

Leicester City Council's

Climate Emergency Action Plan: April 2020 – March 2023

Version 1, published October 2020

This plan presents actions to be undertaken by the council to implement its Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-23, in response to the Climate Emergency it declared on 1st February 2019. This version 1 of the plan focuses primarily on the financial year 2020-21, for which resources are confirmed. Where resourcing beyond this is known, some actions extend into the following two years covered by the Climate Emergency Strategy. Further actions for these financial years will be added in versions 2 and 3, to be published in 2021 and 2022 respectively. They will be informed by work to develop carbon-neutral 'roadmaps' for decarbonising both the council (refer to action 7.01) and Leicester as a whole (action 1.01).

The arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the subsequent lockdown, is affecting or may affect the delivery of some actions, for example by delaying when some types of work can begin. Where this impact was known at the time of publication, the wording of the action has been updated to reflect this.

In addition, as the council plans for the recovery phase from the pandemic and the lockdown, the Climate Emergency is being considered – including opportunities for a 'green recovery'. This will be reflected in published recovery plans. The actions are arranged into seven sections. The first section presents actions which will contribute to implementing the Climate Emergency Strategy as a whole, while the remaining sections address the six themes in the strategy.

Progress in completing the actions will be monitored. Where possible, carbon reductions or adaptation benefits of actions will be quantified and included in progress reports. Details of progress will be published annually along with figures for the council's and Leicester's carbon emissions.

Any enquiries about this action plan should be directed to the council's Sustainability Team:

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1. Actions supporting all the themes

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|---|-------------------|----------------|
| 1.01 | <p>Carbon neutral roadmap for the city Develop one or more possible decarbonisation pathways for the city to inform the planning of actions, monitoring of progress and engagement with partners, including seeking more support from central Government.</p> | Pathway report setting out key actions required and their estimated carbon reductions. | 2020/21 – 2021/22 | Sustainability |
| 1.02 | <p>Carbon Literacy training – decision makers Provide 'carbon literacy' training to key decision-makers in the council.</p> | 50 elected decision-makers and managers trained, strengthening the council's management and oversight of its climate emergency response. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |
| 1.03 | <p>Climate emergency board Establish a climate emergency board of senior council officers to be accountable to the city mayor and his team for the council's response to the climate emergency, including delivery of actions.</p> | Board convened, and forward plan of its meetings and work developed. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |
| 1.04 | <p>Climate implications of council and executive decisions Build on the current system for including climate change implications in executive decision reports by introducing a council-wide approach to considering and addressing climate change implications and opportunities from the outset as projects are developed, budgets and changes to services are planned, and in all other decision-making – with this approach reflected in reports.</p> | Changes introduced, supported by carbon literacy training. Changes reflected in content of reports so that the city mayor and elected councillors are able to see the implications and the steps proposed, and make informed decisions based on them. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|-------------------|---|
| 1.05 | <p>Lobby central Government Lobby central government to introduce the policy, resourcing and other measures needed in support of local action to decarbonise and adapt the city, and to address poverty. Press for these changes through the most appropriate channels and encourage partner organisations to do the same.</p> | Influence on government policy, actions and funding decisions to enable faster progress in Leicester. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Sustainability, working with the Strategy, Quality and Performance Service in Social Care and Education, and supported by other services. |
| 1.06 | <p>Climate change communications Plan and implement an ongoing programme of communications about the Climate Emergency, including regular information about steps that the public and local businesses can take to do their bit.</p> | More output from social media, website and other communication channels. An increase in public awareness, and increased levels of action by individuals, groups and businesses. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Sustainability, supported by the Communications Team, Press Team and other services. |
| 1.07 | <p>Community engagement Carry out a review of how the council can use its existing channels of communication with Leicester's communities, through our existing services and projects, and our links with partner organisations, to engage with the public, local groups and organisations about what we can all do about climate change.</p> | Due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, this piece of work will be delayed until years two and three of the plan. | 2021/22 – 2022/23 | Sustainability |
| 1.08 | <p>School climate emergency declarations Raise the profile and advise schools who wish to declare a climate emergency.</p> | Information pack and tailored advice given to each school requesting it. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |
| 1.09 | <p>Carbon Literacy training – schools Deliver a carbon literacy programme to schools in Leicester.</p> | Deliver training to at least 60 university student ambassadors, 30 | 2020/21 | Sustainability |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|--|-----------|----------------------------------|
| | | school staff and 2,000 students by the end of March 2021. | | |
| 1.10 | Eco-Schools Expand the programme to deliver student-led actions to reduce schools' environmental and carbon impacts, and to increase student and parent awareness. | 50 Green Flag schools by the end of the academic year (31 August 2020). | 2020/21 | Sustainability |
| 1.11 | Establish a Leicester Young People's Climate Emergency Board | A Young People's Climate Emergency Board will be established, led by young people in Leicester, agreed terms of reference will be published and at least two meetings will have taken place. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |
| 1.12 | Energy Strategy Develop a strategy to guide all our work on energy, to ensure a joined-up approach that aligns with our aims and objectives for addressing the climate emergency, poverty, inequality, the need for economic recovery and our other strategic priorities. | Strategy approved and published, and in active use across the council. | 2020/21 | Strategy and Business Management |

2. At home

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|--|---|----------------|
| 2.01 | Saffron Lane – phase 2 housing development Build 38 new A-rated energy efficient and low-carbon council houses. | All houses will achieve 'A' rating for energy efficiency, over 70% lower carbon emissions than equivalent houses built to Building Regulations (Part L, 2013) standards and lower energy bills for tenants. | 2020/21 (Planning Application determined) 2020/21 – 2021/22 (Construction) | Housing |
| 2.02 | Loft insulation programme Continue to invest £100,000 per year to upgrade loft insulation in council housing. | Approximately 114 properties upgraded per year, saving an estimated 57t CO ₂ per year. | 2020/21 and annually until programme complete | Housing |
| 2.03 | Boiler replacements programme Continue to invest £3.2 million per year in our ongoing programme to replace boilers in council housing with modern, energy-efficient A-rated condensing boilers with heating controls. | Approximately 1,100 properties upgraded per year, saving an estimated 825t CO ₂ per year. NB Due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions, it is expected that about 40% fewer properties will be upgraded in 2020/21. | 2020/21 and annually until programme complete | Housing |
| 2.04 | LED communal lighting upgrade programme Continue to invest at least £150,000 per year to replace lighting in communal areas on council housing estates with energy-efficient LEDs, until all areas completed. | Approximately 50 sites upgraded per year, with savings of 43t CO ₂ per year. NB Due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions, it is expected that about 40% fewer sites will be upgraded in 2020/21. | 2020/21 and annually until programme complete | Housing |
| 2.05 | Storage heater upgrades Carry out a feasibility study, secure funding and develop a programme to replace older electric storage heaters, in council housing properties where a wet heating system is not | Details of programme to be confirmed, and preparations made, during 2020-21. Implementation from 2021-22 subject to funding. Approximately 95 properties | 2020/21 (feasibility and planning) | Housing |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|---|----------------|
| | suitable, with more efficient modern equivalents with better controls. | potentially eligible. Estimated CO ₂ savings to be confirmed. | | |
| 2.06 | District heating – Beatty Avenue In collaboration with ENGIE give consideration to upgrading the biomass plant at Beatty Avenue in order to reduce the reliance on top-up heat provided from gas boilers in winter months. | Completed report assessing feasibility of doubling the capacity of the plant from 100 to 200kW. Funded by Engie, implementation would save 240t CO ₂ per year. | 2020/2021 Planned implementation subject to economic climate in the wake of COVID-19 | Housing |
| 2.07 | Heat metering – technical survey Assess the feasibility of installing heat meters in council housing connected to the district heating network. Heat meters will allow for tenants to be charged for the heat they actually use, encouraging efficiency. | Technical survey to be completed – advising on the feasibility of installing meters. Subject to the survey results, approximately 3,061 properties may be eligible for meters. CO ₂ savings estimates to be confirmed. | 2020/21 (survey) Planned implementation from 2021/22 subject to survey results and economic climate in the wake of COVID-19. Completion of full programme 3-5 years subject to funding. | Housing |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|---|---|----------------------|
| 2.08 | <p>External wall insulation Carry out a feasibility study, secure funding and develop a programme to install external wall insulation on more council housing.</p> | <p>Details of programme to be confirmed, and preparations made, during 2020-21. 2,508 properties potentially eligible, with CO₂ savings of 2,400t on full completion of programme. Estimated energy bill saving of £200 per year per property.</p> | <p>2020/21 (feasibility and planning) Planned implementation from 2021/22 subject to economic climate in the wake of COVID-19. Completion of full programme 3-5 years subject to funding.</p> | Housing |
| 2.09 | <p>Solar PV Carry out a feasibility study, secure funding and develop a programme to install solar PV panels on council housing, looking at both individual houses and larger blocks with communal areas. PVs on larger blocks could provide electricity to help power lighting, laundries and lifts in communal areas.</p> | <p>Details of programme to be confirmed, and preparations made, during 2020-21. 11,294 individual houses and 1,545 larger blocks potentially eligible. Estimated CO₂ savings of 16,000t potentially available from PVs on individual houses, with estimated saving of £150 per year to tenants on energy bills. Potential CO₂ savings from larger blocks to be confirmed.</p> | <p>2020/21 (feasibility and planning) Planned implementation from 2021/22 subject to economic climate in the wake of COVID-19. Completion of full programme 3-5 years subject to funding.</p> | Housing |
| 2.10 | <p>Private rented housing – energy efficiency and affordable heating Continue to enforce national minimum standards for energy efficiency and affordable heating of private rented housing and consult on the introduction of a Selective Licensing</p> | <p>Where enforcement is undertaken the benefits can be reduced fuel poverty, improved health of tenants, improved property condition and reduced carbon emissions.</p> | <p>Enforcement work: ongoing Consultation: 2020/21</p> | Environmental Health |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|--|-----------|----------------|
| | Scheme for parts of the city that have a high proportion of privately rented properties in poor condition. | | | |
| 2.11 | <p>Leicester's Warm Home Scheme – heating and insulation upgrades</p> <p>Continue to run this scheme to help vulnerable residents by replacing faulty or broken heating appliances and improving insulation levels. By fitting energy efficiency measures, there will be savings in energy usage, lower heating bills and a reduction in carbon emissions.</p> | Projected 120 residential properties will be improved by replacing old, faulty or broken boilers, old storage heaters and fitting/upgrading insulation. The scheme will save at least 312t CO ₂ per year. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |

3. Travel and transport

Many of the travel and transport actions will be delivered through more than one funding programme. The following key is used in the timescale column to indicate which funding programmes are delivering each action:

- *1 – European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Low Carbon Transport Accelerator Programme
- *2 – Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 1
- *3 – Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2
- *4 – National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF)
- *5 – Department for Transport (DfT) / Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) Joint Air Quality Unit
- *6 – Local Access Fund
- *7 – Clean Bus Technology Fund
- *8 – Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) On-Street Residential Charging Scheme (ORCS)

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|---|---|--------------------|
| 3.01 | COVID-19 Transport Recovery Plan including cycling and walking pop-up programme A co-ordinated recovery strategy across all transport areas and a rapidly deployed programme of cycling and walking pop-up schemes delivering road-space reallocation, light segregation and pavement widening in local shopping centres. | Publish COVID-19 Recovery Plan. Deliver 19km pop-up cycleway and 6,000m ² pop-up footway. | Recovery Plan: May 2020 Pop-ups: April – July 2020 | Transport Strategy |
| 3.02 | Cycling and walking Delivery of safe, high quality cycling and walking infrastructure – expanding and connecting existing provision across the city. | 24km of new cycleway. 3,500m ² of new and improved urban realm / pedestrian areas. | 2019/20 – 2023/24 (*3;*4) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.03 | Cycling and walking – e-bike hire Deliver e-bike hire scheme. | 500 bikes / 50 docking stations. 525,000 trips per annum. 2.5 million km per annum. | 2020 (*2) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.04 | Cycling and walking – Street Design Guide Completion of new, updated design guide for use by council and developers. | Published – June 2020. | 2020 | Transport Strategy |
| 3.05 | Public transport – park and ride New Park and Ride site at Beaumont Leys. | 350 spaces. 30,000 passengers per annum. 118,000km car travel saved per annum. | 2019/20 – 2023/24 (*3;*4) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.06 | Public transport – bus lanes New bus lanes and bus priority measures. | 11.1km of bus lane. 12 local bus priority measures. Improved journey times and service reliability. | 2019/20 – 2023/24 (*3;*4) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.07 | Public transport – bus services and schedules Improved and rationalised bus services and schedules on key routes with targeted ticketing initiatives forming the basis of future delivery of a proposed branded “Metro” bus network covering key city routes. | 4 key corridors / 40 km rationalised routes. Patronage increase of 1,163,000 trips per annum. | 2019/20 – 2023/24 (*2;*3) | Transport Strategy |

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|------|--|--|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 3.08 | Public transport – bus engine standards Euro VI standard engines as a minimum across the Leicester Bus fleet. | 218 engine retrofits. 100 % Euro VI compliance. | 2018/19 – 2020/21 (*7) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.09 | Public transport – ULEV grants Grants to encourage uptake of ULEVs / hybrid in taxis and fleets | £1.4 million grants for low carbon vehicle upgrades. | 2019/20 to 2021/22 (*1) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.10 | Public transport – park and ride electrification Electrification of park and ride sites. | 3 park and ride conversions. 13 electric buses. 82,000km travelled per annum. | 2020-21 (*2 and 3) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.11 | Public transport – electric shuttle bus City centre electric shuttle bus. | 3 electric buses. 90,000km per annum travelled. | 2020/21 to 2023/24 (*3) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.12 | Public transport – smart bus ticketing | Integrated multi-operator contactless ticketing. Reduced boarding times / faster journeys. Improved transport connectivity. Increased patronage (supports action 3.07). | 2020/21 to 2023/24 (*3) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.13 | Public transport – information signs Smart “Live Bus” information signs. | 500 new signs. Improve quality of bus service and passenger experience. Increase patronage (supports action 3.07). | 2020/21 to 2023/24 (*3) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.14 | Behavioural change – business engagement Business engagement: promoting sustainable transport within businesses and delivering personal travel planning. | 59 businesses engaged. 11,000 targeted personal travel planning (PTP) contacts with predicted 26% participation rate. | 2019/20 to 2021/22 (*1) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.15 | Behavioural change – schools engagement Promoting sustainable transport through engagement with schools. | 80 schools engaged per annum. | 2019/20 – 2021/22 (*6) | Transport Strategy |

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| 3.16 | Behavioural change – adult cycle training | 170 adults trained per annum. | 2019/20 – 2021/22 (*6) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.17 | Behavioural change – BikeAbility BikeAbility – delivering cycle training in primary schools. | 50 schools engaged. 2,500 pupils trained per annum. | 2019/20 – 2021/22 (*6) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.18 | Network management and enforcement – bus lane cameras Maximising the potential and sustainability of our existing transport network through appropriate traffic regulation and enforcement. Bus lane enforcement cameras. | Additional 8 installed. Improved bus journey times and service reliability. | 2019/20 – 2023/24 (*3;*4) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.19 | Network management and enforcement – parking enforcement Increased parking enforcement. | Reduced delay and congestion. | Ongoing | Transport Strategy |
| 3.20 | Network management and enforcement – red routes Roll-out of a programme of Red Routes to improve bus journey times and service reliability. | 8km of red route. Improved bus journey times and service reliability. Increased patronage. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Transport Strategy |
| 3.21 | Network management and enforcement – 20mph zones Rolling programme of area-based 20mph schemes incorporating traffic calming and road safety improvements where appropriate. | 28km streets treated per annum. Approximately 125 streets per annum. | Ongoing | Transport Strategy |
| 3.22 | Workplace parking levy Consult on the introduction of a levy on workplace parking designed to promote sustainable travel choices and provide a ring-fenced funding stream to invest in a range of sustainable travel projects and initiatives. | Consultation completed and results analysed. Decision on whether to proceed. | 2020/23 – scheme development 2023 onwards – live | Transport Strategy |
| 3.23 | Air quality Package of air quality improvement measures to meet EU NO ₂ targets. (Package also expected to deliver carbon savings.) | <i>Outcomes to be confirmed following decision by government's Joint Air Quality Unit.</i> Possibilities include an EV grant scheme and a Clean Air Zone with vehicle charging. | 2020/2021 to 2021/22 | Transport Strategy |

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|------|--|---|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 3.24 | Air quality – Clean Air Day | Engage 10 schools per annum. | Ongoing | Transport Strategy |
| 3.25 | Air quality – Eco Schools air quality education | Engage 25 schools per annum in Healthier Air Awards scheme. 10 schools per annum promote Switch Off Your Engine campaign. 13,000 contacts with children/adults/teachers across multiple events per annum. | Ongoing | Transport Strategy |
| 3.26 | PV panels fitted to Newarke St and Haymarket car parks and St Margaret's Bus Station | 150t CO ₂ saved per annum. | 2019/20 to 2021/22 (*1) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.27 | EV charge points installed off street and in high-density residential areas | 127 charge points (various types and locations). | 2019/20 to 2021/22 (*1;*8) | Transport Strategy |
| 3.28 | Vehicle to Grid – demonstration project to feed excess EV battery power back into City Hall network. | Minimum of 2 charge point feeds. | 2020/21 | Transport Strategy |

4. Consumer choices and waste

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|---|-------------------|------------------|
| 4.01 | 'Metal Matters' recycling campaign Deliver a communications campaign focusing on recycling of metals. The Metal Matters campaign aims to increase the capture of recyclable metals in the orange recycling bags and communal bins. Recycling metal helps saves energy and reduce carbon emissions in comparison to producing items from virgin materials. | Delivery of two leaflets to all households (circa 138,000) in Leicester and a media campaign. | 2020/21 – 2021/22 | Waste Management |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|---|-------------------|------------------|
| 4.02 | <p>Organic waste Promotion of organic waste reduction at home, through home composting.</p> | Continue the provision of discounted compost bins to Leicester residents and support local providers to encourage the use of home composting and provide workshops to support residents. | 2020/21 | Waste Management |
| 4.03 | <p>Reuse shop The development of the Reuse shop and Reuse shop contract with a third-sector partner to maximise the reuse and recycling of items donated for the social benefit of Leicester residents.</p> | The new concession contract agreed and signed, prior to the end of the current contract. Completion of the proposed extension to the Reuse shop. This includes the final design, planning and construction of the extension. | 2020/21 | Waste Management |
| 4.04 | <p>Recycling improvement project for flats Deliver phase 1 and phase 2 of this project, which supports residents to improve segregation of recyclable from non-recyclable materials, focusing on flats with persistent contamination issues. The project will look for new and innovative ways to help engage residents, increase recycling and reduce contamination in the recycling bins. Reducing contamination is key to ensure that good recycling can be processed and not rejected, this will in turn help reduce carbon emissions.</p> | Phase 1: Complete roll out of new bin solutions and communications to 4 locations and monitor to determine the success of the project. Phase 2: Complete roll out of new bin solutions and communications to 4 locations including 2 student properties and monitor to determine the success of the project. | 2020/21 | Waste Management |
| 4.05 | <p>Communications campaign to improve segregation of recyclable materials Develop a multi-stream media campaign to educate and engage residents about why it is important to put the right waste in the right bin. This will focus on key contaminants that residents often get wrong.</p> | Delivery of a communications campaign to raise awareness of contamination issues in recycling. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Waste Management |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|-------------------|---|
| 4.06 | Waste and Recycling Strategy Development of a new waste and recycling strategy for Leicester. Supported by investigation into potential options for the development of the services provided and how these will link to the new government strategy and legislation. | New Leicester City waste and recycling strategy completed. | 2022/23 | Waste Management |
| 4.07 | Waste and recycling advice for developers Produce updated planning advice to help better support the planning process and ensure residents have access to appropriate waste and recycling facilities. | Updated planning advice completed. | 2020/21 | Waste Management |
| 4.08 | Influence on future waste policy Lobby central Government to provide the policy framework and resourcing needed to substantially reduce waste, and to scale up reuse, recycling and composting, consistent with the need for rapid decarbonisation in a climate emergency. | Press our case, where possible with like-minded local authorities, via national forums including LARAC (Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee) and NAWDO (National Associations of Waste Disposal Officers), as well as through our responses to relevant national consultations. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Waste Management |
| 4.09 | Public realm drinking water The provision of free refill points across the city centre. | The provision of 10 x bottle refill stations within our highly used public realm spaces and the advertising of these through the national Refill scheme. This includes two points within our bus stations. | 2020/21 | Capital Projects |
| 4.10 | Food for Life award – communications plan A communications plan to be developed in conjunction with Food for Life and Education Catering to promote the positive aspects of the Silver “Food for Life Served Here” award recently achieved by Education Catering to parents, schools, the council and the wider community. | Communications plan implemented, widening awareness of the environmental and other benefits of the measures implemented to gain the award. | 2020/21 | Food for Life Partnership supported by Education Catering |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|-----------|--|
| 4.11 | School meals Create a strategy and project plan to seek funding for a programme of climate emergency actions for school meals. Project to cover food and packaging waste, energy use and engagement with pupils, parents and other stakeholders to look at opportunities for more plant-based meals. | A detailed strategy and project plan is completed, which can be used to seek funding, including associated officer time. | 2020/21 | Sustainability with Education Catering and Public Health |

5. At work

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|---|---|-------------------|--|
| 5.01 | Green BELLE – SME support programme Deliver phase 2 of the programme to support small and medium-sized businesses with measures to save energy, cut costs and reduce carbon emissions. As part of the project, identify SME tenants in the council's Business Centres and Estate Shops who could apply to the scheme. | 200 SMEs supported and 1,400t CO ₂ e per annum being saved by project end. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Sustainability |
| 5.02 | Growth Hub – business gateway Provide a single point of contact through the business gateway for companies to access support and advice. Direct enquiries about carbon reduction, energy saving, waste and other climate-related issues on to appropriate sources of help such as Green BELLE. | Businesses will have a straightforward way of accessing support on low carbon and related issues. Numbers of referrals of low carbon enquiries to be monitored and reported. | 2020/21 | LLEP (responsible for delivery) Economic Development in the city council (accountable body for the project) |
| 5.03 | Growth Hub – business workshops Address climate change issues and opportunities for businesses, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, | Numbers of businesses attending climate-related workshops to be monitored and reported. | 2020/21 | LLEP (responsible for delivery) Economic Development in |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|-------------------|---|
| | resource efficiency and waste reduction in the Growth Hub programme of workshops. | | | the city council (accountable body for the project) |
| 5.04 | Pilot House re-development Redevelopment of a complex of former factory buildings to create much-needed low-carbon office space and units for start-up and growing businesses. | To achieve a 'Very Good' BREEAM rating for the scheme and utilise the existing district heating system as an efficient heating source. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Capital Projects |
| 5.05 | Ian Marlow Centre redevelopment Explore redevelopment options for the former Ian Marlow Centre as future employment use, focusing on fabric performance and sustainable energy generation throughout the specification. | Decision to redevelop Ian Marlow Centre. Feasibility study with preferred option identified. Enter into development agreement. Development on site to commence within 12 months of entering development agreement. | 2020/21 – 2021/22 | Development Team |
| 5.06 | Climate emergency plans for local organisations Engage with local businesses and organisations of all types and sizes to encourage them to develop their own action plans for the climate emergency. This includes providing guidance on how small organisations can do so and developing a space online to share and publicise plans. | Action plans from the business sector, the public sector, the education sector and voluntary and community organisations will be produced and published. | 2020/21 – 2021/22 | Sustainability |

6. Land use, green space and development

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| 6.01 | <p>Local Plan Completion of the Local Plan consultation process and adoption of Leicester's new Local Plan. This process will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a public consultation on the draft Local Plan and any major changes/revisions to this draft. - submission of the draft Local Plan to the Secretary of State and Planning Inspectorate. - an Independent Public Examination of the draft Local Plan - adoption of the new Local Plan by Full Council. <p>The adopted Local Plan will include policies relating to the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, including those covering Climate Change and Flooding, The Natural Environment and Transportation.</p> | An adopted new local plan for Leicester City Council. The city council will consider strengthening policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. However, this is dependent on consultation responses, emerging evidence, national policy changes, and the outcomes of the Independent Public Examination. | 2020/21 – 2021/22 | Planning Policy |
| 6.02 | <p>Local Plan – Sustainable Construction Policy evidence base Produce technical evidence which considers strengthening policies relating to sustainable design and construction for new developments. This will look at energy and water efficiency standards for new residential and commercial developments in Leicester's new local plan. The evidence and policy formulation will need to take into account recent and expected changes to government policy, in particular its response to the recently concluded Future Homes Consultation, which will have a very significant effect upon building efficiency standards policy.</p> | Technical evidence published, with findings used to inform the sustainable construction and design policy proposed in the next public consultation of the draft local plan. | 2020/21 | Planning Policy |
| 6.03 | <p>Local Plan – Strategic Sites Ensure large strategic sites proposed in the new local plan, and owned by Leicester City Council, contribute towards mitigating and adapting to climate change. This includes early</p> | Evidence presented at Local Plan Examination and appropriate site allocations included in the new Local Plan. When the sites are later developed | 2020/2021 – 2021/2022 | Development Team |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | consideration of opportunities to incorporate appropriate landscaping, tree planting and biodiversity protection and enhancement (either on or off site). | (subject to planning permission), development addresses climate change and other sustainability requirements of the Local Plan, and includes appropriate new tree planting, green space creation and biodiversity protection and enhancement (either on or off site). | | |
| 6.04 | Ashton Green – low carbon homes Secure, as part of future land sales, a scheme of low carbon homes at Ashton Green. | Developer to be appointed for scheme at Ashton Green achieving performance above the equivalent of level 4 of the former Code for Sustainable Homes. | 2021/22 – 2022/23 | Development Team |
| 6.05 | Low carbon regeneration scheme Design and develop an exemplar low-carbon, social housing led regeneration scheme on land owned by the council in the North West Leicester Regeneration Area. | Site to be identified and planning application to be submitted within 18-24 months. | 2021/22 – 2022/23 | Development Team |
| 6.06 | Western Park low carbon housing scheme Secure a sustainable housing development on land sold by the council at Western Park. | Up to 20 new homes built to an exemplar standard of sustainable construction and energy efficiency, with renewable heating systems. | 2020/21 (Planning Application) | Asset Strategy with Sustainability |
| 6.07 | Continued professional development (CPD) – low carbon solutions Develop our understanding of modern methods of construction and existing market solutions for low carbon development. | Workshop to be held 2021/22 with relevant attendees and speakers to highlight best practice nationally and promote further knowledge across the council including relevant site visits. | 2021/22 | Development Team |
| 6.08 | District heating – network extension Enable / sponsor network extension projects through regular liaison with the University of Leicester, Leicester Royal Infirmary, other One Public Estate partners and the Strategic Partnering Board. | Carbon savings / efficiencies to be identified project by project. | 2020/21 – 2022/2023 | Contract Management Team |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
|------|--|--|------------------------------|--|
| 6.09 | <p>District heating – future decarbonisation Secure proposals from ENGIE for future decarbonisation of the LDEC network.</p> | District Heating Strategy completed and endorsed by the council, University of Leicester and ENGIE. | Q2 2021 | Contract Management Team with Sustainability Service |
| 6.10 | <p>District heating – ‘green gas’ Review the feasibility and benefits of utilising ‘green gas’ to generate hot water in the district heating network, taking into account affordability for the heat poor.</p> | The review will identify the potential level of carbon savings, as well as other benefits and implications. | 2022/2023 | Contract Management Team |
| 6.11 | <p>Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Technical Guide Approve and adopt the Technical Guide for SuDS (sustainable urban drainage schemes). Actively work alongside and support developers to ensure that the new guide is implemented.</p> | Increased number of SuDS implemented as part of developments coming through planning. | 2020/21 – guide adopted. | Planning with Flood Risk and Drainage Team |
| 6.12 | <p>Sustainable drainage – new developments Respond to planning applications for all new developments, including single dwellings and large extensions, promoting the use of sustainable drainage. For development on brownfield sites, encourage measures to achieve a 50% reduction in runoff.</p> | <p>All relevant applications to be examined and all to include appropriate sustainable drainage measures in the design before a recommendation for approval is made. Effectiveness of this work to be reviewed annually. Outcome: Reduce the risk of flooding to properties downstream of new developments, improve water quality and provide biodiversity improvements.</p> | Ongoing, with annual review. | Flood Risk and Drainage Team |
| 6.13 | <p>Flood risk assets Maintain a register of flood risk assets, to help ensure that they are maintained and protected.</p> | Provide a publicly available register. | Ongoing, with annual review. | Flood Risk and Drainage Team |
| 6.14 | <p>Drainage system mapping Map and record all Ordinary Watercourses and sustainable drainage systems to ensure that they are protected from</p> | Obtain a comprehensive understanding of the natural drainage systems operating across the city. | Ongoing, with annual review. | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, with Parks and Open Spaces and |

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| | removal or damage that may reduce their effectiveness in reducing flood risk. | | | Transport Strategy. |
| 6.15 | Climate change cost-benefit assessments of flood measures Introduce a process to consider the wider carbon costs or benefits, such as the 'embodied' carbon emissions from construction materials, when planning and delivering flood risk management schemes. | Whole-life carbon emissions from schemes are minimised. | Process introduced in 2020/21 and used thereafter. | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, and other partners involved with the projects. |
| 6.16 | Leicester Royal Infirmary – surface water flood alleviation scheme Undertake a feasibility study for the scheme. | Study will identify the expected reduction in the number of properties at risk from flooding following the scheme. | 2020/21 | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, working with Leicester Royal Infirmary and Severn Trent Water. |
| 6.17 | Western Park strategic sustainable urban drainage scheme (SuDS) Undertake a feasibility study for the scheme. | Study will identify the expected reduction in the number of properties at risk from flooding following the scheme. | 2020/21 | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, working with Parks and Open Spaces and Severn Trent Water. |
| 6.18 | Gilroes Brook flood alleviation scheme Undertake a feasibility study for the scheme. | Study will identify the expected reduction in the number of properties at risk from flooding following the scheme. | 2022/23 | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, working with Parks and Open Spaces and Severn Trent Water. |

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| 6.19 | <p>Hol Brook flood alleviation scheme Undertake a feasibility study for the scheme.</p> | Study will identify the expected reduction in the number of properties at risk from flooding following the scheme. | 2021/22 | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, working with Severn Trent Water and Leicestershire County Council. |
| 6.20 | <p>Evington Brook flood storage area Undertake a feasibility study for the scheme.</p> | Study will identify the expected reduction in the number of properties at risk from flooding following the scheme. | 2020/21 | Flood Risk and Drainage Team working with the Leicestershire Golf Club and Severn Trent Water. |
| 6.21 | <p>Flood mitigation measures – River Soar corridor Work with stakeholders and partners such as the Environment Agency to support strategic interventions to further mitigate flooding within the city. Continue work to deliver the scheme at Everards Meadows as part of the ongoing programme of environmental improvements along the River Soar to increase flood capacity, reducing flood risk and increasing biodiversity along the riverside. Identify and seek additional funding to further this programme of work.</p> | Evidence of funding bids. 3 schemes; significant wetlands (Aylestone Meadows phase 2, Everards Meadow, 1 other). Properties protected from flooding. | 2020/21 delivery of existing schemes and programme 2021/22 onwards – funding bids | Development Team, with Planning (Nature Conservation) and Flood and Drainage. |
| 6.22 | <p>Property-level flood action plans Provide information and support to help local businesses and residents become more resilient to flood events by developing their own flood action plans.</p> | More properties and businesses with their own flood action plans. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Flood Risk and Drainage Team, working with Communications Team and Emergency Management. |

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| 6.23 | <p>Schools workshops about the water environment Community engagement through Eco Schools and the “Sea Starts Here” campaign. Deliver workshops and projects in schools to increase awareness about the impacts of climate change, litter and waste (in particular single use plastics) on the water environment, and what we can do to protect it.</p> | <p>Delivery of presentations and stencilling workshops to between 20 – 40 schools. Collaboration with DMU Local to deliver the presentations and workshops.</p> | <p>2020/2021 - 2021/2022</p> | <p>Flood Risk and Drainage Team working with DMU Local and the Environmental Education Co-ordinator in Sustainability.</p> |
| 6.24 | <p>Planning – Green Infrastructure Use existing, or introduce new, planning policies that encourage the provision of green infrastructure and maximising the benefits it has to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate. Applying these policies in discussions and negotiations on relevant planning applications as part of the development management, and compliance and monitoring regimes, where appropriate.</p> | <p>Continued use of existing planning policies and adopted new planning policies, via the new local plan process, which promote the provision and benefits of green infrastructure for new and existing developments. This will lead to measures including new tree planting, landscaping, green space creation and enhancement, sustainable drainage schemes and protection and enhancement of biodiversity.</p> | <p>2020/2021 – 2021/2022</p> | <p>Planning</p> |
| 6.25 | <p>Planning – Biodiversity Take opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment in ways that mitigate and adapt to a changing climate. This involves updating guidance relating to climate change as part of the new biodiversity action plan, and, following the details of the forthcoming Environmental Bill, an approach to achieving a net gain in biodiversity using the planning process, which includes new policies and protection/enhancement sites in the new local plan.</p> | <p>Adopted new planning guidance, policies and sites that protect and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment, in ways that also contribute towards mitigating and adapting to a changing climate.</p> | <p>2020/2021 – 2021/2022</p> | <p>Planning</p> |

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| 6.26 | <p>Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) Seek to retain TPO trees within applicable powers and guidance, or secure appropriate replacements should their loss be justifiable.</p> | Optimised consideration of Tree Preservation Orders to contribute to maintaining the city tree stock. | 2020/21 – 2022/23 | Planning Development Management |
| 6.27 | <p>Volunteer Tree Wardens Develop and introduce a new scheme to recruit and train volunteer Tree Wardens, to aid tree inspections, reporting and monitoring of tree stock.</p> | 15 wardens recruited and achieved Lantra tree survey and inspection qualification. Increased frequency of visual tree surveys and inspections, leading to improved monitoring of tree pests and presence of disease, and improved communication and reporting of tree stock concerns by the public. | 2020/21 (Launch and recruitment) Ongoing scheme operation | Parks and Open Spaces |
| 6.28 | <p>Climate woodland Identify suitable locations and tree species for mass tree and hedge planting to create new 'climate woodland' in the city. Explore opportunities to partner with academic experts to monitor the climate, biodiversity and other benefits of the woodland as it develops. Also investigate how planting could be funded.</p> | Agreed location/s for additional tree planting, available when funding is identified. Engage in partnership agreement with an academic institution. | 2020/21 to 2021/22 | Parks and Open Spaces, working with Trees and Woodlands, Conservation and Sustainability through a working group |
| 6.29 | <p>Tree planting in school grounds Develop a project proposal with Trees for Cities to implement tree planting opportunities in school grounds.</p> | Project proposal completed ready to seek funding. | 2020/21 | Sustainability |
| 6.30 | <p>Bee Roads project Deliver a programme of wildflower planting and maintenance to increase the value of the city's road verges for pollinators and biodiversity. In so doing, to support species, some of which may be under increased threat as a result of climate change.</p> | To increase the percentage of the city's roadside verges managed for biodiversity by 10% per annum to create additional habitat areas along roadside verges. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Planning and Parks and Open Spaces |

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| 6.31 | Healthy Cities Summit Deliver an international Healthy Cities Summit in Leicester showcasing Leicester Public Realm Improvements. Highlighting Connecting Leicester and best practice in Street Design Guidance, Bike Share and low-carbon solutions. | Over 500 delegates and presentations from national and international experts. | 2020/21 | Transport Strategy |

7. The council

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| 7.01 | Carbon neutral roadmap for the council Develop a 'roadmap' of actions which could reduce the council's carbon emissions from its estate and operations, to enable us to be carbon neutral by or before 2030. | Version 1 of roadmap completed by March 2021, then used to seek funding and plan programmes of decarbonisation work. | 2020/21 (roadmap developed) 2021/22 onwards - used to plan work. | Sustainability, working with a number of other sections of the council. |
| 7.02 | Energy surveys - operational estate Undertake a full suite of energy surveys to establish the energy and carbon saving potential and identify actions. | Surveys will enable low carbon investment to be effectively targeted to decarbonise the estate. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Operations, EBS |
| 7.03 | Carbon savings from planned and responsive maintenance - operational estate Develop a policy and process, based on the energy hierarchy, to respond to energy and carbon reduction opportunities in the planned and responsive maintenance programme, taking account of energy survey results. | The Hard FM team will have an agreed policy and process. Implementation will contribute to energy and carbon reduction to meet targets for the operational estate. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Operations, working with Sustainability |
| 7.04 | Agile working Create new 'touchdown spaces' across the council's operational estate and introduce mobile technology to enable | Reduced carbon emissions from staff journeys by ensuring works can be undertaken from site. Reduction in mileage and carbon emission from staff | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Operations, EBS |

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| | staff to work between site visits and meetings without the need to travel back-to-base. | vehicles. Lesser requirement for office space. Agile working to become the expected norm. | | |
| 7.05 | Training programme for Estates and Building Services Develop and implement a programme of training for EBS staff. Training to include carbon and climate adaptation implications of EBS services, opportunities through different job roles and low carbon technologies and standards as relevant to each service area. Training to include industry best practice guidance and materials. | All staff in the division understand the contribution they can make to addressing the climate emergency. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Operations and Strategy and Business Management, EBS |
| 7.06 | Minor works energy efficiency measures Works with a total value of £1.8m to replace heating systems, boiler controls and windows at the following schools and children's homes: Alderman Richard Hallam, Avenue Primary School, Barleycroft Primary School, Evington Valley Primary School, Herrick Primary School, Linden Primary School, Marriott Primary School, Rolleston Primary School, Spinney Hill Primary School, St Barnabas Primary School, Wolsey House Primary School, Beaumont Lodge Primary School, Caldecote Primary School, Ellesmere College, Evington Valley Primary School, Fosse Primary School, Inglehurst Infant School, Netherhall Children's Home, Shaftesbury Junior School. | Energy and carbon savings to be monitored post-installation. | 2020/21 - 2021/22 Window replacements expected to take place summer 2021. | Hard FM |
| 7.07 | Climate Emergency Schools Capital Fund Deliver a holistic £400k capital investment programme to reduce energy use and generate renewable energy, including solar panels (PVs) and LED lighting replacement, supported by Salix Finance. | At least 15 schools supported, generating a saving of at least 500t CO ₂ e per year. | 2020/21 - 2021/22 | Sustainability with Hard FM |
| 7.08 | Built Environment Services for Schools (BESS) Energy Expand this school support programme to provide behavioural | At least 15 schools annually to be supported, saving on average 30t CO ₂ e per year. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Sustainability with Soft FM and Hard FM |

| No. | Action | Outcomes Expected | Timescale | Responsibility |
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| | support to reduce energy use, cut costs and reduce carbon emissions in more schools. | | | |
| 7.09 | Power to Change – Next Generation Support Green Fox Community Energy Cooperative to create and deliver an innovative, holistic business model to provide an ultra-low carbon solution for schools, working with the Attenborough Learning Trust Multi-Academy Trust. | Within the 2 years of the project deliver the business model and associated capital investment. | 2020/21 - 2021/22 | Sustainability |
| 7.10 | Climate toolkit for capital projects Develop and implement a procedure, guidance and targets to address climate change in all capital projects. To include: - procedure and guidance for assessing the climate implications and carbon reduction options for any capital project, based on the Energy Hierarchy. - corporate minimum requirements for carbon reduction and energy efficiency, and aspirational target(s) to be considered, at a whole building level. - Authority's Requirements: where appropriate, technical standards and minimum requirements for individual building components and construction/demolition activities. | Toolkit applied to all projects. Options for appropriate carbon reduction and climate adaptation options to meet corporate targets are provided to decision-makers for all relevant projects prior to approval. Enhanced levels of carbon reduction, and climate resilience measures where necessary, are delivered to put the council on course to achieve its overall climate emergency goals. | 2020/21 | Sustainability with Capital Programmes, Capital Projects, Development Team and Housing |
| 7.11 | Capital projects programme management - climate considerations at gateway stages Build in a requirement to use the climate toolkit to address climate implications in each capital project from the outset, ensuring that proposals cannot progress to approval without proper consideration of carbon reduction, based on the Energy Hierarchy, as well as climate adaptation opportunities and requirements – with appropriate measures costed and confirmed to meet agreed targets and performance standards. | Capital projects gateway process amended. Climate considerations explicitly addressed, with measures agreed, for all projects being submitted for approval. | 2020/21 | Sustainability with Capital Programmes, Capital Projects, Development Team and Housing |
| 7.12 | Capital projects - carbon tracker Develop and implement a system for recording carbon reduction and climate adaptation targets and measures agreed | Carbon tracker to be developed and introduced, enabling improved management of climate measures and | 2020/21 | Sustainability with Capital Programmes, |

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| | for all capital projects and council-supported development schemes, and for tracking their progress to implementation - enabling oversight of climate outcomes by managers and senior decision-makers. | outcomes, and prioritisation of resources, across all programmes. | | Capital Projects, Development Team and Housing |
| 7.13 | Oaklands School expansion Oaklands expansion to be put forward as a net zero building. | Low carbon building leading to CO ₂ savings. | 2022/23 | Capital Programmes |
| 7.14 | Demolition of Goscote House Achieve a high recycling rate for demolition waste from this project to reduce the climate and environmental impact. | 80% recycling target met for demolition waste. | 2022/23 | Capital Programmes |
| 7.15 | Demolition of 12-20 Cank Street/Market Square Achieve a high recycling rate for demolition waste from this project, to reduce the climate and environmental impact. | 80% recycling target met for demolition waste. | 2022/23 | Capital Programmes |
| 7.16 | Public Lighting Replace 562 illuminated traffic bollards (which are on the council's cable network) with non-illuminated reflective self-righting bollards at an estimated cost of £98,500. | Annual energy reduction of 110,000kWh saving 30.5t CO ₂ e and £15,800 per annum | 2020/21 | Public Lighting |
| 7.17 | Traffic signals Retrofit of traffic signals with LEDs to reduce electricity consumption and carbon emissions at an estimated cost of £150,000. | Annual electricity consumption to reduce by 67,000kWh, saving 18.6t CO ₂ e per annum. | 2020/21 | Traffic management Service (Area Traffic Control) |
| 7.18 | Business Travel Policy Introduce a Business Travel Policy, which includes the aim of minimising the environmental impact of business travel by the council. | Policy implemented from 2020-21. Carbon emissions from business travel reduced by applying the 'travel hierarchy' to favour zero or low-emissions options wherever possible. | 2020/21 | Human Resources with Fleet Service |
| 7.19 | Council fleet - introduction of ultra-low emission vehicles Continue to decarbonise our fleet, purchasing 19 new electric cars, vans and scooters in 2020/21. 15 will replace existing, mainly diesel, vehicles while 4 are additions to the fleet and | 19 new electric fleet vehicles. Estimated carbon savings to be confirmed. Dependent on any potential extended lead times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. | 2020/21 | Fleet Service |

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| | are expected to mainly replace staff travel in their own cars. The replacement programme will continue year on year. | | | |
| 7.20 | Electric vehicle charging - council fleet Plan for and install EV charge points in the operational estate to enable charging of EVs in the council fleet. | Forward plan developed in consultation with the Fleet Service – will identify numbers and locations of charge points needed. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Operations, EBS |
| 7.21 | Grounds maintenance machinery Trial a selection of electric battery-powered grass mowing machines and hand-held machinery including: strimmers, leaf blowers and hedge cutters. We will complete an analysis of their capability and costs, to decide whether they currently offer a viable option to replace our petrol hand-held machinery. If the trial is a success, we will begin replacing the rest of our hand-held machinery over a 4-year period from 2021/22. | Confirm whether electric battery-powered equipment is yet good enough to replace our petrol fuelled machinery and enable a replacement programme to go ahead if it is. Potential carbon savings to be confirmed by the trial. | Trial in 2020/21. Replacement programme over 4 years from 2021/22 if viable. | Parks and Open Spaces |
| 7.22 | Grassland Strategy – relaxed mowing Increase the area of mature grassland under a 'relaxed mowing' regime (fewer cuts per season), to improve biodiversity while reducing carbon emissions from the use of grounds maintenance machinery. | Increase from 39 to 50 hectares of grassland under relaxed mowing regime. Reduction in fuel use and carbon emissions to be identified from annual monitoring. Biodiversity benefits also expected, along with possibly a small extra amount of carbon sequestered. | From 2020/21 | Parks and Open Spaces |
| 7.23 | EBS Operations – supply chain decarbonisation Use the procurement process and supplier engagement to drive down carbon emissions and waste from services provided by external suppliers and from goods, based on the council's Sustainable Procurement Guidance and Social Value Charter. | Carbon emissions and waste reduction and recycling information to be provided by suppliers, monitored by Estates and Building Services, and reported. | 2020/21 - 2022/23 | Contracts and Business Development |

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| 7.24 | <p>Workplace Waste Strategy Develop a strategy to drive down waste from corporate offices which goes to landfill by applying the waste hierarchy: reduce, reuse, recycle/compost, then energy-from-waste. Look at when zero waste-to-landfill could be achieved.</p> | <p>Completion and approval of strategy. Ongoing reductions in waste to landfill and increasing percentages of waste being reduced, recycled or composted.</p> | <p>Publication in Q4 2020/21.</p> | <p>Operations, EBS</p> |
| 7.25 | <p>Pension Scheme - Responsible Investment Plan Through the city council's representatives on the Leicestershire County Council Local Pension Committee, support steps being taken via the Responsible Investment Plan 2020 to address the climate risks of investments held by the Leicestershire County Council Pension Scheme. Encourage the management of funds to positively influence the approach to climate change being taken with regards to investment decisions.</p> | <p>Implementation of the Responsible Investment Plan 2020. Positive influence on companies in which investments are held by the Pension Scheme, encouraging them to address climate change.</p> | <p>2020/21</p> | <p>Leicester City Council representatives on the Local Pension Committee (jointly with other Committee members)</p> |