

Draft – Framework and Indicative Actions for:

- 1) Themes
 - Overarching
 - Waste, Recycling and Resource Management
 - Energy and Renewables
- 2) Further detailing to be added on agreement of the framework
- 3) Each line item will have a dedicated action plan

North Devon Council Climate Change and Environment Action Plan

Version	Date	Distribution	Author/Amends	Changes
Version 0.1	November 2019	CAT	Michael Tichford	
Version 0.2	23 January 2020	CAT Core Team	Cllr Mackie	CAT member comments
Version 0.3	27 January 2020	CAT Core Team	Michael Tichford	Response on CAT member comments from MT
Version 0.4	3 March 2020	Policy Committee	Michael Tichford	Summary theme table headline actions added

Themes

Overarching	Waste, Recycling and Resource Management	Energy and Renewables	Natural Environment	Built Environment	Travel and Transport	Community and Local Economy	Awareness, Engagement and Behaviour Change
Demonstrate political commitment to acting on climate change	Send zero waste to landfill or incineration.	Reduce energy used by the council in its own estate.	Increase tree cover across the district	Retrofit council-owned properties with high levels of insulation	Reduce car use through measures such as promoting car-sharing	Connect people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing	Support partners and community to identify the climate and biodiversity impacts of their actions
Develop an Environment and Climate Change Action Plan	Send zero waste to landfill or incineration	Develop proposals for renewable energy generation on NDC sites	Protect existing local green spaces, green belt and locally designated nature sites.	Help owner-occupied homes be more energy efficient, for example by supporting energy companies to target fuel poor or vulnerable households with insulation.	Enable the shift to electric vehicles	Adopt circular economy waste policies in relevant plans and contracts.	Work with public sector, business and community and partners to identify and deliver on joint aspirations
Respond to the Devon Climate Emergency	Use food waste according to the food waste hierarchy of prevent, reuse, recycle, and ensure remaining non-recyclable biodegradable waste to generate	Identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the local plan	Manage council-owned land and road verges to increase biodiversity and drawdown carbon pollution, including through reduced pesticide use and increased planting	Enforce minimum energy efficiency standards in the private rented sector	Adopt Clean Air Supplementary Planning Document	Ensure that voices of the most vulnerable communities are represented in council decision-making and council-citizen deliberations.	Co-ordinate a series of events and activities aimed at raising awareness of climate change and the environment and Make high profile statements of commitment to

	biogas.		of wildflowers.				the Climate Change and Environment agenda
Enable councillors and officers to identify the climate, environment and biodiversity impacts of decisions and services	Increase resource efficiency and minimise environmental impacts at end of life	Integrate renewable energy features into Council developments and, as much as possible, within private sector developments	Use and managing land sustainably	Require higher standards than current national standards for privately built new homes.	Consider the transition of the council's fleet to electric.	Promote community crop producing planting	Use council memberships of Local Enterprise Partnerships to ensure all their decisions are in-line with the climate reduction pathway and nature restoration plans
Align Council statutory and non-statutory plans, policies and guidance with respective carbon reduction pathways and nature restoration plans, including procurement.	Ensure that waste collection services maximise recycling and reduce residual waste	Support the development of renewable energy and energy storage.	Produce a nature and ecosystem restoration plan to reverse and restore habitats, species, landscapes and ecosystem quality and function.	Enforce building standards.	Introduce differential charges for parking permits or other car related charges.	Provide particular support to SME businesses to access funds and expertise for reducing carbon pollution.	Use influence with schools and others to ensure that meals are delivered in accordance with the official Eat well Guide on healthy eating and the majority of options on menus are healthy and plant-based, with less and better meat.
Raise funding for low carbon and biodiversity measures		Divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy projects.	Develop new quality green spaces in areas where they don't exist, particularly in	Require homes built on Council land to be extremely energy efficient, using the	Reduce the need to own and use a car through managing developments in	Promote community sharing and reuse.	

			neighbourhoods where people are particularly vulnerable to heatwaves and/or are deprived of nature	Passivhaus standard or similar.	the local plan.		
		Source electric replacements for petrol equipment.	Produce a nature and ecosystem restoration plan to reverse and restore habitats and species and ecosystem quality and function.	Develop a heating and energy efficiency strategy for the area.			
			Establish / support the establishment of a Plant and Tree Nursery. Opportunity for a CIC?	Promote use of living elements to construction, such as green walls and roofs.			
			Secure clean, healthy productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans	Update the Council's Asset Management Strategy and Plan with Environmental objectives			
				NDC Properties			

				Audit Building Operations for carbon and environmental impact			
				Conserve and enhancing the built environment			
				Implement licensing of the private rented sector to cover enforcement costs of minimum energy efficiency standards			

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Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
	Overarching					
	Demonstrate political commitment to acting on the environment and climate change		✓ ✓ ✓	Identifying the Environment as a corporate plan priorities Creating lead members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cllr Caroline Leaver (Climate Change) and ▪ Cllr Netti Pearson (Environment) Establishing an officer lead - SRO is Head of Place	07/19	Lead Cllrs, Place, SRO, CCS
				Devon Carbon Plan Commitments (guiding objectives for North Devon Climate Action Plan): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems • Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings • Constructing zero-carbon new buildings • Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles • Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options 		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with • Divesting from fossil fuels • Changing our dietary patterns and reducing food waste • Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon • Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration <p>Empowering the people of Devon with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.</p>		
			<p>✓</p>	<p>Informing the public and local stakeholders of our commitment to tackling the climate change and biodiversity emergency</p> <p>Making a Climate Declaration</p> <p>Devon Climate Declaration – Appendix 2 : https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/devon-climate-declaration/signatories/</p>		
			<p>✓</p>	<p>Establishing a Member Working Group for Environment and Climate Change</p>	<p>Established 11/20</p>	<p>Chair/ SRO</p>

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				Establishing cross department Officer programme and project teams for Environment and Climate Change	01/04/20	SRO
	Develop an Environment and Climate Change Action Plan			<p>Creating a draft plan to 'seed' ideas for engagement with partners and communities and 'co-production' of a final Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Setting interim and measurable targets for our council to achieve net zero greenhouse reductions and ▪ Meeting nature restoration goals. <p>Establishing an Environment and Climate Change monitoring system¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agree approach <p>Publishing a quarterly a report on progress in meeting environment, climate change and nature targets.</p> <p><small>1 - Seek formal accreditation against ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems - ISO 14001 is the international standard that specifies requirements for an effective environmental management system (EMS). It provides a framework that an organization can follow, rather than establishing environmental performance requirements.</small></p>	03/20 1/6/20	SRO
	Respond to the Devon Climate Emergency			Benchmarking the carbon footprint of North Devon Council's operations, working in partnership with the Devon Climate Emergency Response Group and set ambitious targets for carbon neutrality	01/06/20	LMS SRO PP

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
	Enable councillors and officers to identify the climate, environment and biodiversity impacts of decisions and services			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing guidance and training to decision makers ▪ Amending report templates to include environment and climate change impacts. ▪ Securing sufficient expertise to advise on impacts ▪ Amending the Constitution as necessary to ensure all member and delegated officer decisions give proper weight to the environment and climate change 	1/8/20	Legal CCS SRO
	Align Council statutory and non-statutory plans, policies and guidance with respective carbon reduction pathways and nature restoration plans, including procurement.			Reviewing statutory and non-statutory plans prioritised on a likely impact basis for instance, energy use and procurement	1/4/21	SMT
	Raise funding for low carbon and biodiversity measures			<p>For instance through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the UK Municipal Bonds Agency for low carbon infrastructure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UK Municipal Bonds Agency (UKMBA) was established to provide an alternative funding vehicle for UK local authorities. With 56 local authority shareholders and the Local Government Association, it provides the sector with access to market-based borrowing rates, significantly below the current PWLB rates. <p>https://ukmba.org/ukmba-intro/</p>	Initial opportunity scanning 1/11/20	HoR

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use legal and planning mechanisms such as Section 106 agreements to fund climate actions and nature restoration projects. 		
	Waste, Recycling and Resource Management					
	Send zero waste to landfill or incineration			<p>Applying the waste hierarchy of prevent, reuse, recycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> examples required.... Reuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> providing publically accessible water bottle refill stations etc. Recycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> expanding TerraCycle collections to include confectionary wrappers, biscuits and snacks, cleaning products. starting this in workplaces, schools and hospitals? establishing Teracycle collection point for beach recycling extending recycling beyond kerb side only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public bins - Street bins tried in Ilfracombe but waste was contaminated so had to go to landfill? 		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run trials of sorted waste bins in various locations • Ensuring beach clean waste is sorted and recycled • Engaging business and land owners, including beach owners, to increase waste sorting 		
	<p>Use food waste according to the food waste hierarchy of prevent, reuse, recycle, and ensure remaining non-recyclable biodegradable waste to generate biogas.</p>		<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Working with food producers, retailers and consumers to reduce food wastage</p> <p>Supporting schemes to use food currently going into the waste stream</p> <p>Sending food waste collected at the roadside to be processed by an anaerobic digester¹</p> <p>Providing facilities for food waste collection in Council offices</p> <p>¹ - Anaerobic digestion is the process by which organic matter such as animal or food waste is broken down to produce biogas and biofertiliser.</p>		
	<p>Increase resource efficiency and minimising environmental impacts at end of life</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoiding the use of single-use plastic in Council offices and premises with the aim of reducing to zero 		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review NDC procurement policy • Reducing litter and littering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter from waste collection vehicles • Increasing enforcement for fly tipping • Supporting beach cleaning (in partnership) • Reducing pollution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt air quality SPD • Work with the Environment Agency on water quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain bathing water quality (in partnership) • Review fleet management /procurement • Integrate within new local GI strategy 		
	<p>Ensure that waste collection services maximise recycling and reduce residual waste</p>			<p>Increasing recycling rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ more publicity and education about what can be recycled and what can't ▪ investigating more effective receptacles for all recycling to avoid waste being windblown <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered collection bins etc. ▪ Reduce missed bins and the danger of waste being left a number of days increasing chance of wind blow/scavenging etc. 		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				Reviewing non domestic waste collections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review recycling options – some already in place • Engage with businesses, particularly tourism related on increasing waste sorting facilities and recycling rates, e.g. B&Bs, hotels, holiday parks, campsites. • Establish a strategy to improve sorting/collection for part time holiday lets. 		
				Establishing effectiveness of plant and equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for instance new bailer - how will it improve recycling and sorting? Considering investment in processing individual, high value waste streams locally, e.g. hard plastic toys for school furniture.		
	Energy & Renewables					
	Identify areas suitable for renewable energy in the local plan			Including in the work programme of the Joint Local Plan Working Party (North Devon and Torrington) revisions to the adopted local plan to support renewable energy such as identifying 'areas of search' to allow the development of onshore wind turbines		
	Reduce energy consumption by the council in its own estate.			Auditing current energy consumption and bringing forward measures to reduce – energy efficient plant, equipment and fittings, movement sensing switches etc.	01/9/20	HoR

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
	Source energy that is used from renewable sources			Reviewing current energy contracts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> switching to renewable supplies generating energy locally 	01/9/20	HoR
	Integrate renewable energy features into Council developments and, as much as possible, within private sector developments			Including renewable energy requirement, such as solar thermal, PV or heat pumps in the specifications for Council developments. Lobbying Government to allow local standards and a high nation baseline for building energy efficiency Private sector development - Government consulting on amendments to the Building Regulations to include carbon reduction measures in construction and building operations to a common national standard		HoR HoP
	Support the development of renewable energy and energy storage.			Local Plan? Partnerships		
	Divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy projects.			Treasury management		
	Electric replacements for petrol equipment.			Crematorium Cordless electric cordless lawnmower, strimmer, hedge cutter and chainsaw. Whilst the primary driver was their very low noise levels which enables staff to work close to the chapels during services the other benefits are: lower emissions (2-stroke fumes in particular as well as CO2)		

Action No.	(Theme & Headline Action) We will...	RAG	Done?	(Actions) By...	When?	Who?
				low vibration safer (no need for ear protection so more aware of public) & lower 'fuel' costs Only down side is they can be a little heavier. Whilst we do use petrol tools still I can see a transition to cordless being total as weight/longevity improves.		

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Devon Climate Declaration

1. This Declaration has been prepared by a consortium of public, private and voluntary organisations collaborating through a Devon Climate Emergency Response Group. It sets out an ambition to tackle climate change that covers all of Devon, including those people who live, work in and visit our county, and those businesses who are based or operate here.
2. We are aware of the significant implications of climate change for Devon's communities; it is already affecting our environment, infrastructure, economy and health & wellbeing. If not addressed, the impact on future generations will be profound and the ability to meet the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals will be severely compromised.
3. We understand that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has advised that carbon emissions must reduce globally by at least 45% by 2030 from 2010 levels and reach net-zero by 2050 if we are to avoid the worst effects of climate change by keeping warming below 1.5 degrees.
4. We will lead in the global response to climate change through our collective action, innovation and influence.
5. Individually, we will review (within 6 months) our plans to reduce our organisation's carbon emissions to meet or exceed these targets, including ensuring the people we do business with are doing the same. We will publicly report our carbon emissions annually in accessible formats.
6. In collaboration, we will engage Devon's residents, businesses and visitors to develop and implement a plan to facilitate the reduction of Devon's production and consumption emissions to meet IPCC recommendations at the latest. We will openly report progress on its delivery. We know this transformational change will be challenging and will include:
 - Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems
 - Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings
 - Constructing zero-carbon new buildings
 - Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles
 - Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options
 - Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with
 - Divesting from fossil fuels
 - Changing our dietary patterns and reducing food waste
 - Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon
 - Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration
 - Empowering the people of Devon with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.
7. Additionally, we will work to understand the near-term and future risks of climate change for Devon to plan for how our infrastructure, public services and communities will have to adapt for a 1.5-degree warmer world.
8. Local organisations and communities cannot do this alone as national government plays a key role in many of the policy areas that are vital to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. We call on government to prioritise decarbonisation and adaptation within decision making and work with us by using its powers to provide the resources and funding necessary to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy and society.
9. We challenge every organisation, business, community and individual to do the same.

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