

## Climate Change Action Plan 2024/25

## YEAR FIVE - DRAFT

Theme	Actions	Timescale	Key milestones
<b>Policy &amp; Engagement</b>  Recognise climate change as a corporate commitment for the Council.	Deliver climate change training to staff and Members, offering courses on an ongoing basis.	Ongoing	Carbon Literacy training course delivered three times per year
	Develop options for reducing car travel and emissions from TMBC staff commuting and business travel	March 2025	Autumn 2024 – feasibility and options report Winter 2024- March 2025 – implement approved recommendations.
Monitor and report Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's carbon emissions	Ensure all Climate Change Action Plans, Progress Reports and Carbon Audits are easily accessible and published on the climate change webpage	July 2024	Annual Climate Change Action Plans, Progress Reports and Carbon Audits produced annually after end of year. Approved documents made available on climate change webpage as soon as possible (July).
Work with partners to address climate change issues, lower carbon and adapt to the effects of climate	Engage with KCC and other councils through Climate Change Network (CCN) meetings sharing case studies, best practice, and seeking areas of support and collaboration	Ongoing	Quarterly
	Continue to engage with the delivery of the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy (ELES) through TMBC's actions and partnership working.	Ongoing	Contribute to six monthly and annual ELES reports. Support contributions leadership and oversight of progress.

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<b>Sustainable Development</b>	Continue to pursue planning policies in the Council's emerging Local Plan that will facilitate the delivery of climate change adaptation and mitigation, design measures and sustainable development patterns, progressing to Regulation 18b and public consultation, drawing on updated evidence, including on green infrastructure and climate change.	Ongoing	The Local Plan and next stage which the Regulation 18b Plan and public consultation is being developed in line with the published timetable.
	Through the grant of planning permission, the Council will seek to deliver sustainable development outcomes in line with the adopted development plan, national policy and material planning considerations.	Ongoing	The Local Plan and next stage which the Regulation 18b Plan and public consultation is being developed in line with the published timetable.
Support the improvement of walking and cycling infrastructure in the borough	Complete preparation of the new active travel strategy which will include cycling and walking infrastructure recommendations.	Spring 2024	The Local Plan and next stage which the Regulation 18b Plan and public consultation is being developed in line with the published timetable.
<b>ULEV</b> Provide electric charging points across the borough.	Deliver Phase 2 provision of an additional 60 chargers in the Council's car parks over the 2 year contract	May 25	Delivery of charges provisional programmed to start in summer 2024
Decarbonise TMBC owned vehicles	Undertake a vehicle replacement schedule (transitioning to ULEV) for all parking vehicles, in line where possible with the capital renewals programme and expected lifespan.	Ongoing	Additional funds secured and two vehicles proposed for replacement under Capital Renewals in 2024/25
Improve the environmental standards of licensed taxis operating in the borough.	Provide wider information regarding taxi EV charging provision as those installations progress.	Ongoing	

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	Continue engagement with KCC through the CCN regarding future taxi licencing. Share with trade and participate in schemes as appropriate, for example 'try before you buy'	Ongoing	
	Progress strategy for future of licenced taxi fleet through Licensing & Appeals committee report on air quality, changes in the licenced taxi vehicle fleet, and proposals for vehicle requirements to 2030.	Ongoing	
<b>Air Quality</b>	Continue the full implementation of a borough wide Anti-idling Campaign, to reduce emissions from idling engines.	Ongoing	
	Pilot a Car Club within the Council for individuals use in local communities.	March 2025	Feasibility Winter 2024/25 Present options to Members March 25
<b>Habitats &amp; Biodiversity</b>  Strengthen local protection and enhance protection of species, habitats and ecosystems	Develop a woodland management plan for Taddington Valley in liaison with the Forestry Commission	Autumn 24	Currently with Forestry Commission for approval. Adopt plan - Summer 2024 Seek quotes for coppicing - Summer 2024 Start coppicing - Autumn/Winter 2024/2025
	Continue with the lakeside revetment works in liaison with volunteers at Haysden Country Park, including a variety of aquatic plants.	March 25	Initial works scheduled for summer 2024
	Investigate a Roadside Nature Reserve programme with Medway Valley Countryside Partnership to monitor and record species and	March 25	Seek quotation – Spring 2024 Implement surveying- Spring 2025 Annual report to be received Autumn 2025

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<b>Habitats &amp; Biodiversity</b>  Strengthen local protection and enhance protection of species, habitats and ecosystems	identify maintenance alterations to enhance biodiversity.		
	Consider implementation of No Mow May within appropriate Amenity POS following commencement of new GM Contract in January 2025	March 25	Summer 24 – Identify potential sites Winter 2024/25 – explore implementation
	Continue to plant a mixture of 1000 trees and whips a year in appropriate areas of Council Owned Land. Following planting, monitor planted trees to ensure best chance of establishment, and plant more trees are removed to ensure an annual net gain overall.	Ongoing	Autumn /Winter – implement annual tree planting programme
<b>Housing &amp; Energy Conservation</b>  Reduce the carbon emissions of residential homes.	Collaborate with Kent County Council and iChoors to make solar PV and batteries more accessible and affordable for our residents by delivering a group buying scheme.	June 2025	Marketing campaign May auction completed 31 May 2024. Installations to complete by January 2025.
	Deliver a marketing campaign with Kent County Council to target eligible households to participate Solar Together Kent.		Marketing campaign Autumn auction commence 19 August including: Direct mail 1 –19 August Direct mail 2 - 18 October 2024 Installations to complete by June 2025.
	To encourage the upgrade of low energy efficient social housing in our area to improve properties and reduce carbon emissions by installing whole house retrofit measures and reduce carbon emissions.  Liaise with our housing association partners for example, Clarion Housing Group and Golding Homes, to influence delivery of energy	March 26	SHDF Wave 1.2 scheme ends March 26: the inclusion of c 250 Clarion homes in TMBC area and circa 77 Golding Homes properties in the Aylesford area under SHDF wave 1.2.

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	efficiency funding in our area, through for example Social Housing Decarbonisation Funding (SHDF) Wave 1.2 and SHDF Wave 3.		
	<p>To encourage the upgrade of low energy efficient private tenure homes in our area to improve properties and reduce carbon emissions by installing whole house retrofit measures.</p> <p>Deliver retrofit energy efficiency measures through Home Upgrade Grant 2 (HUG2) targeting funding to c 48 low-income households living in low efficient 'off gas' homes (i.e., not using gas as main heating).</p>	March 25	48 homes whole house retrofit completed by March 2025. Monthly reporting to Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.
<p><b>Waste Minimization &amp; Recycling</b></p> <p>Encourage more people to reduce their waste and make it easier for residents to recycle.</p>	Complete roll out of food waste for flats in key urban hotspots.	March 2025	Phase 1 – completed January 2024 Phase 2 – completed March 2024 Phase 3 – to be completed July 2024 Further phases - tbc
	Continue with Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) re-use campaigns, including promotion of food waste & garden waste collections; and ongoing promotions aimed at reducing contamination & increasing recycling performance.	March 25	Awaiting update on future of KRP.  Garden Waste promotions – May & June 2024
	Continue working with KRP and national partners such as WRAP and Recoup (plastic specific).	Ongoing	As per above.

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<b>Community &amp; Business Engagement</b>  Support local businesses and encourage sustainable growth in the economy	Delivery of Round 4 of the Green Business Grant Scheme to support local businesses/organisations with capital investments, including PV panels, heat source pumps, LED lighting and insulation.	March 25	April 2024 – grants awarded to successful applicants (there were 11 in total) September 2024 – consideration of a Round 5 January 2025 – all projects completed March 2025 – all grant payments made to completed projects.
	Delivery of Round 4 of the Shopfront and Vacant Unit Improvement Grant Scheme, including grant support for energy efficiency measures.	March 25	September 2024 – consideration of a Round 5. January 2025 – all projects completed March 2025 – all grant payments made to completed projects.
	Promote the climate change strategy and its objectives via the council's e-bulletin, with at least 2 articles per annum	Ongoing	June 2024 – specific article on the new action plan. Ongoing – articles regarding individual CC projects.
Work with partners in the community to engage the public and identify areas of collaboration for climate change action, adaptation, protection and enhancement of the environment.	Work with KCC and local business to share and signpost information, support and grants for business carbon reduction	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Work in partnership with Mid Kent College to support the delivery of Green Retrofit Training in order to upskill our local construction workers/businesses.	March 25	Pilot Courses – up to May 2025 Subsidised courses – up to March 2025
Support communities, voluntary groups and Parishes in taking climate action	Build collaborative working and public engagement with the Climate Change Forum, identifying areas for joint Council and community climate and environment action.	Ongoing	Community engagement at suitable events, including Aylesford Farmer's Market Spring 2024. Quarterly Climate Change Forum meetings.

Annex 2

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	Deliver Carbon Literacy Training Grants to support community and voluntary groups, SMEs, and Parish and Town Councils to understand climate change, carbon footprints and how to take new, significant actions to reduce emissions.	March 25	First round of grant applications completed. Grant open for second application round July - August 2024. All training and grants monies to be distributed by March 2025.
	Deliver Round 2 of Community Development Grants, part funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, to support organisations based in the borough and/or providing a direct service to residents in line with community priorities.	March 25	The application window for Round 2 opened in Spring and closed in May 2024. All applications assessed and approved July 2024. All projects completed and grant monies distributed by March 2025.
Raise awareness of climate change, providing regular updates and information.	To continue to provide local borough information to residents, identifying likely topics of interest.	Ongoing	Continued focus on climate change and related projects for internal and external publicity. Key areas to include the climate change action plan, further steps towards leisure decarbonisation, including the new Angel Centre, and relevant aspects of the Local Plan. Timings are subject to milestones and delivery of projects outlined above.
<b>TMBC Estate</b>  Reduce the environmental impact of the council's activities, increasing the sustainability of all our operations.	Deliver energy efficiency, solar generation and improved building management at Larkfield Leisure Centre through the Swimming Pool Support Fund grant from Sports England.	March 25	Procurement of flat roof re-felting Re-felt works completed Procurement of solar PV Installation of solar PV Installation of sub-metering throughout site.
	Complete installation of heat pump to replace end-of-life gas boilers at Larkfield Leisure Centre through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund grant from the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, administered by Salix.	February 26	Completion of technical design Procurement of works Completion of works

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	Develop heat decarbonisation plans, taking a 'fabric first approach', for other high energy use buildings in TMBC's estate, subject to external grant application	March 25	Being notified of whether external grant funding application has been successful If grant awarded, completion of decarb plans allow submission of PSDS round 4 application
	Decarbonise Gibson East as part of the Council's rationalisation of Kings Hill office space	Autumn 25	Completion of design work Planning permission granted Procurement of works Completion of works
Progress the digitisation of services and reduce the amount of paper both internally and being sent out to clients.	New efficient devices to be rolled out to staff in line with the renewals of equipment.	March 2025	The rollout of new efficient devices is taking place in the following tranches: Q2 – 45 devices Q3 – 45 devices Q4 – 45 devices
	Business process re-engineering, mobile solutions and digitisation to improve efficiency and reduce carbon footprint continues across services.	Ongoing	