area (AQMA) at earliest opportunity				AQMA revoked Improvement in annual air quality monitoring results for nitrogen dioxide		in Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) levels within the AQMA. This has enabled the Council to put forward a revocation of the existing AQMA. The proposal was taken to the Environment Committee on 14 October 2025 and agreed. It is now progressing through the legal procedure.
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	Air Quality Strategy developed & adopted		Not yet started as linked to revoking of the AQMA (see action 35).
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	No of schemes / infrastructure delivered		The LCWIP for EEBC was endorsed by the Council in September 2024 and signed off by SCC on 4 March 2025. The plan acts as an evidence base for walking and cycling improvement schemes. SCC have since been seeking funding to support the next stage of scheme development and delivery, including through developer contributions.
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	Schemes & initiatives implemented		Incentive schemes for staff are now promoted through the new Climate Change Hub pages launched in 2025. Currently part of the Gov Cycle to Work scheme. Promoted in 2025 in conjunction with Cycle to Work week. Train season ticket loans also offered.

Objective		Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
							Hook Road MSCP includes EV Charge points, enabling work time charging for staff with EVs.
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	Progress reporting on the delivery of Objective 5 of the Biodiversity Action Plan		<p>The nature reserve management plans continue to be successfully implemented using funding sourced externally and with volunteers helping EEBC staff manage, monitor and interpret habitats throughout the year, bringing significant sustainability, biodiversity and health and wellbeing benefits to the Borough.</p> <p>In partnership with the Epsom Common Association the Lower Mole Partnership were contracted to restore Bramble Pond on Epsom Common. In addition to two new ponds constructed in Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve, the Newt Conservation Trust dug three test pits on Epsom Common, with a view to creating three new ponds on Epsom Common during 2026.</p> <p>EEBC have successfully bid for Countryside Stewardship funding for Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve that will allow the management plan to continue to be implemented for at least another five years.</p> <p>Water Voles have been successfully reintroduced to the wetlands at Hogsmill LNR, through a</p>

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Objective	Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
						<p>partnership with Citizen Zoo and Southeast Rivers Trust.</p> <p>During 2025 the Manor Open Space that lies in between Horton Country Park and Epsom Common was designated a Site of Nature Conservation Importance for a rare moth and veteran trees, confirming the importance of managing the site for biodiversity and good public access and as a wildlife corridor linking Horton Country Park and Epsom Common.</p> <p>Following an SCC decision not to sell land at Grafton Park Stables (Formerly Worcester Park House) we are working with SCC and local residents to help facilitate a new public open space with an emphasis on improving access to nature, in a part of the Borough that does not have large public open spaces where access to nature is the main use.</p> <p>During 2025 EEBC gave Thames Water permission to drill a borehole in the Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve to better understand and monitor the water table and help manage ground water resources more sustainably in future.</p> <p>The 'Green Your Home Guide' has been launched as covered under action 4.</p>
40	Implement the new tree establishment plans as set out	Increase in tree cover in the Borough	Long term	Tree Officer	No of new trees planted	<p>The funding secured in 2024 from the Local Authority Treescape Fund (LATF) and Urban Tree Challenge Fund (UTCF) enabled the planting of</p>

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Objective		Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
	in the Council's adopted Tree Management Plan			Env & Sustainability Officer			<p>2,610 new trees in early 2025 across 6 Council owned sites:</p> <p>Long Grove Park London Road Recreation Ground Manor Park Poole Road Recreation Ground Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve – 2 locations</p> <p>A strategic CIL funding bid to address Ash Dieback essential safety works and tree restoration was successful in securing £200k. This will support, in addition to a proportion of the required safety works, tree replanting with a greater diversity of resilient tree species. This will be progressed over the next 2 years (the agreed funding period).</p>
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	<p>No of engagements</p> <p>No of people engaged with</p> <p>Type of engagement & audience type</p>		<p>Active attendance at the public Eco Fair organised by Sustainable Epsom & Ewell in September 2025.</p> <p>New engagement with community group Epsom & Ewell Climate Action Network (EECAN). Currently lead on the HEAT home energy survey scheme, are in liaison on the setting up of a Library of Things in Epsom & Ewell and organise monthly climate conversation talks.</p> <p>Engaged with Epsom Methodist Church and their Eco Church group who run 3 eco talks a year. Linked with partners for options for future talks.</p>

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	Objective	Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
							Countryside Team continue active involvement with range of local partnership groups to support and deliver initiatives (as set out under Action 39 update) including Epsom Common Association, Lower Mole Partnership, Newt Conservation Trust, Citizen Zoo and Southeast Rivers Trust. They also run regular volunteer conservation work days.
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	Have a portfolio of opportunities for renewable energy development ready to go	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Project group established No of sites assessed/identified		A working group has not yet been established. On hold whilst the Council proceeds through Local Government Reorganisation.
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.	Identification of cost-effective measures for carbon offsetting	Medium term	Env & Sustainability Officer	Options reviewed No of viable options identified		Not yet started.
	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	Businesses prompted to comply with national legislation. Business Bins promoted as a service to businesses	Short term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	Tonnage recycled from business bins		Business Bin Service has remained relatively static in 2025. A mail shot was sent out to 800 businesses promoting the service and prompting on the national legislation. This did not lead to an increase in take up.

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	Objective	Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
							There has been a slight drop in waste tonnage and slight increase in recycling tonnage, particularly for food waste. Overall recycling rate for the business service is at 26%.
45	Develop and deliver initiatives aimed at increasing participation in food waste recycling	Provide a new food waste service to communal properties without the service, meeting legislative requirements and increasing recycling rates	Medium term	Transport & Waste Services Manager	No of properties added to food waste collections Tonnage of food waste		Continued to work in partnership with SEP (Surrey Environment Partnership) to rollout the food waste service to as many properties not currently on the scheme as possible. An additional 1,500 flats have been added to the food waste collection in 2025. All properties that are considered viable for a food waste collection service are now on the scheme.
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	No of initiatives delivered Tonnage reduction in DMR bin contamination		Levels of contamination in DMR bins has been relatively low in the past year, showing a positive trend of low levels of contamination. On average contamination, when including the glass recycling service, has been around 12.5%. A Waste & Recycling guide mail-out went out to most households in Epsom and Ewell covering the recycling service and reminding residents what can and cannot go in each bin.
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	No of initiatives delivered		Implemented where possible. Continue to explore options for any remaining SuP use where like-for-like replacement has not been viable.

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	Objective	Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
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	No of initiatives implemented		Continue to promote sustainable practices at the Market Place, where feasible, including on eliminating single use plastics, maximising the recycling of food waste, cardboard, paper and glass and no residual landfill waste collection required or provided.
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	No of initiatives implemented		<p>A proposal to set up a Library of Things at Bourne Hall is being progressed by Epsom & Ewell Climate Action Network. A funding bid to CIL to support the setting up of the scheme has been agreed (dependent on agreement of location).</p> <p>The Epsom Repair Café has continued to operate at Epsom Methodist Church, with 9 repair events through the year.</p>
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	Business mileage Measures implemented		<p>Office 365/Sharepoint roll out has increased functionality for sharing and working on documents digitally. Training for all staff is being rolled out with first wave undertaken in October 2025.</p> <p>Business mileage emissions for 2024/25 were 4.47tCO2e. There has been a small decrease compared to previous year. Overall, since 2019/20, there has been a reduction of 43%, equivalent to a saving of 3.47tCO2e.</p>

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	Objective	Desired Outcome/s	Timescale	Lead	Performance Indicator	Rating	Current Progress (2025)
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.	Minimise paper use and reduce customer journeys	Short term	Head of ICT	Measures implemented		Ongoing implementation of phase 2 of My Council Services (MCS) project – aim to make it as easy as possible for customers to make requests/transactions etc online.
52	Progressively move the Council's systems to more energy efficient cloud solutions	Develop and implement a road map for migrating systems to the cloud and ensuring cloud solutions are using renewable sources of energy	Short term	Head of ICT	No of servers reduced Reduction in electricity consumption of server room		Under the IT Strategy continuing the 'Cloud preference' approach, moving servers on to cloud system. The electricity consumption for the IT server room at the Town Hall has continued to reduce in 2025 – a 16% reduction in the past year (45% since 2020).