



Oxfordshire Response to Climate Emergency

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Climate Action

for a Thriving Oxfordshire



LOCAL ENERGY

SCHOOL

SHARING

BUYING LOCAL

RETROFITTED

GREEN

SMART

ZERO CARBON

HEALTHY LIVING

COMFORTABLE

RESILIENT

WALKING

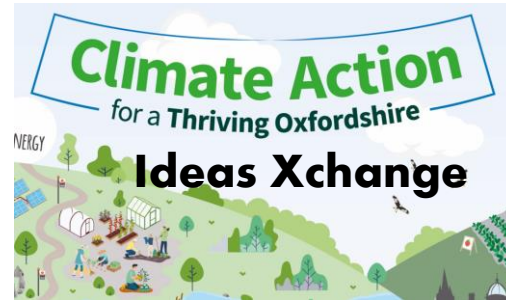
HYDROGEN FUELING STATION

H2

VEHICLE CHARGING



Sphere of control





Areas we directly control



Areas we influence - supply chain



Areas we can support and guide - Schools



Areas we can influence through policy



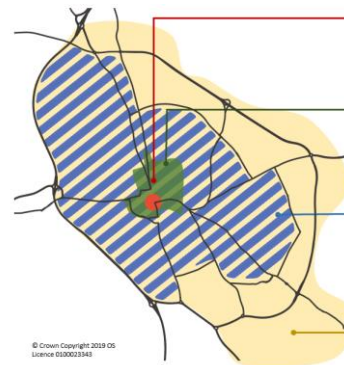
Areas where we can collaborate



Community carbon initiatives



Affordable Warmth
Network





ADEPT CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOPS

- The regional workshops for our members are one strand of ADEPT's climate change work programme.
- Other strands include working with local government and NGO partners, and with Corporate Partners.
- 7 regional workshops January–May 2020 (4 down, 3 to go).
- Input from LGA, Ashden, council case studies, and Greening Campaign community group.



COMMON THEMES

- How to turn a Climate Emergency Declaration into action?
Enthusiasm to learn and share.
- Funding squeeze for Place Services – councils' capacity for sustainability/climate action has reduced.
- Complex marketplace of advice and support for councils.
- Government departments are keen to know what we are doing.

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CHALLENGES

- Scale and pace – moving beyond more case studies to find the things that really have a big impact, and quickly.
- Engaging communities in shaping and delivering local action.
- Identifying the barriers to effective mitigation & adaptation.
- Governance (local) – complexity of tiers, politics within and between organisations.
- Governance (national) – departmentalism, political leadership.

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SOME EMERGING POLICY ASKS

- **Funding** – devolved, streamlined funding for places, and national infrastructure investment to prioritise clean growth and adaptation.
- **Planning and buildings** – all new homes and buildings to be net zero, and a national plan for retrofitting existing properties
- **Transport** – accelerated switch to ULEVs coupled with investment in public transport and active travel to reduce mileage
- **Skills** – a national plan for skills, training people for a low carbon economy, focussed on high carbon places and sectors.



SOME EMERGING POLICY ASKS

- **Natural capital and green infrastructure** – reverse the decline in green infrastructure and biodiversity, invest in natural capital solutions, use these to improve health and wellbeing.

Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy

Paula Hewitt

Lead Director for Economic
and Community Infrastructure
Somerset County Council



11,000 hectares of agricultural land flooded
Over 200 homes under water, some for months





Background

During 2019, all five Somerset Local Authorities declared or recognised a 'Climate Emergency'.

The five authorities have committed to develop a Strategy that will identify ways to make the county of Somerset carbon neutral by 2030.

Goals of the Strategy

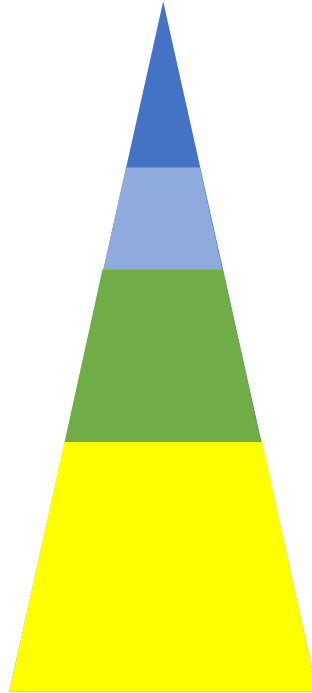
- To decarbonise Local Authority estates and reduce our carbon footprint
- To encourage and support the decarbonisation of the wider Public Sector Estates and reduce its carbon footprint
- To work towards making Somerset carbon neutral by 2030
- To have a Somerset which is prepared for and resilient to the impacts of climate change

Local Authority
ability to influence

HIGH



Low



**GOAL 1
(SHORT-TERM)**

a) To decarbonise Local Authority estates and reduce our carbon footprint

b) To encourage and support the decarbonisation of the wider Public Sector Estates and reduce its carbon footprint.

**GOAL 2
(SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM)**

To work towards making Somerset carbon neutral by 2030.

GOAL 3

To have a Somerset which is prepared for and resilient to the impacts of climate change

Impact Over
Time





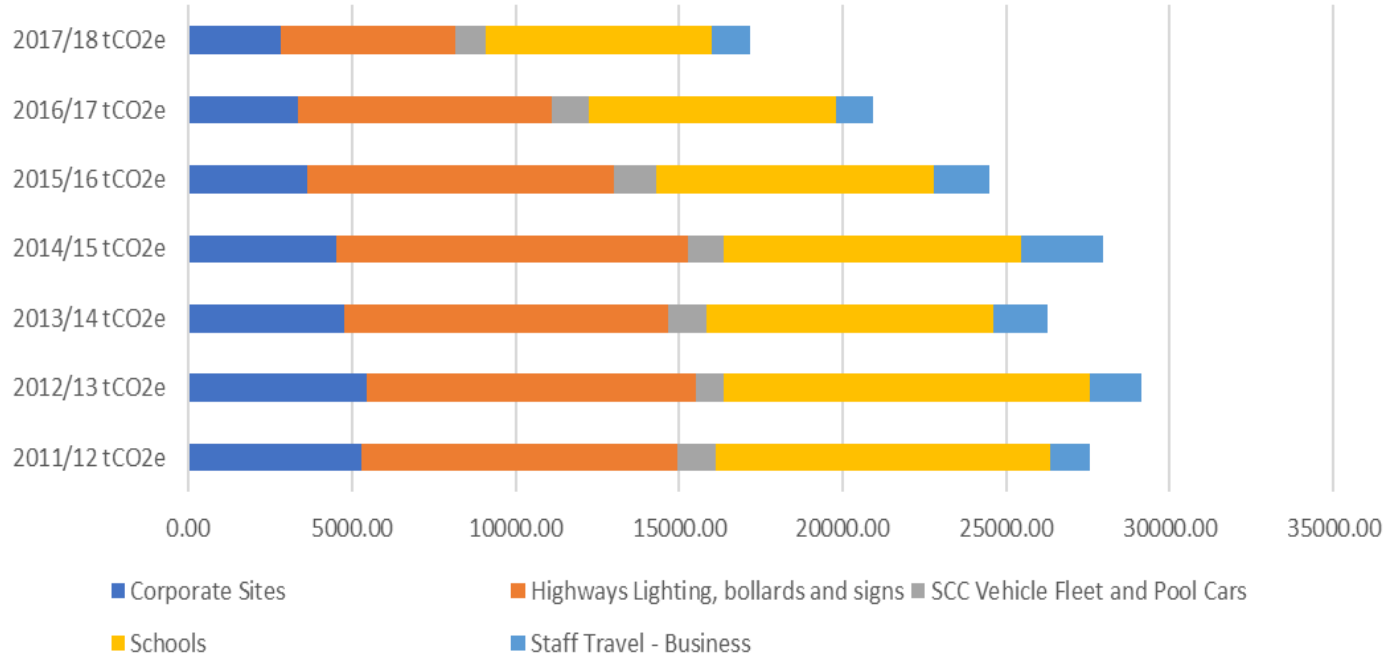
Focus of strategy

- Mitigation – e.g. increasing energy efficiency, phasing out fossil fuels by switching to low-carbon energy sources. Exploring ways to reduce carbon associated with consumption in the county
- Adaptation – taking practical actions to manage risks from climate impacts, protect communities and strengthen the resilience of the economy
- Sequestration - the long-term storage of carbon in plants, soils, geologic formations, and the ocean
- Behaviour change and consumption reduction
- Offset as last resort

Somerset County Council emissions



Emissions performance over time



Workstreams

- Built Environment
- Energy
- Engagement and Communication
- Farming and Food
- Industry, Business and Supply Chain
- Transport
- Natural Environment
- Waste and Resources
- Water

Workstreams focus

- Researching and prioritising key issues
- Developing mitigation and adaptation strategies
- Collaborating wider as appropriate
- Identifying outcomes & actions to deliver the stated Goals of the Strategy
- Evaluating costs, benefits and unintended secondary consequences





Framework Strategy consultation

January – February 2020

- 4,094 adult respondents to the public survey
- 625 respondents to the young people's survey
- Public consultation events
- Business Summit
- Local Nature Partnership reconstituted

Somerset Community Climate Emergency Fund

SCC have announced that £1million will be available for parish, town and city councils to bid for green initiatives in their own areas following last year's Climate Emergency Declaration



Next Steps

- March Draft strategy being developed
- April - May Draft strategy consultation
- April – May Final inputs and data from workstreams to action plans
- June Finalise Strategy and Action Plans
- July Adoption of Final Strategy and action plans by the five Somerset Local Authorities.

More Information:

www.somerset.gov.uk/climate-emergency



Coffee break

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Roundtable discussions

Roundtable discussions

- What are the most effective actions we are taking on our own direct emissions?
- What are the most effective actions we're taking with our council's work?
- What are the biggest barriers to supporting zero carbon and resilient local authority regions?
- How do we ensure/support all councils to make progress on climate change and play a role in delivering net zero? (BEIS)

Roundtable discussion (cont.)

- What are our top 3 policy ‘asks’ of government on adaptation and mitigation?
- Bringing corporate partners and councils together for faster action – what are the future opportunities for working together in places and across sectors? Any common actions ahead of COP26? (Discussion and actions?)
- Bringing partners, councils and government together for faster action – what can we achieve going forward, and what do we need to avoid? (Defra)

**ADEPT Corporate Partner
Climate Change Seminar
12th March 2020**

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