



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

Joint Strategic Committee  
13 July 2021  
Agenda Item 12

Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
15 July 2021  
Agenda Item ....

Key Decision: Yes

Ward(s) Affected: All

## **SustainableAW update on progress and new targets for councils and community**

### **Report by the Director for Digital, Sustainability & Resources**

#### **Executive Summary**

##### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. To update members on progress made around the successful implementation of SustainableAW 2020-23, the councils' shared framework for action on sustainability.
- 1.2. To present members with an improved version of SustainableAW for the 2021-23 period. This version introduces new shared actions put forward by the wider community of groups, organisations, business and landowners. It also has new actions put forward by the councils.
- 1.3. The new actions reflect the extraordinary and coordinated level of activity across our communities on climate and ecology. This can act as a showcase for Adur & Worthing as a hub of excellent practice, and will assist in increasing engagement and momentum.
- 1.4. This follows an extensive period of engagement with council officers and the wider community, with over 60 actions being put forward and over 200 organisations involved in the process.
- 1.5. This new plan pulls together many of the actions that were put forward at the successful community-led Zero 2030 Climate Conference (March 2020) and the Food, Land & Learning event (September 2019).

- 1.6. The plan also helps to address many of the eighteen recommendations which were put forward at the Adur & Worthing Climate Assembly. This was an important deliberative democracy process that the councils engaged in to listen to and understand the views of local residents towards climate change.
- 1.7. Approval is being sought from members to adopt the new Draft SustainableAW 2021-23 - a shared action plan between council and community which showcases much of the important climate and nature-related work going on across Adur and Worthing.
- 1.8. SustainableAW is intended to provide a framework to address the crisis in natural ecosystems and the Climate Emergency declared by members at Joint Strategic Committee on 9 July 2019
- 1.9. To address the Climate Emergency, greater collaboration on climate action is proposed through enhanced engagement with community, business and public sector partners; developing joint ownership of a refined SustainableAW plan; and creating clearer methods of joint working.
- 1.10 The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) has also taken an interest in the implementation of the SustainableAW work and as part of its 2021/22 Work Programme has requested that it receive a progress report to its meeting on 15 July 2021 for information. This Committee is, therefore, recommended to refer this report to JOSC for the July meeting.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. To note the success of SustainableAW 2020-2023
- 2.2. To approve the adoption of SustainableAW 2021-23
- 2.3. To approve a report being brought back to Joint Strategic Committee in autumn 2022 with an update on progress
- 2.4 That the members of the Committee refer the report to the Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 15 July 2021 for noting.

## **3. Context**

- 3.1. Joint Strategic Committee approved on 3 December 2019 the adoption of the council's improved sustainability framework: SustainableAW 2020-23. The framework intended:
  - 3.1.1. to highlight and draw together the ambitious range of environmental work being undertaken by the councils through Platforms for our Places, particularly in Platform 3 Tackling Climate Change and Supporting our Natural Environment;
  - 3.1.2. to respond to pressing and complex environmental challenges faced locally and globally, in particular the Climate Emergency;
  - 3.1.3. to provide a cohesive sustainability programme, delivered in collaboration with local partners; and
  - 3.1.4. to set out key strands of sustainability activity across ten themes: shared leadership, carbon reduction, energy, water, biodiversity, land use & planning, climate resilience, food, transport, waste reduction.
- 3.2. The councils Carbon Reduction Plan sets out an ambitious, challenging and yet achievable pathway for the councils to become carbon neutral by 2030. We are keen to show leadership in this area and demonstrate that we are serious in tackling climate change.
- 3.3. The councils are responsible for less than 1% of total emissions for the whole of Adur and Worthing, so it is vital that everyone, from business, to public sector organisations, to landowners and residents, are all aware of the actions that they can and should take to help achieve the area-wide target of reaching Net Zero by 2045.
- 3.4. In the Carbon Neutral study by Anthesis, the SCATTER approach is used to help understand greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Adur and Worthing and interventions needed to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 (this target has now been brought forward to 2045). The study shows the largest source of emissions are Buildings (57% and 67% for Adur and Worthing respectively), followed by Transport (30% & 23%) and Waste (13% & 10%).
- 3.5. At the time of the Carbon Neutral study (June 2020) Adur and Worthing's area emissions are tracking a 'business as usual' scenario, which will exceed Adur and Worthing's carbon budget by a factor of 3 by 2050.
- 3.6. The Sustainable AW 2021-23 plan which now brings together actions from councils and community will help to drive forward more

coordinated, ambitious plans and activity so that everyone plays their part in helping reach the area-wide target of NetZero by 2045.

#### **4. Review of Progress**

- 4.1. A full review of the achievements and impact of Sustainable AW 2020-23 is attached at Appendix 1 SustainableAW Review of Success. Some of the outstanding achievements are:

- 4.1.1. Adoption of the Council Carbon Neutral Plan to set out how we will become carbon neutral by 2030. This has involved multiple successful funding bids to deliver this work, totalling over £2 million.
- 4.1.2. Delivery of the Adur & Worthing Climate Assembly, where 43 randomly selected residents met to hear evidence from expert speakers, deliberate and then make recommendations which were then formally presented to Adur & Worthing Councils on 12th January 2021.
- 4.1.3. Joined UK100 Cities: a national network of local authorities through which members committed to work towards becoming Net Zero across Adur & Worthing by 2045
- 4.1.4. Commissioned a SCATTER report to further understand greenhouse gas emissions in Adur & Worthing and what needs to be done to become carbon neutral
- 4.1.5. Expanded the Sustainability Team, appointing two new Carbon Reduction Officers and a new Sustainability Officer
- 4.1.6. Delivered the award-winning, community-led, Zero 2030 Climate Conference, attended by 125 organisations and 300 delegates.
- 4.1.7. Launched a quarterly online Sustainable AW magazine, to highlight the climate and nature related work going on across the area, and increase engagement and cross sector working
- 4.1.8. Launched a new commercial food waste collection
- 4.1.9. Adopted a Local Cycling & Walking & Infrastructure Plan aiming to make walking and cycling the preferred means of travel, to improve wellbeing, improve air quality and reduce congestion and carbon emissions
- 4.1.10. Invested in three parcels of land, Pad Farm and New Salts Farm in Adur and Shepherds Mead in Worthing, with a view to restoring ecologically important habitat

## **5. A Shared Climate and Nature Plan for Adur and Worthing**

- 5.1. A new version of SustainableAW has been developed. This version introduces new actions put forward by the wider community of groups, organisations, business and landowners. It also has new actions put forward by the councils.
- 5.2. This has been an opportunity to pull together actions that were put forward at the successful Zero 2030 event in March 2020, as well as address many of the recommendations put forward at the A&W Climate Assembly (January 2021). Suggested activities have also been taken from the Food, Land and Learning event in September 2019.
- 5.3. The level of ambition is increased, with new actions against all strands of the framework. These can be seen at Appendix 2 SustainableAW Draft 2021-23 actions

## **6. Engagement and Communication**

- 6.1. An extensive period of engagement with council officers and the wider community, has led to over 60 actions being put forward and over 200 organisations involved in the process. A list of community partners that are working to deliver or connected to actions under the SustainableAW framework is available in Appendix 3: List of organisations involved or connected to actions within Sustainable AW 2021-23 .
- 6.2. Feedback to the plan has been really positive: “It's great to see a joined-up and connected approach that's been informed by the community and a wide range of stakeholders.”
- 6.3. Through the engagement process it is clear that there is so much more going on across the area than we are able to include within the plan. However, the plan still highlights and champions much of the important work going on across Adur and Worthing.
- 6.4. This process has given us the opportunity to listen to community groups to understand the work they do and the main challenges that face them in wanting to deliver some of this work. Some of the groups have had a difficult year due to Covid, many losing funding and volunteers. But many of them have praised the support they have received from the councils, from providing emergency funds, to

business advice, to practical hands-on help from the Rangers, which has been extremely well-received.

- 6.5. It is likely that new sub or action groups will be established on several of the work strands. These may perform similarly to the very successful A&W Walking and Cycling Action Group. In some cases new networking bodies may be set up, such as the proposed new A&W Food Partnership.
- 6.6. A joined-up campaign of communications will be delivered alongside SustainableAW 2021-23 to raise awareness. This will include social media activity, media releases, the Sustainability Officer's weekly blog, and the publication of the [quarterly online magazine](#) to showcase activities delivered under the framework, promoting the range of transformational activity and the rich diversity of organisations involved.
- 6.7. Alongside the SustainableAW plan, an online map is being created, to help demonstrate the range and location of climate and nature-related work going on. This will be available on the council's website and shared widely via all council media channels.
- 6.8. There are also a number of sustainability-focussed events that the councils will attend as a chance to connect with the local community and have conversations around the actions and ambitions contained within the plan. These include Bees & Seas (Brooklands Park), Green Dreams Festival (Field Place) and Sustainability Week (Shoreham Port).
- 6.9. Internally, the councils are establishing a Sustainability Champions Group to help Adur & Worthing Councils move towards becoming a much more sustainable workplace. The group will be responsible for distributing information and resources related to sustainability, promoting sustainable policies, and coordinating events and campaigns including the return of the popular eco-lunch & learn sessions and other activities to promote awareness.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. The Councils are funding a series of initiatives designed to ensure that it meets its zero carbon commitments. The budgets are already in place or provision for funding in future years has been made in the Medium Term Financial Plan.

## **8. Legal Implications**

- 8.1. s1 of the Localism Act 2011 empowers the Council to do anything an individual can do apart from that which is specifically prohibited by pre-existing legislation.
- 8.2. Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to do anything that is calculated to facilitate, or which is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
- 8.3. s1 Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997 confers power on the local authority to enter into a contract for the provision of making available assets or services for the purposes of, or in connection with, the discharge of the function by the local authority.
- 8.4. Grant funding is an integral part of delivery sustainability projects, when entering into contracts for the delivery of SustainableAW 2020-2023 it is important to ensure that all grant funding terms and conditions can be met.
- 8.5. The Climate Change Act 2008 is the basis for the UK's approach to tackling and responding to climate change. It requires that emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are reduced and that climate change risks are prepared for.
- 8.6. Some of the proposed actions set out in the Climate Plan will have legal implications that will need to be considered fully as they come forward. This includes things such as local plan documents which are subject to separate legislative requirements and processes.

## **Background Papers**

- JSC paper (Dec 2019): SustainableAW Refresh - increasing ambition and deepening engagement
- Sustainable AW 2020-2023 (previous plan)
- Sustainable AW 2019-2020 (original plan)
- Sustainable AW online magazine
- JSC paper (Sept 2020): Collaboration on the climate emergency - update on the success of Adur & Worthing Climate Conference 'Zero 2030' and next steps
- Adur & Worthing Climate Assembly Recommendations Executive Summary Report
- SCATTER study for A&W, Carbon Neutral Study for A&W: Exploring Pathways to Achieve the Target
- Carbon Neutral Plan
- Platforms for our Places, Platform 3: Tackling Climate Change & Supporting our Natural Environment

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## **Sustainability & Risk Assessment**

### **1. Economic**

- Creating a more sustainable place to live and work contributes to creating a more prosperous place, attracting business and investment. The Framework involves collaboration with partners across all sectors.

### **2. Social**

#### **2.1 Social Value**

- The collaborative approach benefits local community organisations and businesses. Action under the food, energy, transport and water strands will benefit local residents and those on low incomes providing cost savings from energy, water and transport.

#### **2.2 Equality Issues**

- Residents on low incomes will be able to directly benefit from energy and water bill savings

#### **2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

- Community Safety will be improved through the 'Transport' strand, with planned changes to the public realm, and improvements to cycling and walking infrastructure; and in the Ecology strand, planned parks projects.

#### **2.4 Human Rights Issues**

- The impacts of climate change are predicted to impact on all communities, but the greatest impact is predicted to impact the most vulnerable communities. It is imperative that all is done to mitigate climate change.

### **3. Environmental**

- The framework is focused on environmental protection and enhancement.

### **4. Governance**

- The Environment Framework aligns with Platforms for our Places, focusing in and expanding on actions in Platform 3, Tackling Climate Change and Supporting our Natural Environment. The new format with greater levels of cross sector engagement and collaboration are intended to increase capacity to address risks from environmental changes such as those predicted through climate change; and to increase capacity and resource through working together.

# Appendix 1: Sustainable AW 2020-2023 Review of Success

Sustainable AW 2020-2023 Councils Action Tracker			
Activities & Projects	Detail	RAG	Progress
<b>SHARED LEADERSHIP:</b> Deepening engagement and capacity for sustainability			
Hold climate conference with WCAN and TTW	Hold a climate event bringing business and communities together to engage on coordinated action.		COMPLETE: Zero 2030 community-led conference at the Assembly Hall March 4th 2020, attended by 300 including 125 organisations. Event won a Bronze Award from CPRE in oct 2020 for TTW, WCAN and AWC. Multiple actions put forward and a draft Climate Action Plan developed by Worthing Climate Action Network - the actions will feed into the new Sustainable AW plan - Appendix 2.
Deepen Sustainable engagement, improve communication	Coordinate community & business action with cross sector engagement. Communication campaign.		Sustainable AW online magazine launched. Weekly sustainability blog. Slower progress around community engagement due to covid, but underway. The first three editions of Sustainable magazine have been published in Summer 2020, Winter 2020, and Spring 2021 showcasing the wide range of action across council and community.
Develop Adur & Worthing Climate Emergency Plan	Develop an action plan for carbon reduction across Worthing and Adur with cross sector engagement. Dec 2020		COMPLETE: Climate Action Plan developed by WCAN, this will feed into updates for Sustainable AW. A 'Scatter' Study: A Carbon Neutral Study for Adur and Worthing: Exploring pathways to achieve the target (Anthesis June 2020) - has been developed to identify interventions to deliver carbon neutrality across Adur & Worthing.

**CARBON REDUCTION:** Radically reducing carbon emissions

Adopt and implement the council Carbon Neutral Plan	Adopt council Carbon Neutral Plan. With AECOM, partners and businesses. March 2020		COMPLETE: Carbon Neutral Plan developed and adopted by JSC November 2019. Carbon Neutral Plan developed and adopted by JSC November 2019.
Decarbonise council transport, heat and energy	Deliver yearly carbon reductions via energy and transport projects with stakeholders, contractors. Report every Dec		The councils need to make around a 10% year-on-year reduction in carbon emissions to meet their net zero carbon targets by 2030. Figures for 2019/20 show the councils made a year one reduction of 13%. This covers emissions from buildings and vehicles and was achieved through energy demand reduction projects and favourable climatic conditions. £2m of grant funding from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme was secured to deliver renewable electricity generation, insulation and renewable heating projects across the councils' estate. Projects are currently in procurement and due to start on site summer 2021. Work is continuing to develop a project pipeline to decarbonise the councils' estate and offset residual emissions.
Expand resources for council decarbonisation	Establish a SALIX fund, set up new council posts and systems for decarbonisation, with BEIS. June 2021		Establishment of a Salix fund has not been needed due to the success of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, and AWC successful award of over £2million as a grant rather than a loan. Three new officers are now in place: Carbon Reduction Manager, Project Manager (Carbon Reduction) and Sustainability Officer and a prioritised work programme developed. A (temporary) Sustainability Assistant has also been recruited (through the Kickstart scheme).

**ENERGY:** Transitioning to clean, secure, affordable energy

Deliver Smart Local Energy Systems (SLES) in Adur & Worthing	Install EV charging, PV, battery storage and heat pumps through the Innovate UK project with WSCC, SLES Consortium. April 2022		AWC has withdrawn from the Smarthubs programme due to insurmountable procurement challenges facing the lead partner, however schemes to deliver smart energy solutions are ongoing. A Solar opportunities study looking at council assets has been delivered and externally-funded heat pump solution (combined with solar PV) in corporate buildings and sheltered schemes are being delivered summer/autumn 2021. AWC will explore smart energy systems such as the combination of PV and battery storage as it can improve viability and performance.
Deliver solar PV programmes across council and area	Provide discount PV offers to residents through Solar Together programme with WSCC, YES, iChoosr. Annually from April 2020		<p>The councils commissioned Local Partnerships to identify a pipeline of investible solar PV projects on council assets. To date, opportunities have been identified to install up to 4MWp on council buildings, car parks and land assets (solar farms). Providing the projects prove viable, their delivery will allow the councils to offset a further 700 tonnes of carbon whilst generating revenue savings or income.</p> <p>A feasibility study for a solar farm is due to start summer 2021.</p> <p>The first Solar Together Sussex scheme, supported by both ADC and WBC, has been delivered - offering high quality discount price solar and battery storage to residents throughout Sussex wide via a scheme coordinated by WSCC and managed by iChoosr. Over 100 residents accepted their PV offer and these are being installed, alongside 13 battery storage offers accepted. A second scheme is under development.</p>

Explore Heat Network for Worthing Civic Quarter	Seek Govt funding, explore feasibility and begin implementation of a heat network if viable with BEIS, WSCC. Dec 2022		<p>A viable heat network scheme has been identified for Worthing, and a funding bid for £6m has been submitted to the government's Heat Networks Investment Programme (HNIP).</p> <p>Two successful Investor Days and follow-up 1:1 meetings have been held for prospective Investors, where many expressed an interest in bidding for a concession contract to design, build, operate and manage the Heat Network. A Stakeholder group with WSCC, NHS, WTAM and Ministry of Justice is working well together and all organisations submitted formal Letters of Intent as supporting evidence for the HNIP bid. BEIS have worked closely with WBC to develop the outline business case.</p>
<b>WATER:</b> Improving water quality and reducing consumption			
Improve council water efficiency	Conduct detailed review and install water saving measures at council sites with Water Utilities, Team Energy. Dec 2021		<p>Monthly meter readings are carried out on our key corporate sites to ensure consumption is on track and any issues are identified early. Working with colleagues in Parks and Estates to ensure consumption managed and leaseholders invoiced where appropriate. Discussing use of expert contractors to help with review. Capital bids in to install 2 new watering systems on bowling greens that entails harvesting rain water as part of that process. Will be completed in 2021 / early 2022</p>

Obtain and maintain Blue Flag awards for foreshore	Obtain and maintain Blue Flag awards for the foreshore area with SW, IFCA, EA, Keep Britain Tidy. March 2021		The Environment Agency has resumed the seasonal bathing water sampling. We await confirmation regarding how the 2021 classification will be calculated in lieu of 2020 sampling. This may either be based on the previous four years of results (2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021) or an average of the last four calendar years. The second would be advantageous as both 2018 and 2019 were 'excellent' stand alone seasons. Once this is released we'll know when we're likely to see a blue flag award. Application submitted to Defra for designation of an East Worthing bathing Water. Result expected before the 2022 Bathing Season. PH&R continue to hold regular liaison meeting with Southern Water, the Environment Agency, Building Control and Parks & Foreshore to ensure we continue to work together to enhance bathing water quality.
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#### BIODIVERSITY: Rewilding to create more and better spaces for wildlife

Develop tree planting campaign	Develop a major campaign and tackle challenge of ash dieback with Woodland Trust, SDNP, WSCC, community. March 2021		Natural capital project is now live and is working towards carrying out baseline surveys for sites to enable these aspects of the approach to be driven. Largest tree planting campaign delivered over autumn and winter of 2020 that the councils have ever achieved to date.
Increase parks awarded Green Flag status	Improve environmental management and number of parks awarded Green Flags with Keep Britain Tidy, community. May 2020		2 new sites were submitted for judging this year: Beach House Park and Lancing Ring. Due to a delay in judging because of Covid19 restrictions, the outcome of these visits is currently unknown. In December another 2 park sites as well as the 1st site for bereavement services will be submitted. Due to covid19 focus on bereavement services has not been on this type of work. It has also meant operationally parks department with social distancing / shielding / sickness and redeployment have only been able to cover the basic tasks for this year. We are however already working on improving sites across the area to bring up standards as a whole and enable easier submissions going forward.

Improve biodiversity in open spaces	Identify areas for community led planting and growing to create resilient landscapes with TCV, SWT, SDNP, RSPB. March 2021		21-26 strategy finalised, awaiting member sign off. This addresses biodiversity improvements, community growing, and resilience. Parks are leading a programme of natural capital management and some biodiversity work is already taking place. Rewilding sites have been identified, and procured.
<b>WASTE:</b> Reducing waste, increasing reuse, recycling and composting			
Trial new commercial food waste collection	Trial new food waste collection through commercial waste services with business partners. August 2021		Complete. Commercial food waste offer now available.
Adopt and implement Plastic Free Council strategy	Reduce the use of single use plastics across the council support local businesses and communities likewise. 2020-21		A Plastic Free Council Strategy has been produced, and is now being implemented through the Plastic Free Council delivery group chaired by Cllr Humphries.
Implement the UK Waste and Resources Strategy locally	Supporting a range of recyclables, potential food waste collection, and producer pays systems with WSCC, community. Sept 2021		Recycling rates in A&W are healthy when compared to neighbouring Ds and Bs. Commercial food waste collection has now been rolled out. Consistency in collection consultation with DEFRA now underway, as is the Deposit Return Scheme, and the Extended Producer Responsibility consultations. These will all have big impacts on the future of waste collections. There are proposals for a separate plastic film collection by 2026.

**TRANSPORT:** Shifting to sustainable transport and improving air quality

Adopt and implement Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan	Consult to Jan 2020. Review, amend, adopt March 2020. Seek funding and implement improvements with WSCC, DfT. 2022		Adur & Worthing LCWIP was adopted by JSC June 2020. Two pop up cycle lanes were temporarily delivered but removed by WSCC: A24 Worthing and A270 Shoreham using funding from DfT via the Emergency Active Travel Fund. WSCC are currently engaging on a potential scheme for Shoreham on the A270 , and intend to deliver a scheme in Findon Valley on the A24 north of Grove Lodge.
Improve air quality and install EV charge points at council sites	Partner with WSCC and installer to: increase EV charging infrastructure 2020-23; with WSCC and Highways England on AQ March 2021		In June 2020, JSC approved becoming part of the WSCC concession contract to deliver a consistent, accessible zero carbon, EV charge network across the county on and off street. AWC has put forward 31 potential sites to accommodate charging infrastructure and will be working with the county over delivery of charging infrastructure in coming months and years. An Invitation to Tender is being published June 2021 and award of contract expected by the end of 2021 for a concessionaire partner.
Decarbonise staff travel, implement Travel Action Plan	Incentivise active travel, EV use, car sharing, public transport with easit, SODEXO, Donkey Bikes, Fleet contract. June 2021		Business travel has been decarbonised through switching the entire Enterprise Fleet to hybrid and purchasing the councils' first electric vehicles as part of the Vehicle replacement programme. Cycling provision has been improved with covered cycle storage provided at Commerce Way. A new Staff Travel Policy is in development.

**FOOD:** Developing a fairer, more sustainable food system

Facilitate development of a new Food Partnership	Strengthen local networks to create a more sustainable food system and circular economy with community, business. Dec 2022		Work underway to develop an A&W Food Partnership. Initial focus was responding to emergency food provision during Covid, now working to broaden the scope into a more food systems approach. Community Works has secured finance from the National Lottery for 1 year of development work around establishing a food partnership. BHCC recruited a Food Policy Coordinator, currently exploring potential for a Greater Brighton Food Strategy which would include actions for Adur and Worthing.
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Explore council land for food, tree and rewilding projects	Map council owned land, existing projects, for food, rewilding, tree planting opportunities with Food Matters, community. Dec 2020		An A&W Food Mapping exercise with Food Matters was delayed (COVID). List produced of potential sites for rewilding - this led to acquisition of Pad Farm for habitat restoration. AWC community mapping will involve a map of all projects, including green spaces. Green Tides (A&W Green Spaces Partnership) working with us to map their projects too - map will sit on their website and include info on which spaces have food growing. New Apron Community Garden established in Buckingham Park, Shoreham, running sessions with Esteem, Age UK and families, plus piloting a composting scheme.
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#### CLIMATE RESILIENCE: Improving resilience to a changing climate

Improve drought, heatwave, extreme cold plans	Ensure robust council policy, responses in place with EA, WSCC, Highways England. Dec 2021		Specific Adverse Weather Plans and Frameworks are owned by government departments for the use by all responders across England and Wales. Cold Weather Plan - <a href="http://www.gov.uk/phe/cold-weather-plan">www.gov.uk/phe/cold-weather-plan</a> (Public Health England Plan / Framework) Heatwave plan - <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/801539/Heatwave_plan_for_England_2019.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/801539/Heatwave_plan_for_England_2019.pdf</a> (Public Health England Plan / Framework) Food Plans (Part 1 - Pan Sussex framework. Part 2 - Adur and Worthing Response plan - Relates to the emergency response management to a flood in our area)
Improve flood risk management plans	Ensure robust council policy, responses in place with EA, WSCC, Highways England. Dec 2021		A new Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been developed and adopted for A&W as background evidence for the Local Plans. See comment in 3.8.2.

Create resilient landscapes on council land	Work to create resilient landscapes with diverse stock, across urban and green areas with EA, SDNP, SWT, SWT. Ongoing		Natural Capital Investment approach adopted. Action plan created that feeds into LNP natural capital strategy. Sites have been identified for improvement in urban and green areas. Acquisition of Pad Farm, Shepherds Mead and New Salts Farm for habitat restoration and climate resilience. Working with Surrey Wildlife Trust to produce a Natural Capital Plan, establishing biodiversity net gain potential, plus baseline assessments and recommendations for improved ecology for each parcel of land.
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#### LAND USE & PLANNING: Delivering sustainable land use and planning

Ensure Local Plans address climate and nature emergency	Ensure robust approach to climate adaptation, mitigation, biodiversity net gain, with local agents, RTPI, LGA. Ongoing		Sustainability policies in the Draft Local Plan have been revised and strengthened, and included embedding the United Nations Sustainability Goals in the draft Plan. The Submission Draft Worthing Local Plan will undergo examination from the Planning Inspectorate this year. The Adur Local Plan review is on target to commence 2021; currently awaiting further Government guidance on changes to the Local Plan system which may result in a faster review process.
Improve Local Plans approach to air quality	Embed the Air Quality Emissions Mitigation approach within the Worthing Local Plan with WSCC, Sussex Air. 2023		The emissions mitigation approach has been included within the Submission Draft Local Plan.

## Appendix 2: Draft Sustainable AW framework: 2021-2023

This is a draft document. It will be designed and made available on the [Councils' website](#) following agreement at AWC Joint Strategic Committee on 13 July 2021. There will also be an accompanying online map made available.

There are two tables with 30 actions each. The first is new and revised actions for [Adur & Worthing Councils](#) and partners. The second table is new actions from the [wider community](#), including groups, organisations, business, public sector and landowners.

Table 1: New actions led by [Adur & Worthing Councils](#)

Sustainable AW: COUNCILS NEW ACTIONS 2021		
Commitment	ACTION	DETAIL - as it will appear in designed doc (with partners, timescales word limit up to 18)
<b>SHARED LEADERSHIP:</b> Deepening engagement and capacity for sustainability	Enable & empower communities to deliver climate & nature based projects	Provide support with partners around funding, community development, volunteer management & premises. Ongoing
	Deepen awareness and engagement of SustainableAW	Embed sustainability into council policies & decision making. Establish champions & learning sessions. Share online magazine widely 2021/22
	Work collaboratively to achieve Net Zero for Adur and Worthing by 2045 (UK 100 pledge)	Facilitate sustainability sessions for businesses to share best practice, support apprenticeships and green jobs - via AWBP, WACC 2021/22
<b>CARBON REDUCTION:</b> Radically reducing	Deliver Carbon Neutral Council by 2030	Deliver energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that reduce carbon emissions from fleet and buildings. Report annually in Nov.

carbon emissions	Deliver offsetting projects to address residual carbon emissions	Deliver investible renewable energy and/or sequestration projects with partners to offset councils' carbon emissions - 2022/23
	Explore nature-based solutions for Blue Carbon	Support research into marine, estuarine & intertidal habitats - with Uni of Bton & Portsmouth. Lease sea bed for kelp restoration - Crown Estate 2021/22
<b>ENERGY:</b> Transitioning to clean, secure, affordable energy	Reduce inequalities ensuring transition to clean energy is affordable and accessible	Widely promote ongoing grants and support to residents to reduce utility bills and environmental impact. WS Affordable Warmth Pp, BEIS, LEAP
	Increase solar energy generation across the council and area	Deliver the councils' Solar Strategy and support businesses and residents to install solar PV and Thermal. With WSCC, BEIS, GSEEH, iChoosr
	Progress Worthing Heat Network to supply zero carbon heat to the council and town centre	Work to secure funding, procure and deliver a heat network using free heat from the sewer. BEIS, SW, Offtakers Dec 2022
<b>WATER:</b> Improving water quality and reducing consumption	Improve council water efficiency	Conduct detailed review and install water saving measures at council buildings & parks with Water Utilities, Team Energy. 2021/22
	Obtain and maintain Blue Flag awards for foreshore	Obtain and maintain Blue Flag awards for the foreshore area with SW, IFCA, EA, Keep Britain Tidy. March 2022
	Manage and improve our water courses in line with the Adur & Ouse Catchment objectives	Work with partners to identify how to improve quality of our water courses. Engage upstream landowners. With EA, SW, OART.
<b>ECOLOGY:</b> Enhance, protect & connect green and blue spaces for the benefit of all nature and people	Undertake Natural Capital Project to improve biodiversity of green & blue spaces	Assess ecology of council owned sites, explore opps to improve & extend learning across area. Engage local community. With SxNP, SurreyWT 21/22
	Work with partners to explore opportunities & strategies for a Local Nature Recovery Network	Utilize network of water courses, ponds & green spaces to enhance nature's recovery & better connect people to nature - with SxNP, SWT, OART, SDNPA. 2023

	Increase parks awarded Green Flag status	Invest in ongoing environmental management & infrastructure improvements & develop appropriate strategies to support. Ongoing
<b>WASTE:</b> Reducing waste, increasing reuse, recycling and composting	Shift to a Circular Economy approach with a focus on reuse	Actively support and enable innovation, enterprise & education pilots/projects via AWC Circular Economy Group. Ongoing
	Deepen implementation of the Plastic Free Council strategy	Embed plastic reduction across the council. Collaborate with partners to promote reuse. 2021-22
	Implement national waste policies locally & ensure Environment Act readiness	Support a range of recyclables, potential food waste collection, and producer pays systems with WSCC, community. 2021
<b>TRANSPORT:</b> Shifting to sustainable transport and improving air quality	Support and enable active travel across Adur & Worthing	Implement improvements from LCWIP - WSCC, DfT 2022. Introduce Bikeshare scheme (50% ebikes) 2023. Implement sustainable Staff Travel Policy 2021.
	Increase EV Charging infrastructure across Adur and Worthing	Partner with WSCC and installer to install renewably powered, accessible charging infrastructure 2022
	Develop sustainable transport programmes and planning for Adur & Worthing	Expand & enhance car clubs, promote car share schemes, support low carbon alternatives. With WSCC, Community Transport Sussex, Hydrogen Sussex
<b>FOOD:</b> Developing a fairer, more sustainable food system	Take a strategic, place-based approach to food	Work in partnership with the local community to develop a Food Partnership which has a shared vision and strategy - with Community Works, 2021/2
	Develop a network of community food projects	Map & promote places for growing, foraging, cooking, volunteering & connection around food. Identify support & enhancements needed. 2021/22 - with Green Tides
	Support a thriving local food economy	Champion local people who grow, fish, cook & sell ethical sustainable healthy food, provide routes to market, premises, planning & business support. Ongoing

<b>CLIMATE RESILIENCE:</b> Improving resilience to a changing climate	Deliver nature-based solutions to improve climate resilience, biodiversity & wellbeing	Work in partnership to restore ecologically important habitats & create more across A&W. Engage wider community. With EA, OART, SWT, SDNPA, NE
	Strengthen council management plans around flood risk and a changing climate	Ensure robust responses in place with EA, WSCC, HE, SRF Dec 2021. Explore adaptation pathways to cope with climate change and rising sea levels 2023
	Champion best practice of highly sustainable developments that are fit for the future	Explore opportunities to raise awareness & understanding of developments that are climate resilient & promote a healthy & sustainable environment. 2021/22
<b>LAND USE &amp; PLANNING:</b> Delivering sustainable land use and planning	Maximise opportunities within Local Plans to address climate change, nature loss & air quality	Identify sites with partners for climate adaptation, mitigation, BNG, GI, district heat, food growing & carbon capture. Strengthen Sustainability Checklist following adoption of WLP 2022
	Establish Sussex Bay as a destination and new economic opportunity	Develop partnership project & attract major funding for large scale habitat restoration, natural capital ecosystem services, sustainable fishing & tourism. 2021/22
	Use Developer contributions to help deliver sustainability projects	Take a strategic and strengthened approach, identifying opportunities for BNG and leveraging CIL & s106 payments - with Developers, SxNP

**Table 2: New actions led by community groups, organisations, businesses & landowners**

There is a list of partners connected with this plan which can be found in appendix 3 as there is not enough space to include full names or lists of all partners involved within the designed document. There will also be a page of partner logos made available in the designed document following the Committee.

Sustainable AW: COMMUNITY NEW ACTIONS 2021		
Commitment	ACTION	DETAIL - as it will appear in designed doc (with partners, timescales word limit up to 18)
<b>SHARED LEADERSHIP:</b> Deepening engagement and capacity for sustainability	Run sustainability engagement activities to boost awareness	Deliver Green Dreams Festival (GD Team), Bees & Seas (Food Pioneers, Creative Waves, Fof Brooklands), Sustainability Week (Shoreham Port) 2021/22
	Build sustainability leadership capacity at every level	Explore a Community Education Partnership. Co-produce events & learning networks with schools, community & business. EYE Project 2021/22
	Coordinate climate awareness public engagement campaigns across the area	Deliver community-led campaigns - TTW, TTS, Worthing CAN, SECA. Coordinate county-wide campaign, utilising Engagement Hub to deepen impact (WSCC)
<b>CARBON REDUCTION:</b> Radically reducing carbon emissions	Businesses lead the way in carbon reduction to influence others to follow	Leading businesses share carbon reduction plans and best practice to inspire others, Ricardo, World of Books, Shoreham Port 2021/22
	Share best practice for staff engagement in carbon reduction	Deepen engagement of Care Without Carbon with all NHS Trusts in area, share learning & resources where possible - Sussex Community NHS Trust, 2022
	Reduce overall climate impact from sports	Demonstrate measures taken to reduce carbon footprint. Utilise platform to influence & educate supporters/community & fellow clubs - Shoreham FC

<b>ENERGY:</b> Transitioning to clean, secure, affordable energy	Provide support needed to achieve Net Zero for Adur and Worthing by 2045	Deliver Low Carbon Across South East (LoCASE) energy efficiency grants and support for SME's - Green Growth Platform
	Support innovation in clean energy	Deliver Moixa battery storage scheme for households (BHESCO, TTW). Explore potential for Community Energy Scheme (Transition Town Shoreham) 2021/22
	Support and accelerate decarbonisation of housing	Demonstrate energy efficiency measures & retrofitting advice via Eco Open Houses. (TTW) Enhance skills of local builders & installers via Home Decarbonisation Academy - GBMET
<b>WATER:</b> Improving water quality and reducing consumption	Improve water quality of our streams & rivers & community awareness of water issues	Celebrate success of EPIC to improve water quality & biodiversity. Open up Broadwater Brook so it's accessible to community - OART & Sompting Estate 2021/22
	Reduce water wastage through campaigns and infrastructure investment	Install 100k smart devices by 2025, conduct home visits, incentivise customers to meet 100 litre target - Southern Water
	Showcase home improvements that create resilience for drought or flooding events	Run Eco Open Houses & other projects to demonstrate rain gardens, surface water management, rainwater harvesting - TTW & Tarring Flood Group
<b>ECOLOGY:</b> Enhance, protect & connect green and blue spaces for the benefit of all nature and people	Restore a healthy kelp forest ecosystem off the Sussex coast	Project manage workstreams, stakeholder & public engagement and research opps to support & deliver kelp restoration - Kelp Restoration Partnership
	Increase awareness of pollinators and extend their habitats	Extend Community Road Verges pilot, establish Pollinator Highways WSCC, LPC, HE, AWC, WCAN 21/22. Promote & expand Wildflower Trail (Green Tides) & Bees & Seas (Food Pioneers)
	Engage around the importance of green spaces for nature and wellbeing	Run activities to help people connect with nature & learn skills & knowledge. Explore social prescribing. With Green Tides, AWC Rangers

<b>WASTE REDUCTION:</b> Reducing waste, increasing reuse, recycling and composting	Transition towards a circular economy with reuse and repair as a focus	Run regular Repair Cafes, educational activities & upcycling workshops. Explore Library of Things. Transition Town Worthing/Shoreham, Over The Moon, Men in Sheds. Ongoing
	Deepen engagement and awareness around Plastic Free Adur & Worthing	Deliver campaigns & events inc beach cleans, promote reuse - with Refill, Plastic Free Worthing, KLL, FoSB, MCS, Southern Water.
	Reduce food waste through redistribution and recycling	Pilot a community composting scheme (Apron Community Garden). Explore improvements to surplus food redistribution, inc fresh food (Community Works) 2022/23
<b>TRANSPORT:</b> Shifting to sustainable transport and improving air quality	Improve skills, support and access for active travel	Run Bikeability / maintenance sessions & campaigns (WSCC, Sustrans, CYCALL, BikeBoom), refurbish bikes (Durrington Community Cycle Project), promote cycle routes & lobby for improvements (WCAG)
	Develop and support new local carbon technologies for transport	Establish Hydrogen Sussex as leaders in R&D for hydrogen technology (Ricardo) and production (Shoreham Port) 2021-22
	Improve sustainability, accessibility and connectivity of community transport	Deliver partnership projects/pilots for more sustainable & accessible service, helping to reduce social isolation - Community Transport Sussex.
<b>FOOD:</b> Developing a fairer, more sustainable food system	Create a fairer food system, with healthy, ethical and sustainable food for all	Support establishment of a Food Poverty Alliance; coordinate meetings & working groups - Community Works
	Enable communities to come together to cook, share, connect and learn	Deliver cooking sessions, test pop up kitchens to provide healthy, affordable food to local communities - Community Kitchen lead partner, Food Pioneers, Apron CG, UK Harvest

	Optimise opportunities for community food growing & bee keeping	Promote community gardens (Green Tides) & create more inc Southwick Community Orchard (Eastbrook CG), Community Farm & Orchard (Sompting Estate, Sustainable Sussex), Malthouse Meadows Project (Sompting PC, SS)
<b>CLIMATE RESILIENCE:</b> Improving resilience to a changing climate	Identify local areas where natural flood management can occur	Work with landowners and parish councils to develop risks and opportunities map to aid investment in natural flood defence. OART/EA 2022/23
	Maximise opportunities for appropriate tree planting	Develop projects and attract funding for tree planting schemes - Green Tides, TCV, Brighton Permaculture Trust, Tree Action UK, AWC Rangers
	Create nature-rich and resilient landscapes	Develop a marine & land conservation corridor & education programme to boost biodiversity & reconnect local community to coast (Sussex Dolphin Project, Shoreham Port)
<b>LAND USE &amp; PLANNING:</b> Delivering sustainable land use and planning	Protect and promote sites of natural importance	Raise awareness & enhance local areas of importance, inc Adur Estuary SSSI, Cissbury Ring, Mill Hill LNR, WidewaterLagoon LNR, Shoreham Beach LNR, (SDNPA, FoSB, SDOS, FoLR, RSPB)
	Improve landscapes and farming practices for the benefit of nature & healthy soils	Undertake landscape-scale, farmer-led conservation and regenerative agriculture projects. Engage public to enhance understanding. Sompting Estate, Arun to Adur Farmers Group Cluster
	Ensure readiness for implementation of the Environment Act	Prepare & deliver Local Nature Recovery Strategies and guidance of Biodiversity Net Gain & share best practice across LAs - WSCC, SxNP, SWT, SDNPA, NE

**See Appendix 3 for the list of partners and projects involved or connected with this plan.**

### **Appendix 3: List of organisations involved or connected to actions within Sustainable AW 2021-23.**

This list will evolve as more partners and projects come on board. If you are not listed and would like to be, please contact [chloe.clarke@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:chloe.clarke@adur-worthing.gov.uk). More projects and partners will be available on the online map which will be launched shortly after the July Committee.

A&W Walking & Cycling Action Group (WCAG)
Adur & Worthing Business Partnership (AWBP)
Adur & Worthing Councils (AWC)
Adur & Worthing Councils Park Rangers
Adur & Worthing Highdown Gardens
Adur Homes
Apron Community Garden (ACG)
Arun & Adur Farming Group Cluster
Bike Boom
Blue Marine Foundation
Breathing Spaces
Brighton and Hove Energy Cooperative (BHESCO)
Brighton Energy Cooperative (BEC)
Community Transport Sussex
Community Works
Coombes Farm

Cortis Avenue Wildlife Garden
Creative Waves
Crown Estate
CYCALL
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
Department for Transport (DFT)
Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)
Durrington Community Cycle Project
EASIT (discounted travel network)
Eastbrook Community Gardeners
Eco Open Houses (Transition Town Worthing)
Eco, Young and Engaged (EYE) Project
Environment Agency (EA)
EPIC Sompting
Esteem
Food Pioneers
Friends of Anchor Gardens
Friends of Beach House Park
Friends of Broadwater Cemetery and Christ Church Burial Ground
Friends of Brooklands Park

Friends of Buckingham Park
Friends of Denton Gardens
Friends of Durrington Cemetery
Friends of Fishersgate Rec
Friends of Hamble Park
Friends of Heene Cemetery
Friends of Homefield Park
Friends of Lancing Manor Park
Friends of Lancing Ring
Friends of Marine Gardens
Friends of Shoreham Beach (FoSB)
Friends of Tarring Park
Friends of Victoria Park
Friends of West Park
Friends of West Worthing station
Friends of Whitebeam Woods
Good Gym
Greater Brighton Economic Board
Greater Brighton Metropolitan College (GBMET)
Green Growth Platform (GGP)

Green Tides (Friends of Parks & Green Spaces Volunteer Groups)
Highways England (HE)
HISBE
Hydrogen Sussex
Keep Britain Tidy
Keep Lancing Lovely (KLL)
Lancing College Farm
Lancing Parish Council (LPC)
LASER (Energy Buyer)
Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP)
Marine Conservation Society (MCS)
Maybridge Keystone Centre
Men in Sheds Fishersgate
Men in Sheds Lancing & Sompting
Men in Sheds Worthing
Moixa
Natural England (NE)
Oscar Romero Catholic Secondary School
Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust (OART)
Over The Moon

Plastic Free Worthing
Proto Group
Refill Lancing
Refill Shoreham
Refill Worthing
Ricardo
RSPB (Adur Estuary Reserve)
SALIX
Shoreham & District Ornithological Group (SDOS)
Shoreham Academy
Shoreham By Cycle
Shoreham Football Club
Shoreham Port
Solar Together Programme
Sompting Estate
Sompting Parish Council
South Downs Leisure
South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA)
South East Climate Alliance (SECA)
Southern Water (SW)

Surfers Against Sewage (Brighton, Hove & Shoreham)
Surrey Wildlife Trust
Sussex Air
Sussex Botanical Recording Society
Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust
Sussex Dolphin Project
Sussex Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (IFCA)
Sussex Kelp Restoration Partnership
Sussex Nature Partnership
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Sussex Resilience Forum
Sussex Wildlife Trust
Sustainable Business Partnership
Sustainable Sussex
Sustrans
Tarring Flood Group
TCV Growing Communities
Team Energy
Tech Take Back
The Living Coast

Transition Town Shoreham
Transition Town Worthing
Transport for South East
UK Harvest
UK Power Network (UKPN)
University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
University of Brighton
Warmer Sussex
West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership
West Sussex County Council
West Sussex Recycles
World of Books
Worthing & Adur Chamber of Commerce (WACC)
Worthing Allotment Management
Worthing Climate Action Network (Worthing CAN)
Worthing Cycle Forum
Worthing Food Foundation
Worthing Homes
Worthing Theatres & Museum