

North Somerset Climate Local Commitment

UPDATE REPORT 2018

The council signed up to the local Government Associations 'Climate Local commitment' in June 2013 and have reported annually on progress on actions which contribute to addressing climate change. The commitment states that:

“We recognise that our council has an important role to help our residents and businesses to capture the opportunities and benefits of action on climate change. These include saving money on energy bills, generating income from renewable energy, attracting new jobs and investment in ‘green’ industries, supporting new sources of energy, managing local flood-risk and water scarcity and protecting our natural environment.”

Climate change is a global issue which is likely to have a significant impact on the quality of life in our district. There is a natural variability in Earth’s climate, but current climate change is very unusual and it is not exclusively part of a natural cycle. There is an underlying warming trend, and the United Nations has concluded that it is ‘very likely’ (more than 90%) to be caused by human activities. The global increase in temperature of 0.85°C since 1880 is mirrored in the UK climate with higher temperatures and evidence of more extreme weather events. Activities such as energy and fuel consumption related to homes, businesses and transport, result in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the main GHG, accounting for about 82% in the UK in 2016. The other greenhouse gases include water vapour, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, CFCs and HCFCs. In order to limit the changes in climate, we are advised that we need to make efforts to minimise greenhouse gas (and especially CO₂) emissions, through climate change mitigation. Regardless of the success of mitigation measures, there will still be some degree of unavoidable change in climate as a result of past emissions. Climate change adaptation refers to our plans to adapt to the changes brought about by a changing climate.

The **‘Paris Agreement’** is the global climate agreement negotiated by United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The purpose is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping global temperature rise this century well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C. The Agreement sets a goal for net zero global emissions in the second half of this century. It also aims to strengthen the ability of countries to adapt to and deal with the impacts of climate change. The Paris Agreement was ratified by the UK in November 2016.

The council recognises the need to commit to action on climate change, to be resilient to changes brought about by a changing climate and to contribute to the carbon emission reduction requirements set out in the **UK Climate Change Act**¹. The Climate Change Act commits the UK to reducing its carbon emissions by 80% by 2050, from a 1990 baseline.

¹ Climate Change Act: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>

The '**Clean Growth Strategy – leading the way to a low carbon future**' was released in 2017 as part of the UK Government's Industrial Strategy². The strategy is clear that we must pursue clean growth, where growing our national income includes cutting greenhouse gas emissions. 'Green growth' will increase our productivity, create jobs, boost earning power for people across the country and help protect the climate and environment upon which we and future generations depend. The government has explained that it would like the public sector to be leaders in reducing carbon emissions. The public sector also has a key role to play in demonstrating best practice, promoting transparency over emissions reporting and catalysing markets in energy efficiency by implementing measures at scale.

The **National Planning Policy Framework** (NPPF) one of the core principles of the NPPF is '*to support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings and encourage the use of renewable resources.*' **Paragraph 94** guides Local planning Authorities to adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change (in line with the objectives and provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008), taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations.

A **West of England Energy Strategy** is being developed with the primary purpose to identify priority actions to decarbonise the West of England, whilst delivering an increase in GVA from growth in energy and low carbon sector activities. It is anticipated that this will provide a strategic framework for energy, whereby the unique potential of the regional assets are maximised to achieve agreed carbon reduction targets. The aim is for the West of England to become a beacon for low carbon growth and innovation and deliver energy that is secure, reliable, clean and affordable.

Setting a carbon reduction target for North Somerset:

As part of our commitment to action on climate change, the council is adopting a local carbon reduction target. A carbon reduction target agreed across West of England local authorities (North Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire & Bath and North East Somerset) is to **reduce carbon emissions by 50% by 2035** from a 2014 baseline. This target is set out in the West of England **Joint Spatial Plan**.

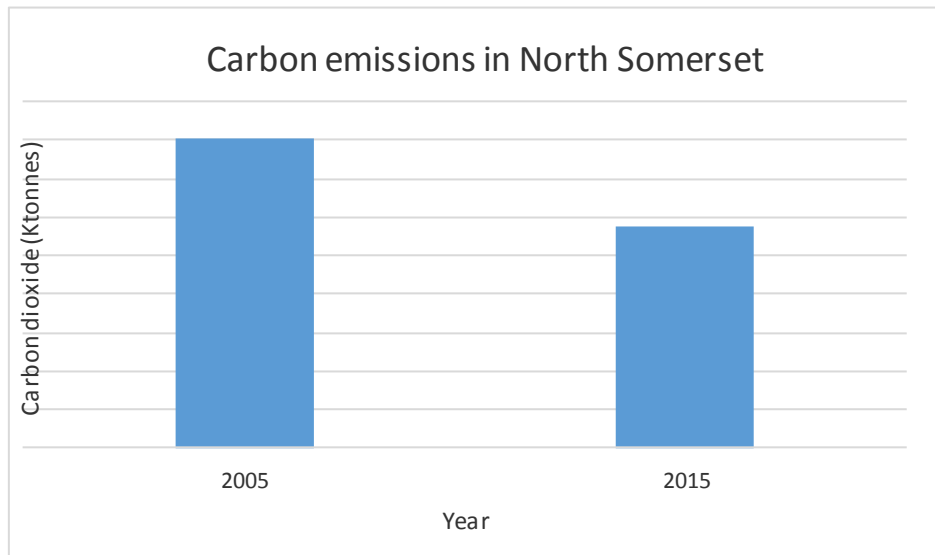
UK carbon dioxide emissions have been calculated annually since 2005, through its inventory of UK Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. The purpose is to provide a reliable and consistent breakdown of greenhouse gas emissions across the country.³ GHG emissions are attributed to three main sectors: Domestic, Transport and the Industrial and Commercial sectors. In North Somerset the largest percentage of emissions is from the transport sector (45%), with a roughly even split attributed to the domestic (28%) and industrial and commercial sectors (25%).

² The Clean Growth Strategy: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/651916/BEIS_The_Clean_Growth_online_12.10.17.pdf

³ UK greenhouse gas emissions: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics>

It is recognised that local authorities have very little influence over some emissions, because of this emissions from **motorways, international aviation and shipping are not included in local emission calculations**. There are however many areas over which council action can have considerable influence and action on climate change and the transition to a low carbon economy is relevant to a range of services delivered by the council.

North Somerset carbon emissions from 2005 to 2015:



From 2005 to 2015:

CO₂ emissions reduced by 28.5%

1,607 Kilo tonnes (2005) - 1,149 Kilo tonnes (2015), or

8.3 - 5.5 tonnes per person.

The transport sector – road traffic is one of the most important sources of emissions which are contributing to climate change. The *West of England Joint Transport Plan* aims to tackle this at the sub-regional scale with improvements to sustainable travel opportunities. But we need to move at a local level to move away from private car use to more sustainable travel options and increasing walking, cycling, rail and bus travel.

The Domestic/ community Sector in North Somerset is active in delivering action towards tackling climate change. Local community groups have formed in many of the villages and towns, as part of the 'transition movement.' There are groups in Clevedon, Nailsea, Failand & Long Ashton, Backwell, Winscombe & Sanford, Pill and Portishead. *North Somerset Climate Coalition* formed from membership of the various transition groups. The group asks individuals, groups and organisations to pledge to practical action and to be as part of the global effort on action on climate change. The council endorses the ambitions of the group with this climate local commitment demonstrating the measures it is taking to act on climate change. The Climate Coalition held its first annual gathering in November 2017 to seek ideas for practical action on climate change and are keen to work with the council to progress local action on climate change.

Industry and commerce and the shift to a low carbon economy: North Somerset aspires to an increasingly skilled workforce which is attractive to employers and well placed to benefit from economic growth, including key sectors such as digital and low-carbon energy and major regional projects such as Hinkley Point. Economic growth and job creation can go hand in hand with a move to a low carbon economy. There are many examples of North Somerset-based businesses which are already focussing on low carbon activity.

Meeting the carbon emission reduction target:

In 2014 greenhouse gas emissions for North Somerset were measured as equivalent to **5.8 tonnes per person**, so to reach our target for 2035 emissions will need to measure **2.9 tonnes per person**. This is a challenging target and there will be many initiatives beyond the scope of local authority control that will impact on this, but there are local actions which can and should be taken to contribute towards the shift to a low carbon society.

Actions taken by the Council contributing to carbon emission reduction:

- ✓ **Delivering sustainable development:** Climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements are set in policies CS1 and CS2 of the Core Strategy. Energy efficiency in the housing stock is required alongside renewable energy generation of new build properties (*Planning policy*).
- ✓ **Sustainable transport schemes:** investment in schemes such as MetroBus, encouraging sustainable travel choices and a policy requiring travel assessments/ plans to be submitted with all major (>10 dwellings) developments (*Transport policy*).
- ✓ **NSC travel plan:** a travel hierarchy where no travel is given preference, there is a shift to electric vehicles. The plan sets out carbon reduction targets (*Sustainable travel*).
- ✓ **Waste minimisation:** Waste minimisation and reuse of raw materials reduces energy use, plus reduces GHG emissions associated with landfill. (*Waste management*). Over the last few years there has been an increase in recycling rates to approximately 60% of residual waste.
- ✓ **Domestic renewable energy:** Increased efficiency leads to reduced energy use which in turn reduces emissions. ECO funding and energy efficiency/ fuel poverty support. (Housing).
- ✓ **Office Amalgamation Programme:** Council offices were reduced from eighteen to two. Energy consumption was reduced with refurbishment of Town Hall reducing emissions by 39% with the installation of a 30kW solar PV system. Refurbishment of the Castlewood office included new highly insulated roof coverings, efficient chiller plant, LED light replacement and high efficiency boilers (*Property and asset management*).
- ✓ **The low carbon schools service:** rolled out to schools across the district which on average saves 14% on energy bills which equates to 1,500 tonnes of CO₂ per year (*Education*).
- ✓ **Street Lighting:** where previously contributed approximately 25% of the councils CO₂ emissions, part night and dimming projects has reduced energy use/ CO₂ emissions (*Streets and Open Spaces*).

Action taken by the council to reduce the risks associated with a changing climate:

1. **Flood risk management schemes:** tackling the increase in flood risk from extreme weather events and a changing climate (*Flood risk management*).

2. **Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure (GI) planning policy:** reducing the threats posed to biodiversity by climate change. GI leads to cooling, carbon storage and provides shading, increasingly required through increased temperatures (*Streets and open spaces*).
3. **Community resilience** – providing support for communities to cope in extreme weather events (*Emergency management*).

The sections below show the actions taken by the council in 2017 which contribute to either carbon reduction or managing the risks associated with climate change, and the progress that has been made in meeting these.

Climate change mitigation: action taken which contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions:

1) Sustainable Development (Planning Policy) commitment: <i>'enable sustainable housing growth which protects our natural heritage and built environment and the special character of our villages – Development provide resilience to the impacts of climate change and promotes reduced carbon emissions.'</i> (NSC Corporate Plan)			
Action(s) 2017	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
Implement Core Strategy policy requirements contained within CS1 – <i>'Addressing Climate Change and carbon reduction'</i> and CS2 – <i>'Delivering sustainable design and construction'</i>	All new development proposals must demonstrate how they comply with the policy requirements set out in CS1 and CS2. In particular the requirement for renewable energy provision as part of a developments energy requirement. (Includes GI and biodiversity requirements, included as climate change adaptation measures).	Continue to challenge developer compliance with policy. There is either misinterpretation of policy where energy efficiency measures are proposed as an alternative to renewable energy generation or where viability stated as reason for non-compliance of renewable/ low carbon energy generation technology into new development.	A 10% contribution to predicted energy use from renewables is required for small development and a 15% reduction for developments over 10 dwellings.
Develop new planning policy relating to action on Climate Change for inclusion in the Local Plan 2016 – 2036.	Policy will include actions to deliver renewable and low carbon energy generation and set out new required sustainable construction standards. For the Strategic Development Locations (identified in the West of England Joint Spatial Plan) it will state that: <i>'Through the production of the new Local Plans and supporting SPD, the potential for development to be built to a zero carbon standard, that is net zero emissions from regulated and unregulated heat and power, will be investigated using a consistent methodology across all four Unitary Authorities'</i>	Commissioned a study across the West of England In April 2017 to understand the viability of delivering 'zero carbon' development at the Strategic Development Locations. Working across West of England to provide evidence to identify the mechanisms and viability of achieving zero or near to zero carbon development types. This will be used within the Local Plan for consultation in 2018 onwards.	Net zero carbon emissions with new development where viable.
Identify opportunities for	To contribute to the low carbon requirement for	Secured funding in June 2017 to carry out heat mapping and energy	Not measured at this stage

low carbon heat network development across the district.	<p>new development, use funding from the Department of Business Energy and Industrial strategy (BEIS) to identify heat network opportunities across the district.</p> <p>One of the aims of heat network development is to enable the council to capitalise in heat network development.</p>	<p>masterplanning for Weston-super-Mare and at the Strategic Development Locations identified in the West of England Joint Spatial Plan.</p> <p>Will progress the Weston-super-Mare study.</p>	
Review/ update guidance contained in the Sustainable Buildings and Places Supplementary Planning Document.	Revisions are required to reflect changes in national policy and to bring the guidance in line with policy in the Local Plan.	The required changes have been drafted in 2017. It is anticipated that the draft document will be consulted on with Local Plan consultation in 2018.	Not quantified

2) Sustainable travel (transport policy) commitment: 'To promote sustainable travel throughout North Somerset and to ensure that we deliver a more resilient transport network.'

Action(s) 2017	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
Identifying major transport improvement schemes, for example: MetroBus, North South Link Road, Weston to Bristol Corridor via A38, Portishead Rail.	<p>Schemes leading to reduced emissions and improved air quality:</p> <p>Metrobus is a rapid express bus service, which will improve access to Bristol from North Somerset and encourage a shift towards bus travel.</p> <p>Joint Transport Plan policy to progress delivery of more strategic cycling and walking corridors.</p> <p>Future developments to include electric vehicles, driverless cars, alternative fuels, on demand public transport and the wider use of internet to facilitate home working.</p> <p>The Plan has a specific goal to reduce carbon emissions through increase in active travel to</p>	<p>The council have been allocated £788,000 for local transport improvements to reduce congestion/ CO₂ emissions by strengthening pedestrian and cycle links to key destinations along existing routes.</p> <p>Money awarded for Metrobus and enhancements to bus terminus in Weston-super-Mare.</p> <p>Consultation on the Joint Transport Plan publication version November 2017 to January 2018.</p>	<p>Not quantified at this stage</p> <p>Single occupant commuting forecast to fall from 59% to 45% in 2036</p>

	<p>reduce car use and investment in Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles.</p> <p>Weston to Bristol corridor includes planned Rail improvements, higher frequencies and more direct services from Weston to London. Weston to benefit from further cycling corridor to promote active travel and sustainable transport modes.</p>		
Work with local organisations and partners across the West of England to promote sustainable transport	<p>Policy and guidance relating to sustainable travel is set out in North Somerset Highway Development Design Guide and Travel Plan Supplementary Planning document.</p> <p>Large developments are required to submit transport assessments and travel plans demonstrating commitment for development management requirements for pedestrian, cycle and public transport access. Developments must meet cycle parking requirements and consider electric vehicle charging facilities.</p>	<p>Further grants are offered to businesses to provide sustainable travel infrastructure</p> <p>More businesses are installing electric charging facilities.</p> <p>Through the Department for Transport Access fund, the Travel/West Roadshow team engaged new business through their annual event.</p>	The target set out in the Joint Transport Plan is 50% reduction by 2035
Implementation of the Council travel plan policy (2015 – 2018).	<p>North Somerset Council promotes encourages healthier and more sustainable alternatives to driving, whether for commuting or business journeys. The council implements a travel plan hierarchy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No travel • Video or tele-conference • Active travel - walking and cycling • Bus and train • Pool car • Car share • Hire Car 	<p>The Travel to Work survey measures progress towards implementing the travel plan and the uptake of more sustainable travel modes. Staff participation in the ‘big commuting challenge’ led to the council coming fourth in its category. <i>Targets set in order to meet the over CO₂ reduction target (on a 2012/3 baseline):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% increase in video conferencing by 2017 • 40% increase in public transport use by 2018 • 20% staff travel by electric pool car by 2017 • 30% increase in walking to work by 2018 • 50% increase in cycling to work 2018 • 200% increase in bus travel to work by 2018 • 50% increase in travel by train to work by 2018 • 15% increase in car sharing by 2018 	<p>Participants of big commuting challenge saved 990kg CO₂ for the month of the challenge.</p> <p>Target to reduce CO₂ emissions from commuting by 10% by 2017/8</p>

	Conversion of fleet to electric through the 'Go Ultra Low Project.'	<p>The council now has 29 electric vehicles. The fleet conversion rate is 37% of NSC small van and cars.</p> <p>The average CO₂ rating for the fleet is 113kgm CO₂ (includes passenger vehicles and HGV) cars are just 46.66gkm CO₂.</p> <p>Electric charging has a cost of £400,000/annum, compared with over £1 million previously.</p>	The aim is to eliminate all CO ₂ and NOx emissions from the car and light freight element of the fleet – more progress required to order to meet this.
<p>Work with schools to promote active travel</p> <p>There is a dedicated schools and communities sustainable travel officer working with schools.</p>	<p>Schools are required to develop travel plans, which encourage sustainable modes and safer journeys.</p> <p>Plans promote healthy alternatives to get to and from school by walking, cycling and using public transport. The plans also aim to reduce congestion on our roads.</p>	<p>Schools are given access to Modeshift STARS, a Dept. for Transport sustainable travel portal. 5 schools now have interactive travel plans with a target of 30 schools over 3 years to achieve accreditation</p> <p>Activity this year has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 roadshows • 2 Dr Bike mechanic visits • School mode of travel data collected every January • Consultation advice to schools producing travel plans 	Not collected

3) Waste management commitment: Provide a service that encourages all households and businesses to optimise waste minimisation.
Ensure sustainable and cost-effective waste service through renewal of contracts (NSC corporate plan)

Action(s) 2017	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
Work programmes introduced to increase recycling rates and minimise rates across the district, including improved green recycling, reminder nudge messages to public of benefits of recycling.	Eunomia Carbon Recycling Index: this is a carbon recycling index which measures <i>kg CO₂ eq. saved per person</i> is provided for all authorities. It provides a measure of the environmental performance of local authority waste and recycling services. The reports show which local authorities' recycling services deliver the greatest carbon saving benefits.	<p>In the last report produced in 2016, for the recycling year 2014/15 North Somerset were the second authority in the index: http://www.eunomia.co.uk/carbonindex/pdfs/2014_15.pdf</p> <p>The authority is classed under the 'high flyer' banding within the report with improved recycling rates from the previous recorded year.</p>	The recycling services increased its measure of CO ₂ equivalent saved per person from 104 to 108 kg eq. from 2013/4 to 2014/5.

	In the 4 reports produced since 2011/12, North Somerset have been in the top 4 authorities for recycling carbon savings.		
Implement the new waste contract awarded to Biffa in 2017.	The recycling rates in North Somerset is already circa 60% and one of the highest performing authorities in England, but there is an ambition to increase this further still.	<p>The introduction of kerbside collection of small waste electrical & electrical equipment (WEEE) appliances reduces material disposed of in the residual waste bin.</p> <p>The range of materials accepted at Household Waste Recycling Centre expanded to include hard plastic and plate glass.</p> <p>Residual waste at the recycling centres reduced during the first 6 months of the contract, which reduced waste to landfill and associated carbon emissions.</p> <p>New campaigns from November 2017 to encourage residents to separate materials in recycling boxes, which reduces time to collect which a positive impact on CO₂/NO_x emissions and traffic congestion.</p>	43,000 tonnes of residual waste – 25,000 is landfilled and 18,100 recovered at MBT plant.
Recycling/ reusing communications & education initiatives – Bi-monthly news and tips on recycling in North Somerset are published in the North Somerset Life Magazine	<p>This provides regular detail of the recycling service. Tips and news stories are included to encourage residents to maximise their recycling and reuse of materials.</p> <p>The recycling & waste team now have their own Facebook page and Twitter account to send out tips for recycling more/reducing waste</p>	<p>The Life Magazine articles in 2017 contained more diverse information based on the ‘nudge theory’ (behavioural science).</p> <p>Facebook/Twitter went live in October 2017: https://www.facebook.com/North-Somerset-Recycling-and-Waste-1943069549275411/</p>	Not attributable
Support provided to community/Town and Parish council zero waste and re-use initiatives: e.g. Freecycle; Community Re-Paint	There are reuse facilities at all of the NSC household waste recycling centres.	<p>As part of the Parish Recycling scheme, residents in Nailsea achieved the gold standard and were awarded money to spend on local projects. Activities included recycling roadshows, litter picks, surveys, and pledges by residents to recycle more.</p> <p>WEEE amnesty and reuse events held at Town and Parish councils in 2017. These events provide the opportunity for local residents to take items which would otherwise have been disposed of, to a local event</p>	Not measured currently

		<p>with the intention of reuse or recycling. Future events will be done in conjunction with Changing Lives in 2018.</p> <p>Support to the James Scott's North Somerset Reuse Project. This is a non-profit making Community Interest Company which aims to stop usable items going into landfill. Support to the Repair café in Winscombe where old items are given a new lease of life where skilled volunteers repair a wide range of objects. Repairs help minimise carbon emissions www.repaircafe-winscombe.org.uk</p> <p>The bulky waste service is now provided by <i>Changing Lives</i>, a local charity supporting homeless people. The council intends to extend the agreement with Changing Lives managing the reuse areas at the recycling centres from 2018.</p>	
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4) Home energy efficiency (housing) commitment: Achieve home energy efficiency improvements and raise awareness of affordable warmth, renewable and low carbon forms of energy and ways to reduce expenditure on fuel.

Action(s) 2017	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
Provide advice and support to householders to promote home energy efficiency. Measures will improve home energy efficiency which in turn tackles fuel poverty across the district.	<p>Activity includes promoting cheaper ways of paying for fuel, investigating fuel switching options for households and holding drop in sessions at Gateways with support.</p> <p>Private Sector Housing Delivery Plan updated to incorporate fuel poverty actions. A stock Condition Report (New) awaited before producing draft for consultation.</p>	<p>Drop-in energy advice sessions held in conjunction with the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) in January and February. Offering a full range of efficiency advice, including fuel switching.</p> <p>Social media messages about smart meters promoted in March</p> <p>Nov/Dec Life edition will have keeping warm in winter information.</p>	Not measured at this stage
	A bid (via West of England Partnership) for EU funding to improve take up of home energy efficiency loans is anticipated. This will include revenue support for staff time as well as capital support for measures.	A bid will (need) to be made by middle November 2017	Not measured at this stage

	Liaison with the community interest company (CIC) which owns a large-scale community solar farm near Weston-super-Mare. Business plan includes delivering fuel poverty support specifically in the town of Weston via the Centre for Sustainable Energy.	This year have engaged with the Burnham and Weston CIC to provide advice on appropriate local home energy/ fuel poverty alleviation actions for Weston-super-Mare.	Not measured at this stage
Promotion of affordable warmth with Public Health to reduce excess winter deaths.	An expression of interest has been made to the national Warm Homes Fund. The bid would target homes that have EPC's which are either F or G rated, (indicating an excess cold hazard) to offer energy efficiency advice and measures through partner agencies accessing ECO and other funds.	Awaiting outcome of the expression of interest, with the intention that a formal bid to the Warm Homes Fund can be completed in 2018.	Not measured at this stage

Climate change adaptation: action contributing to reducing risks associated with climate change

5) Flood risk Commitment: Put measures in place to reduce increased flood risk associated with climate change			
Action(s)	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
Reduce flood risk through implementation of local flood alleviation schemes	<p>Schemes in 2017 have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milton Hill • River Banwell • Upper Bristol Rd, WsM • Summer Lane Flood Scheme, WsM • Wrington <p>Planned for 2018: Will be updating the North Somerset Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) next year when the new climate change guidance is published by the Environment Agency for flood risk in respect of sea level rise and rainfall.</p>	<p>Highway flood mitigations scheme with Wessex Water delivered on Milton Hill. The Project has protected 20 properties this year.</p> <p>River Banwell Strategic Flood Solution works were completed, which provides flood mitigation for new development.</p> <p>Flood mitigation works in partnership with Wessex Water at Upper Bristol Road, WsM have been completed. A second phase for next year has been planned and the scheme designed.</p> <p>Business case approval for Summer Lane Flood Scheme delivery in 2019, which will protect 85 properties. Scheme detail design taking place. Planning permission secured for scheme in Wrington: properties protected is 80 to 90. Phase 1 is complete and phase 2 will be delivered in 2018.</p> <p>A programme of highway drainage works has been completed this year.</p>	N/A

Implementation of sustainable drainage schemes	The developers guide to sustainable drainage, is linked to the 'Creating Sustainable Buildings and Places' SPD. Page 26 sets out the requirements – this has been implemented on all major planning apps since April 2015 when the LLFA became a statutory consultee in the planning process.	Working with the Joint Spatial Plan to include climate change in the flood strategy. Large developments implementing attenuation and looking to control exceedance flooding so property is protected. http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/West-of-England-sustainable-drainage-developer-guide.pdf	N/A
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6) Biodiversity/ Green Infrastructure Commitment: Use planning policy to reduce biodiversity loss and to implement green infrastructure to reduce risks associated with a changing climate			
Action(s)	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
NEW Integration of Biodiversity protection into planning policy	Sites and Policies Development DPD Policy DM8: Nature Conservation. <i>'To protect and enhance biodiversity, particularly on sites of recognised nature conservation interest. To protect trees, hedges and other landscape features of amenity value and to secure suitable replacements in instances where their loss is justified.'</i> Ecological mitigation supported within planning policy should lead to the retention and enhancement of ecological corridors and pockets of habitat, which will contribute to resilience to climate change.	<i>Policy DM8:</i> Nature Conservation, adopted and implemented through development management from July 2016.	Carbon storage maximised within vegetated retained wildlife habitats/corridors.
	Biodiversity protection is written into the following emerging West of England Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) policies.	Engaged in the JSP policies and Habitat Regulations Assessment consultation in Autumn/Winter 2017. Through consultation have recommended that a GI and Climate Change-linked policy is provided to support 'stepping stone' habitats as 'pocket nature reserves', as the key mechanism to deliver resilience for wildlife species, to include insect pollinators, to climate change.	
NEW Integration of Green Infrastructure Provision	There are multiple benefits gained through green infrastructure provision in terms of reducing the risks associated with climate change – providing	<i>Policy DM19:</i> Green Infrastructure, adopted and implemented through development management from July 2016.	

through planning policy	<p>cooling, shading and carbon storage</p> <p>Planning policies for Green infrastructure: Core Strategy Policy CS19 and Development management Policy DM19</p> <p><i>Proposals will, where appropriate, ensure that green infrastructure is: 'able to maximise the opportunity to respond to climate change'; 'Trees are important elements, contributing to the value of green infrastructure, notably regarding landscape and in combating climate change.'</i></p>		
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7) Public Health Commitment: Put measures in place to reduce the human health and wellbeing risks associated with a changing climate.
Health and wellbeing is one of the key outcomes for improvement identified in the Corporate plan.

Action(s)	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
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<p>*NEW* Public health team working to reduce the negative health and wellbeing impacts arising from climate change</p>	<p>Climate Change is recognised as one of the biggest public health threats this century. The potential benefits of mitigation and adaptation actions are far-reaching and synergistic with the overall aims of public health to promote health and reduce inequalities.</p> <p>The key effects of climate change on health, wellbeing and the health and social care system are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in heat related illness and death 2. Flood related illness and displacement 3. Pressure on health care providers to keep services running in the face of extreme weather 4. Increase in health inequalities 5. Health impacts relating to air quality and aeroallergens 6. Increase in food, water and vector borne diseases 7. Skin cancer and sunburn <p>It is also recognised that the impacts of climate change are most likely to affect the most vulnerable in our society and efforts should be made to reduce this inequality.</p>	<p>Continued contribution to the Avon and Somerset Local Resilience Forums 'Severe Weather plan' https://www.northsomersetccg.nhs.uk/media/medialibrary/2014/05/severe_weather_plan.pdf</p> <p>Working in partnership across NSC departments to develop business continuity and emergency planning for Public Health and Social Care services.</p> <p>Participation in the Health Protection Assurance Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing quarterly assurance to Public Health England (PHE) to ensure health protection response is robust and adaptive • regular discussion with PHE centres to gather essential evidence on disease patterns <p>Continue to link local health policy with other NSC depts. such as housing, planning, transport and infrastructure. Specifically, encourage appropriate planning of built environment to consider heat-related illness and fuel poverty through the Health Improvement Specialist.</p> <p>Deliver and disseminate education campaigns to increase awareness of climate change impacts on health and wellbeing e.g. Sun Smart</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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8) Emergency Management/ Community Resilience Commitment: *Empower people to contribute to their community and communities to provide their own solutions. Deliver expanded community resilience project (NSC corporate plan).*

Action(s)	Detail	Progress in 2017	Carbon emission reduction (where applicable/ measured)
<p>Provide community resilience support and training to community volunteers. Extreme weather events are a focus of resilience</p>	<p>The programme engages communities and partner organisations. The 'top down' delivery during the first few years of the programme evolved into a community owned, community led asset. In April 2015 <i>Community Resilience North Somerset</i> became a Community Interest Company (CIC)</p>	<p>Board Members and a Strategic Steering Group are leading the transition as a CIC in 2017.</p> <p>New website for 2017: https://communityresilience-ns.org.uk/</p> <p>Winter preparedness workshops held September 2017.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

activity.			
<p><i>*NEW*</i> Working with North Somerset Climate Coalition community group</p>	<p>A community group has formed as a local response to the Paris Climate Agreement http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php</p> <p>The primary aim of the coalition is to ask individuals, groups, businesses and organisations to pledge practical action to reduce climate change.</p>	<p>An awareness raising article was published in North Somerset Life in February 2017: http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Life-January-February-2017.pdf</p> <p>A website for the group set up: http://northsomersetclimate.org/</p> <p>A Facebook page set up: https://www.facebook.com/northsomersetclimate/</p> <p>An annual gathering held in November 2017 providing an opportunity to collate pledges and gain ideas for action for 2018 onwards.</p>	<p>Currently not quantified, but aim to calculate pledges into carbon reduction metrics.</p>