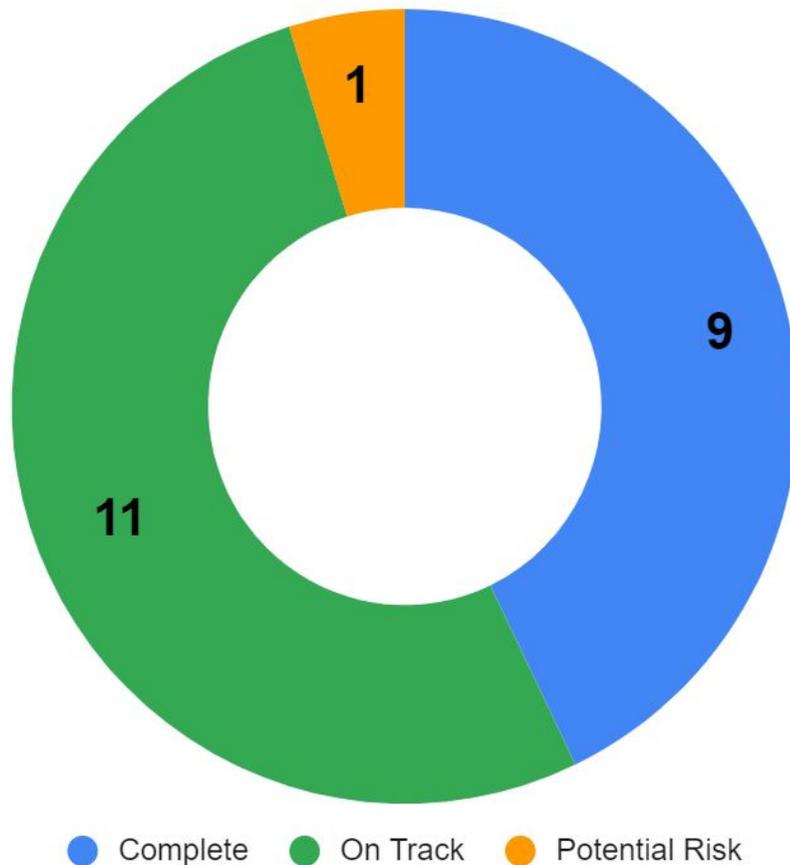


Commitment Tracker



Overview : last six months

In recent months, we have seen a significant acceleration in activity in the sustainability agenda from a good baseline position. The most significant strategic development has been with the councils' declaration of **Climate Emergency** in July, through which the councils committed to work towards becoming **carbon neutral by 2030** and to produce a plan to achieve this. The plan is brought for approval to this committee in a separate paper ahead of the January 2020 target for its completion. As such, Adur & Worthing Councils become the first local authority in East or West Sussex to develop their plan backing up their Climate Emergency declaration.

We have also received confirmation of a major £32m government funded project which will see Adur & Worthing leading nationally on the testing and trialling of multiple, connected, **smart local energy systems**, details of which will be presented to this Committee in January 2020.

Our work to engage with the wider community on the sustainability agenda is building, with the councils hosting an event for those involved in our **local food** system in September, exploring how to improve support for local producers and sellers. A **Climate Conference** is being organised for March 2020.

Platform Highlights : last six months

The development of **easitAdur & Worthing**, a travel discount scheme for employees of the council and businesses across Adur & Worthing now available to 25,000 employees.

The establishment of **LEAP**, the Local Energy Advice Partnership with Agility Eco, and West Sussex local authorities. This has benefited 121 residents with home energy visits where 528 energy saving measures installed, giving savings of £232,000 through energy savings, energy switching and benefits identification.

Following commitment to become **Plastic Free** and reduce the use of single use plastics, the councils have delivered a range of actions including supporting the launches of a further three community campaigns: **Plastic Free Worthing** (Transition Town Worthing), **Refill Shoreham-by-Sea** (Emma Criddle) and **Refill Lancing** (Keep Lancing Lovely).

Installed a further 20kW **Solar PV array** on the Shoreham Centre to deliver a predicted 32 tonnes of carbon savings annually from this and the Portland House 30kW PV array.

Developed a draft Adur & Worthing **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan** as first take steps towards developing safer and easier cycling and walking provision across Adur and Worthing.

The **bathing water quality** in Adur and Worthing has been maintained or improved, with Shoreham Beach rising to Excellent from Good this year.

Our **Brooklands Park** summer and autumn events have welcomed several

hundreds of families to the park to engage in activities as far ranging as building bug hotels to pumpkin carving. In October we shared the next iteration of the Masterplan for the park to those who attended the Halloween half term event.

In July 2019 JSC approved the purchase of the first vans for the council fleet as part of the planned transition of the **council fleet to ultra low emission vehicles** as part of the fleet replacement programme.

For 2019 there was one new **Green Flag award** obtained for our parks. For 2020, there will be 2 new sites submitted for the award. All the management plans have been rewritten for all of the present sites to ensure that biodiversity is a major aspect of the plans. Ensuring that for the plans going forward over 5 years that there is an increase in biodiversity and change in our landscape management to enable this.

Challenges

Meeting the **carbon neutral target for 2030**. The Carbon Reduction Plan provides a robust and ambitious plan which will require resources and major transitions in a number of areas, including the development of strategic options for offsetting.

Securing the **commitment** of other organisations, businesses, communities and individuals to adopt similarly ambitious carbon reduction plans to deliver carbon reduction area wide will be very challenging and require significant leadership and engagement for the long term.

Future Focuses

Four new areas have been identified for inclusion into the refreshed Sustainable AW framework: **shared leadership, food, climate resilience and land use & planning.**

A range of **community engagement events** are being organised for 2020

A **quarterly publication *Sustainable AW*** will provide a communications platform for both council stories and stories from community groups and other organisation to share progress, and build an increasingly active network.