

West Berkshire's Environment Strategy Delivery Plan

This plan sets out the activities and actions that the Council along with its partners will undertake to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Each Strategic Objective has a list of actions and timescales that fit with each one. Please note that this document is 'live' and as such will be regularly updated to show the Council's progress.

Last updated May 2022

Timescales:

Short = now - Mar 2023,
Medium = Apr 2023 - Mar 2026,
Long = Apr 2026 - Mar 2030

Progress Key: **Blue** = not started, **Green** = In progress, on track,
Orange = In progress, behind schedule, **Purple** = complete

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2030								
Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
CN001	Undertake an assessment of West Berkshire Council's current assets and building portfolio in order to establish the opportunity and technical requirements / constraints for installing renewable energy technology	Assessments completed for all relevant Council assets	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Necessary pre-delivery work	Foreword: Installing more solar panels across our estate 6.1.2 Buildings: Review of our own services and support functions in relation to use of buildings and reducing carbon
CN002	Use the results of the assessment created (ref CN001) to develop a rolling programme for the installation of renewable energy technology across the Council's assets and building portfolio	2 Megawatts of solar panels installed	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	High	Foreword: Installing more solar panels across our estate 5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Increasing the deployment of renewable energy technology across the Council's estate Renewable energy infrastructure will be installed on all Council sites where it is feasible to do so
CN003	Using the principles of GHG protocol, establish a carbon footprint baseline for West Berkshire Council, and a robust methodology that is repeatable on an annual basis, in order to monitor progress towards carbon neutrality in 2030	An agreed Carbon Management System has been established	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery	Complete	Medium	Foreword: Conduct council carbon audit 6.2.2 Managing our own carbon budget: In managing our own carbon budget we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the types of emissions that should be included; • Understand these emissions by our operations • Provide greater certainty on how emission levels will change in a business as usual scenario; and • Develop a series of options and actions for delivery of a carbon neutral Council by 2030
CN004	Deliver the actions as identified within the Council's ULEV Strategy, to include: Installation of Electric Vehicle Charge points and ensure 25% of the Council's fleet uses ULEV by 2022	All actions in the ULEV strategy are met	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery / WBC Network Management / WBC Transport services	In progress, on track	High	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Replacing existing ICE vehicles on the Council's fleet with ULEV
CN005	Work with stakeholders and central energy contract electricity suppliers to ensure that the Council's electricity supply is from confirmed 'green' / renewable sources	100% of the Council's electricity supply comes from renewable sources	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	High	6.1.3 Energy: Work with local suppliers, community energy co-operatives and similar groups to invest in renewable energy in the district

Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
CN006	Assess the requirements and criteria for West Berkshire Council obtaining the PAS 2060 Carbon Neutrality quality standard for its own operations. Report findings to Environment Board	The PAS 2060 carbon neutrality quality standard has been researched and presented	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	TBC	Not mentioned
CN007	Design and undertake a programme of robust standardised audits of the Council's building portfolio to identify key criteria such as energy consumption profiles, thermal efficiency, levels of insulation, heating system condition and efficiency etc.	Audits of Council buildings have been conducted and potential improvements have been identified	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery/WBC Property Team	Not started	High	6.1.2 Buildings: Review of our own services and support functions in relation to use of buildings and reducing carbon. 6.1.2 Buildings: All Council new build or refurbishment projects will take into consideration their carbon impacts 6.1.2 Buildings: Explore ways to make retrofitting insulation and energy efficient heating systems more economically viable
CN008	Liaising with key stakeholders, undertake to complete a Local Area Energy Plan (including mapping exercise) for the district so that current and future energy requirements, the potential impact on carbon neutrality ambitions, and potential opportunities are all better understood	Completion of Local Area Energy Plan	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	TBC	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Energy mapping and master planning 6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible. 6.1.3 Energy: Undertake energy mapping and master planning for the district (in order to better understand what opportunities and limitations there are for district heating schemes with existing buildings and future developments)
CN009	Ensure that the Council actively monitors and participates in relevant national / regional strategic and policy consultations to represent West Berkshire and 'green' interests. Cross service coordination will provide an effective response	A comprehensive log is kept to ensure participation takes place	Short term	Ongoing	Various WBC Teams	In progress, on track	Low	Not mentioned
CN010	Investigate a joined up approach to natural regeneration including comprehensive mapping of the District to identify opportunities for rewilding, tree planting, carbon capture and habitat conservation and creation across West Berkshire	Agree an approach and implement the necessary actions	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery/WBC Countryside /WBC Planning	In progress, on track	High	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Carbon sequestration such as large scale tree planting e.g. through schemes such as the Woodland Carbon Code and Associated Funds 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Expand our tree planting programme in suitable locations across the district to enhance the natural environment and help reduce greenhouse gases and impurities in the atmosphere 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: 'Green' our towns by supporting the creation of more green zones and planting more urban trees
CN011	Explore the opportunity for procuring new land assets with the aim of supporting the Council's renewable and carbon offsetting objectives	Potential new land assets are sourced to accommodate renewables and/or carbon offsetting activities	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Medium/High	Not mentioned

Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
CN012	Research accredited carbon offsetting schemes for potential Council participation	Carbon offsetting options are identified	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Medium/High	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030
CN013	Undertake a scheme of urban tree planting	Urban tree planting has taken place and the impact is recorded quantitatively such as percentage increase in canopy cover per area	Short term	Medium term	WBC Countryside	In progress, on track	Low	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Carbon sequestration such as large scale tree planting e.g. through schemes such as the Woodland Carbon Code and Associated Fund 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Expand our tree planting programme in suitable locations across the district to enhance the natural environment and help reduce greenhouse gases and impurities in the atmosphere 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: 'Green' our towns by supporting the creation of more green zones and planting more urban trees
CN014	Assess Council land assets for the potential for a solar farm and, subject to identifying suitable sites, engage with specialist contractors and the LPA to develop a detailed feasibility and business case for each identified site	Energy is generated from renewable sources	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	High	6.1.3 Energy: Work with local suppliers, community energy co-operatives and similar groups to invest in renewable energy in the district
CN015	Subject to any necessary planning consents and the outcomes of CN014, install new solar farms on council land assets	Delivery of solar farms to contribute to the target of 21.5 megawatts	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	High	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Renewable energy infrastructure will be installed on all Council sites where it is feasible to do so
CN016	Work with stakeholders and support community groups to develop community proposals for the installation of renewable technology	Proposals for renewable energy are developed	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Low/Medium/High	6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible
CN017	Using data from the Council's carbon footprint and other relevant sources, establish a methodology to assign annual carbon budgets to Council Directorates and operations	Carbon budgets are established within the Council	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Setting individual 'carbon budgets' for Council based operations 6.2.2 Managing our own carbon budget: Introduce a series of 'Carbon Budgets' for Council activities and our estate
CN018	Adapt Committee Report templates to include a requirement to identify the potential environmental/carbon impact assessment. Put in place guidance and training to ensure that officers are able to make this assessment	Ensure that there is an assessment of the environmental impact of every Committee decision taken by the Council	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Medium	Not mentioned
CN019	Work closely with landowners and farming/ agricultural communities to explore opportunities for natural sequestration through environmental land management techniques	Contacts are created within these communities and work has been conducted together to find opportunities	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	High	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Carbon sequestration such as large scale tree planting e.g. through schemes such as the Woodland Carbon Code and Associated Fund 5.5 Working with our communities: Work closely with landowners and farming / agricultural communities to explore opportunities for natural sequestration through environmental and land management techniques

Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
CN020	Work with public transport operators to support the recovery of passenger numbers following COVID	Passenger numbers return to pre-COVID levels	Short term	Medium term	Transport Services Team/WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Low	6.1.1 Sustainable transport: Working with public transport operators to improve the use of public transport
CN021	Subject to the achievement of CN020 and the receipt of further information on post- COVID travel patterns, work with public transport operators to increase the use of public transport	Increased numbers of passengers on public transport	Medium Term	Ongoing	Transport Services Team/WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Medium	6.1.1 Sustainable transport: Working with public transport operators to improve the use of public transport 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Working with the Government, regional and local partners to enhance rail infrastructure
CN022	Develop climate change bond scheme (community municipal investment)	climate change bond scheme (community municipal investment) launched	Short term	Short term	Finance	Complete	Low/Medium	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Exploring the use of 'Climate Change Bonds' to help deliver a wide variety of infrastructure projects
CN023	Identify and develop other opportunities for further community municipal investment (CMI) bonds to deliver efficient environmental benefits	Additional climate change bond scheme community municipal investment (CMI) launched	Medium Term	Medium Term	Finance	Not started	Low/Medium	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Exploring the use of 'Climate Change Bonds' to help deliver a wide variety of infrastructure projects
CN024	Develop and implement a social value policy for the Council to ensure environmental benefits are achieved through the procurement process as well as economic and social benefits	The adoption and implementation of a social value policy	Short term	Short term	Commissioning Service / Env Delivery / Economic Development / Adult Social Care / Communities and Wellbeing	Complete	Medium / High	Not mentioned
CN025	Develop and publish West Berkshire's Tree Policy	Publish Tree Policy for West Berkshire	Short term	Short term	WBC Countryside	In progress, on track	Medium/ High	6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: ...a programme of tree and wildflower planting in our open spaces and on our urban highways, which will also add to the character and the biodiversity of our district. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools tree planting; • Woodland creation; • Street tree planting and management; • Orchard planting; • Role of tree wardens; • Role of volunteers; and • Links with the North Wessex Downs AONB organisation 6.1.5: Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Expand our tree planting programme in suitable locations across the district to enhance the natural environment and help reduce greenhouse gases and impurities in the atmosphere

CN026	Deliver the actions within the Tree Policy	All actions in the Tree Policy are complete	Short Term	Ongoing	WBC Countryside	In progress, on track	Medium/ High	<p>6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: ...a programme of tree and wildflower planting in our open spaces and on our urban highways, which will also add to the character and the biodiversity of our district. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools tree planting; • Woodland creation; • Street tree planting and management; • Orchard planting; • Role of tree wardens; • Role of volunteers; and • Links with the North Wessex Downs AONB organisation <p>6.1.5: Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Expand our tree planting programme in suitable locations across the district to enhance the natural environment and help reduce greenhouse gases and impurities in the atmosphere</p>
CN027	Replace the Council's remaining high intensity traffic lights with LED technology	All remaining high intensity traffic lights replaced with LEDs	Short Term	Medium term	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	Low	Not mentioned

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC GROWTH								
Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
REG001	Ensure aims and objectives of Environment Strategy are reflected in the Local Plan to include such things as high environmental standards for new residential and commercial developments	Local Plan policies drive high environmental standards in new developments	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery / Planning Policy	In progress, on track	High	<p>5.2 Responsible Economic Growth: Use our planning system to ensure that all commercial developments meet a minimum environmental standard so that any adverse impacts associated with new buildings are minimised.</p> <p>6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Safeguard and enhance the beauty of our distinctive landscape and improving its environmental value while being sensitive to considerations of its heritage</p> <p>6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Apply emerging Government requirements for environmental protection and improved biodiversity through the planning process</p>
REG002	Develop and deliver action plan from Local Area Energy Plan (CN008)	Existing activities and growth in the district is supported by sustainable/ green energy options	Short term	Long term	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Medium/High	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030:Implementation of Council and district wide energy efficiency schemes

REG003	Investigate the potential for district heat networks	Suitable areas identified to inform options for delivery projects	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Necessary pre-delivery work	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030:Implementation of Council and district wide energy efficiency schemes
REG004	Develop the next Local Transport Plan for the district	Adoption of the Local Transport Plan	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery/WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	High	6.1.1: Sustainable transport: We will review our Local Transport Plan in order to build on the progress we have made
REG005	Studying the viability of implementing Smart Cities initiatives to collect and share sensors and other data/information. Install the necessary infrastructure to be able to suggest alternative routes by using intelligent transport systems and real time air quality information	Assist residents to make smart and sustainable transport choices resulting in improved traffic flow and air quality	Short term	Medium term	WBC Economic Development / Network Management	Not started	Medium	5.2 Responsible Economic Growth: Invest in digital infrastructure and Smart Cities initiatives 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Establishing greater connections between sustainable travel options
REG006	Lobby for high environmental standards to be reflected in national Building Control standards and engage with consultations. Cross service input likely to be required	Participate in relevant opportunities to help increase environmental standards in building control standards	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Various Teams	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	Foreword: Lobby for changes to national planning policies and building regulations 5.2: Responsible Economic Growth: We will lobby Government to enforce higher standards and encourage the adoption of modern building techniques e.g. factory built eco housing, where possible
REG007	Work with local Education providers to develop relevant skills, programmes and materials to enhance the learning of our children and young people in the area of climate change and carbon reduction	Establishment of an education package available for schools to include Eco Schools. Progress towards developing a well-informed generation and work force able to carry out the green jobs of the future	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery / Economic Development / Local Education Providers	In progress, on track	Medium/High	5.2: Responsible Economic Growth: Work with local Education providers to develop relevant skills programmes and materials to enhance the learning of our children and young people in the area of climate change and carbon reduction 6.2.4 Working with Young People: Through our schools, communicate with young people to seek their views and work with them to bring about the greener district they deserve. Embedding an understanding of climate change in their studies from a very early age will be key to this as they will be equipped to become custodians of our natural environment in the future
REG008	Design effective communications to help grow new and existing local businesses and provide them with effective business advice.	Create an environmental communications plan for businesses	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery / Economic Development	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	5.2: Responsible Economic Growth: Design effective communications to help grow new and existing local green business and provide them with effective business advice 6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible. 6.2.3 Communicating with and influencing our stakeholders: Improving access to greener options (e.g. waste and recycling, technology and infrastructure)
REG009	Improve signposting on website and social media channels so that businesses have the information they need to make environmentally conscious choices	Website includes relevant information and links specifically for businesses	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery / Economic Development	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	5.2: Responsible Economic Growth: Improve signposting on website and social media channels so that businesses have the info they need to make environmentally conscious choices 6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible

REG010	Explore initiatives to incentivise good practice amongst our businesses and seek to incorporate into the Economic Development Strategy	Find incentives for the business community to become more sustainable	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery / Economic Development	In progress, on track	Medium	5.2 Responsible Economic Growth: Explore initiatives to incentivise good practice amongst our businesses – see strategy for examples 5.2 Responsible Economic Growth: Investigate how ‘Green Incentives’ for business could be incorporated into the Economic Development Strategy 6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible 6.2.3 Communicating with and influencing our stakeholders: Improving access to greener options (e.g. waste and recycling, technology and infrastructure)
REG011	Lead by example and work to significantly reduce the presence of single use plastic for Council activities and work with the waste industry to improve recycling options	Improved recycling options. To be considered along with the refresh of the Waste Strategy and other Waste minimisation initiatives	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Waste Management/ Veolia	Not started	Low/Medium	5.1: Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 6.1.4 Waste: Look at how we can tackle plastic waste locally 6.1.4 Waste: Work with local businesses to improve resource efficiency in the commercial sector
REG012	Explore ways to emphasise and support the role that farming and agriculture has in our local economy and the ways in which they can contribute to addressing climate change	To be confirmed	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery with Partners	In progress, on track	Medium	Context: We will have to find better ways to engage with our many landowners, farmers and wider agricultural businesses to ensure a joined up approach 5.2 Responsible Economic Growth: Emphasise farming and agriculture in the local economy
REG013	Refresh the Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP) taking into consideration the Environment Strategy	The new HAMP reflects the objectives of the Environment Strategy	Short term	Short term	WBC Asset Management	In progress, on track	Medium	6.1 Key Themes: Develop and maintain resilient highway infrastructure

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: HEALTHY COMMUNITIES								
Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
HC001	Development of the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)	Adoption of the Plan	Short term	Short term	WBC Network Management	Complete	Necessary pre-delivery work	5.3 Healthy Communities: Use available LCWIP funding to further expand the provision of cycling infrastructure 5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC002	Delivery of the priority routes identified in the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)	Delivery of the LCWIP action plan. Increase in cycling across West Berkshire	Short term	Medium term	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	5.3 Healthy Communities: Use available LCWIP funding to further expand the provision of cycling infrastructure 5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC003	Work with partners to encourage people to use local green and blue spaces, increasing access to the countryside in partnership with wellbeing and mental health services	Improved visitor numbers at key WBC countryside sites, with a focus on sustainable travel	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Countryside	Not started	N/A	6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Encourage our residents to explore the natural environment, to become active partners in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and to take ownership of the management of the natural environment 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Continue working with volunteers and partners to take care of the natural environment
HC004	Install a network of permanent automatic active travel monitoring sites at key locations on the LCWIP primary network	Implementation of sites	Short term	Short term	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	N/A	5.2 Responsible Economic Growth: Invest in digital infrastructure and Smart Cities initiatives
HC005	Work with partners and the Council's Public Health and Education Services to encourage children to be closer to nature	Increased numbers of children accessing green spaces	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery/ Education/ Public Health	Not started	N/A	5.3 Healthy Communities: Encourage children to be closer to nature in and out of school 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Encourage our residents to explore the natural environment, to become active partners in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and to take ownership of the management of the natural environment

HC006	Deliver Cycle Hubs in Theale and Newbury	Delivery of programmed work in partnership with the LEP and Network Rail. Cycle hubs are built	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery/GWR	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	5.3 Healthy Communities: Encourage children to be closer to nature in and out of school 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Encourage our residents to explore the natural environment, to become active partners in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and to take ownership of the management of the natural environment
HC007	Investigate the feasibility of further cycle hubs at strategic locations	Investigation complete. This action will be followed by the delivery of additional cycle hubs once further locations are identified	Short term	Medium term	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Necessary pre-delivery work	5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC008	Continue to provide cycle training for children	Increased cycling competency and increased numbers of pupils cycling to school	Ongoing	Ongoing	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	Low	5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC009	Investigate the potential for adult and family cycle training courses	Marketing and feasibility undertaken	Medium term	Medium term	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	Low	5.3 Healthy Communities: Continue to provide active travel training to school children 5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC010	Pilot a 'School Streets' initiative	Implementation of scheme and learning outcomes captured for future initiatives	Short term	Short term	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	Low	5.3 Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC011	Provide road safety education and safety training	Increase the number of residents walking and cycling, and the % of pupils walking and cycling to school	Ongoing	Ongoing	WBC Network Management	In progress, on track	Low	Not mentioned
HC012	Implement a new travel policy for staff to incentivise more sustainable patterns of travel to/from work and on site visits	Reduction in carbon as a result of new travel policy and reduced mileage claims	Short term	Short term	WBC Env Delivery/ HR	In progress, on track	Medium	5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Establishing greater connections between sustainable travel options 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC013	Ensure our communities are aware of options to travel sustainably and work to encourage take up of these options	Promotional material created and community engaged	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Low	5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Establishing greater connections between sustainable travel options 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys

HC014	Work with local businesses to promote sustainable travel by staff	Improved cycling and walking numbers	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery/ Economic Development	In progress, on track	Low	5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Encouraging more sustainable car travel options where use of public transport and active travel is not practical 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC015	Encourage and promote the take up of emerging sustainable transport technologies through collaboration with tech companies and government trials	Increased use of e-bikes and other emerging sustainable travel technologies (i.e. e-scooters)	Medium term	Ongoing	Various WBC Teams	In progress, on track	Low	6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Working with local businesses to promote sustainable travel by staff
HC016	Increase the cycle storage capacity at all secondary schools	Increased cycle storage capacity at all secondary schools	Short term	Short term	WBC Network Management	Complete	Low	6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: Working with our stakeholders and partners to develop and adopt sustainable transport innovations
HC017	Ensure all primary schools have covered and secure cycle storage of an appropriate capacity	Covered and secure cycle storage available at all primary schools.	Medium term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Medium	5.3: Healthy Communities: Maximise active travel opportunity/delivery projects which encourage active travel 6.1.1 Sustainable Transport: supporting active travel especially for shorter journeys
HC018	Work in conjunction with Thames Water and The Environment Agency to protect the quality of our blue spaces and their banks	Water quality in our blue spaces is of a high standard and river banks are maintained	Medium term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery, WBC Countryside, Thames Water & The Environment Agency	Not started	Low	6.1.5 Protecting and enhancing our natural environment: We must work with our partners to protect and enhance our natural environment. We must also use land and soils sustainably to ensure that they are preserved for future generations, deliver cleaner air and water in our towns and rural landscapes and protect threatened species and provide richer wildlife habitats.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: RESILIENT TO CLIMATE CHANGE								
Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
RC001	Review and update the Council's Flood Risk Management Strategy in light of the aims of the Environment Strategy	Strategy updated, consulted and adopted	Short term	Short term	WBC Asset Management	In progress, on track	Necessary pre-delivery work	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Maintain high quality flood management strategies and sustainable drainage for new and existing infrastructure which improve community resilience 5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change
RC002	Assessment of all highway verges to establish the feasibility of Wild Flower growth	Survey complete and % of the highway network identified for wild flower coverage	Short term	Medium term	WBC Countryside	In progress, on track	Necessary pre-delivery work	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change 6.1.5 Protecting and enhancing our natural environment: Programme of tree and wildflower planting in our open spaces and on our urban highways
RC003	Implement a maintenance regime to encourage wild flower growth on verges identified as having potential. Cultivate wild flower growth throughout the Highway network	Wild flower coverage throughout the highway network	Short term	Medium term	WBC Countryside	Not started	Low	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change 6.1.5 Protecting and enhancing our natural environment: Programme of tree and wildflower planting in our open spaces and on our urban highways
RC004	Work with partners to develop Natural Flood Management (NFM) projects to allow catchment wide adaptation to flooding	Increased number of properties protected from flooding	Short term	Long term	WBC Asset Management/ Environment Agency	In progress, on track	N/A	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Maintain high quality flood management strategies and sustainable drainage for new and existing infrastructure which improve community resilience 5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Continue working with volunteers and partners to take care of the natural environment
RC005	Work with Thames Water to deliver higher resilience to droughts	More prepared to deal with droughts. Reduced economic and social impacts from droughts	Short term	Long term	WBC Emergency Planning/ Thames Water	Not started	N/A	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change
RC006	Build on the success of the Pang and Lambourn Valley Flood Forums to make communities more resilient to flood risk and to improve communication on flood risk	Increased number of properties protected from flooding	Short term	Medium term	WBC Asset Management/ Emergency Planning	Not started	N/A	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Maintain high quality flood management strategies and sustainable drainage for new and existing infrastructure which improve community resilience 5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change 6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Continue working with volunteers and partners to take care of the natural environment
RC007	Raising awareness within the Council to ensure our activities align with the aims of the Environment Strategy	Effective internal communications plan produced and delivered	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Medium	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change

RC008	Reuse, recycle and compost at least 60% of municipal waste we handle by 2030	60% recycling rate by 2030	Short term	Long term	WBC Waste Management	In progress, on track	Medium	5.1: Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change 6.1.4 Waste: Reuse, recycle and compost at least 60% of municipal waste we handle by 2030 6.1.4 Waste: Increase our reuse figures by 2030 (current rate is 0.16%)
RC009	Review the Council's Sustainable Drainage policy to ensure it reflects the aims of the Environment Strategy	Document reviewed and adopted	Short term	Short term	WBC Asset Management	In progress, on track	Low	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Maintain high quality flood management strategies and sustainable drainage for new and existing infrastructure which improve community resilience 5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change
RC010	Investigate the feasibility of a rewilding scheme on Council owned land and where suitable implement a pilot project	Investigation complete and pilot project delivered	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Countryside	Not started	Low	6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Develop a Nature Recovery Plan which will further improve biodiversity and wildlife in the district
RC011	Work in conjunction with Public Health and Emergency Planning to use new opportunities to publicise information around Heatwaves	West Berkshire Residents are better informed about Heatwaves and action they can take to protect themselves from their effects	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Dev, Emergency Planning & Public Health	Not started	N/A	Not mentioned
RC012	Develop mandatory WBC staff training on carbon reduction and climate change, as well as specific training where needs are identified (for example, for planners and local developers on how to ensure new developments are resilient to climate change)	WBC staff have the relevant information to reduce their own carbon footprint as well as influence positive changes in their work remit	Medium term	Ongoing	WBC Env Dev Team	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	Not mentioned
RC013	Further reduce the frequency of hedgerow cutting in areas where this does not affect safety	Hedgerows have increased biodiversity	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Environment and WBC Countryside	In progress, on track	Low	"6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment: Develop a Nature Recovery Plan which will further improve biodiversity and wildlife in the district 6.2.6 Nature Recovery Network: We have recently reduced our grass and verges cutting frequency to aid wildlife establishment. The current regime is to cut the urban highway 8 times a years, which is already down from 10 in 2017 in most urban areas, this appears to be acceptable to the residents and keeps the majority of the grassed areas under control. In more rural locations and in areas of open spaces, across the district there are opportunities to reduce this cutting regime and introduce space for a mix of wildflower and natural regeneration.
RC014	Work in conjunction with partners for the conservancy of water within the District.	Staff and Residents are educated about the importance of saving water as a resource and WBC will work in conjunction with partners to ensure measures are taken to help make our water supplies more resilient for the future.	Short term	Ongoing	Various WBC Teams and Thames Water	Not started	Low	5.4 Resilient to Climate Change: Explore adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Ref	Actions	Performance Measures	Timescale		Responsibility	Comment / Progress	Predicted Carbon Saving Impact	Links to the Environment Strategy: Statements of Commitment
			Start	Complete				
WC001	Develop and deliver good communications processes to ensure our communities have the information they need to: i) make good environmental decisions ii) feel engaged and informed relating to the wider work relating to the Environment Strategy	Communities are well-informed about the Environment Strategy and the part they can play	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Low/ Medium	5.5 Working with our communities: Improve the overall communications process to ensure our communities have the information they need to make good environmental decisions (strategic communications strategy) 6.1.2 Buildings: Review and assess emerging technology and share our knowledge with stakeholders and communities 6.2.3 Communicating with and influencing our stakeholders: Improving access to greener options (e.g. waste and recycling, technology and infrastructure) 6.2.3 Communicating with and influencing our stakeholders: Actively encourage residents, businesses and our partners to engage in carbon audits, footprint assessments and ongoing carbon budgeting
WC002	Improve our use of technology to increase accessibility to environmental information, events and debate	Effective delivery and access to information to assist with working towards carbon reduction target	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Low	5.5 Working with our communities: Improve our use of technology to improve accessibility to environmental information, events and debate 6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible
WC003	Use the Council website effectively to provide relevant and up to date information for the community to access	Website is publicised effectively and kept up to date	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Low	6.1.2 Buildings: Advise residents and businesses of best practice where possible
WC004	Production of an annual progress report and update of the delivery plan	Annual progress report is produced as well as an update of the delivery plan	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	Not started	N/A	Introduction: Review progress annually
WC005	Develop strategic partnerships and affiliations with stakeholders and organisations including (for example) the Countryside Climate Network and BBOWT	Effective partnerships are created in order to work together to achieve the aims of the Environment Strategy	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	6.1.5 Protecting and Enhancing our Natural Environment 5. Strategic Objectives to Deliver the Environment Vision: working with our communities and partners.
WC006	Encourage residents to consider how changes might be made to their own recycling habits so that the amount of waste unnecessarily sent to landfill is minimised	Residents taking greater responsibility for their waste reduction, thus waste sent to landfill is reduced	Short term	Long term	WBC Waste Management	Not started	Low/Medium	5.1: Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 6.1.4 Waste: Encourage residents to consider how changes might be made to their own recycling habits so that the amount of waste unnecessarily sent to landfill is minimised

WC007	Implement a kerbside collection system that is fully compliant with the minimum service standards required by the UK Government by 2025	Fully compliant collection system in place by 2025	Short term	Medium term	WBC Waste Management	Not started	Medium	5.1: Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 6.1.4 Waste: Ensure that our waste collections and recycling approach is compliant with emerging government requirements, which are expected to apply from April 2023 6.1.4 Waste: Implement a kerbside collection system that is fully compliant with the minimum service standards required by the UK Government by 2025
WC008	Separate food waste collections to all eligible households by 2025, subject to approval of detailed proposals by the Council	Food waste collection in place by 2025	Short term	Medium term	WBC Waste Management	In progress, on track	High	5.1: Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 6.1.4 Waste: Separate food waste collections to all eligible households by 2025, subject to the availability of funding from the Government
WC009	The continuation of the provision of separate garden waste collections from households	Garden waste collection remains in place	Ongoing	Ongoing	WBC Waste Management	In progress, on track	Low	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 6.1.4 Waste: The continuation of the provision of separate garden waste collections from households
WC010	Collection of at least the core set of dry recyclable materials by April 2025	Dry recyclable system in place by 2025	Short term	Medium term	WBC Waste Management	Not started	Medium	5.1 Carbon neutral by 2030: Waste reduction activities 6.1.4 Waste: Collection of at least the core set of dry recyclable materials by April 2025
WC011	Work with partners to maximise the benefits of infrastructure investment through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	Enhance the benefits of infrastructure investment	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Planning & Infrastructure / WBC Env Delivery	Not started	Low/Medium	6.2.3 Communicating with and influencing our stakeholders: we will also explore how to use our existing financial models to encourage grant funding sensible environmental projects through, for example, the Community Infrastructure Levy, Elected Member grant bids and third party grants 6.2.5 Planning and Development: We will also explore the possibility of including 'allowable solutions' which seeks to use financial measures e.g. Community Infrastructure Levy where on-site measures are not considered viable and instead contribute to a carbon sequestration /offset funds such as re-forestation
WC012	Providing landlords and home owners with advice on funding to improve energy efficiency and affordability, with a particular focus on PRS (Private Rental Sector) properties where EPC (Energy Performance Certificates) are E or below	The number of PRS properties with EPCs of D or above are significantly increased	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery /Housing Service	Not started	Low/ Medium	6.1.2 Buildings: As the enforcing agency for the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations 2012, for instance, we are well-placed to communicate with local landlords (residential and commercial) and owner occupiers of public buildings to ensure that they are aware of their obligations, affect changes in behaviour, and improve the energy efficiency of the district's building stock
WC013	Support residents to assist with energy switching to ensure they have the most affordable tariffs and linking these to green energy initiatives	Run at least one energy switching initiative per year	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery /Housing Service	In progress, on track	Low/Medium	Not mentioned
WC014	Maximising the opportunities for reducing carbon emissions via Government funding for home owners	Increased numbers of homes with improved energy efficiency ratings	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery /Housing Service	In progress, on track	Medium	6.1.2 Buildings: Explore ways to make retrofitting insulation and energy efficient heating systems more economically viable
WC015	We will work to reduce litter around West Berkshire and promote education and communication on the harmful impacts of dropping litter.	Litter is visibly reduced in West Berkshire	Short term	Ongoing	WBC Env Delivery, Education Team, WBC Waste Management	Not started	Low	Not mentioned