Climate Emergency Action Plan 2021-23 (24th February 2022 update)

<u>Theme 1 – Reduce carbon emissions from our buildings & fleet to help achieve a net zero Carbon footprint for Council Services by 2030</u>

Theme 2 – Produce renewable energy

Theme 3 – Enhance biodiversity and protect our environment

Theme 4 – Facilitate walking, cycling and sustainable transport around Colchester

Theme 5 - Provide sustainable waste management and support residents to reduce, reuse and recycle

Theme 6 – Enable partnerships and community action for sustainability and low carbon development

Theme 7 – Ensure sustainable planning and development

Theme 8 – Change the way we work to achieve our climate commitment

1. Reduce carbon emissions from our buildings & fleet to help achieve a net zero Carbon footprint for Council Services by 2030 tion How will action be February 24th update Date Measurement of Success

Services by 2030					
Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)	
1.1 Development of a new Carbon Management Plan (CMP) based on insight and evidence gathered from a detailed pathway modelling of the current CBC footprint.	Work with a consultancy to develop a new CMP for 2022-27	Currently contacting businesses/consultancies to gain quotes and expertise to carry out this work	January 2022 – May 2022	New Carbon Management Plan produced by June 2022	
1.2 Review CMP 2016-2020 to address any outstanding projects and see if these can be carried out	Review projects to identify technical feasibility and budget available	Actions will be reviewed again when CMP work begins	Jan 21 - Dec 21	Actions reviewed and identified for completion in new CMP if required	
1.3 Continue to report on our emissions annually, and look to collect more refined data on our indirect emissions	Explore ways of accessing data from contractors on their emissions in relation to procured goods and services Review other data sources and report annually, including calculating emissions associated with working from home.	Data collection complete Emissions within the net zero target figures, along with indirect emissions for 20/21 have been published on the CBC website Working from home emission figures estimated.	Emissions reported annually	Report on emissions, in better detail where possible.	
1.4 Take steps to ensure the council's future electricity	Source Council's electricity from a supplier	Green tariff procured	Dec 20-Apr 21	Get a 100% renewable electricity green tariff in new procurement of utility supplier	

1. Reduce carbon emissions from our buildings & fleet to help achieve a net zero Carbon footprint for Council Services by 2030

Services by 2				
Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
supply is provided by 100% renewably generated sources	providing 100% renewable electricity Explore opportunities for renewable energy generation such as solar PV that can be used to contribute directly to powering Council buildings (see 2.2)	See 2.2	May 2021 – April 2022	Business case produced for generating renewable energy to contribute to powering Council buildings (see 2.2).
1.5 Review our estate and assets to investigate means of increasing energy efficiency of heating, lighting and cooling systems	New Estate Asset Strategy to include decarbonisation plan	Building maintenance programme to involve investigating opportunities for decarbonisation as part of building surveys	April 2021- April 2022	Building Maintenance Survey & Programme includes carbon reduction assessment and activities.
1.6 Decarbonisation of Rowan House, the Council's main office	Replacement of existing heating and ventilation systems with heat pump. Also adding in extra roof insulation and LED lighting	Tender out to deliver Rowan House works	February 2021 – June 2022	Realization of predicted energy savings during first full year of operation.
	Installation of 10 electric vehicle (EV) charge points at Rowan House	Groundworks commenced on site but design revisions are necessary due to unforeseen issues. This may have a budget impact but being assessed.	January 2021 – April 2022	Installation complete to support purchase of new EVs

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Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)	
1.7 Creation of an Asset (Housing) Management Strategy that will establish plans for reducing emissions from the housing stock	Reviewing plans for upgrading assets and setting an appropriate target for reducing emissions from the housing stock	On track – Asset Management Strategy findings have been produced and software used to produce scenarios for reducing carbon emissions from housing stock. Carbon Trust also provided support on producing options appraisals for reducing emissions from 4 sheltered housing buildings.	January 21 - September 21	Strategy produced which sets targets for carbon reduction	
1.8 Increasing the energy performance of 100 Homes to reduce energy use and tackle fuel poverty	100 Homes Project – Purchasing 100 former Council homes to increase energy performance certificate (EPC) rating to an average of B.	Overall estimated average EPC rating for project is C78 currently. This is higher than the current stock average of C75. Houses are expected to achieve an estimated average of B85. Flats to achieve an estimated average of C74. On completed properties the achieved EPC ratings are: Overall average C80 Houses average B85 Flats average C73	September 2020 – March 2022	Increase EPC rating to average of B for the 100 properties	

1. Reduce carbon emissions from our buildings & fleet to help achieve a net zero Carbon footprint for Council Services by 2030

Services by 20				
Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
1.9 Decarbonising the housing stock through the Housing Improvement Programme (HIP)	Housing Improvement Programme Works to upgrade most energy inefficient properties to an EPC of C or above.	On track	April 2021 – March 2022	40 properties to be raised above D in 12 months Installation of ASHP and
	Replacement of heating system at Mary Frank House with an air source heat pump (ASHP)	On track		working to design expectations
	Installation of monitoring equipment in accordance with Heating regulations	On track		To be compliant with Heat regulations
	Boiler replacement works - Replacement of outdated and inefficient boilers	On track		405 boilers to be replaced, of which 20 will be air source heat pumps
1.10 Redevelopment of Elfreda House to reduce carbon emissions	Redevelopment of Elfreda House to Future Homes 2025 standard	Under construction and due to complete in May 2023	April 2021 – May 2023	Site built to standard to produce no more than 33.4 kg/m ² CO ₂ per year

1. Reduce carbon emissions from our buildings & fleet to help achieve a net zero Carbon footprint for Council Services by 2030

Services by 2030					
Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)	
1.11 Take a phased approach to the renewal of the fleet to meet our target of having a fully electric vehicle fleet by 2030	Publishing of a first draft of a fleet transition programme towards 2030	Done	1st draft produced in December 2020 – reviewed regularly	Programme published and reviewed as technologies develop	
	In 2021, 15 EVs and 4 hybrid vehicles will be purchased to replace existing small vehicles fuelled by diesel	Vehicles in process of being procured. Hybrid vehicles put into service 14/01/22. Six electric vehicles are due in at the end of April 2022, the procurement of another nine are on hold due to charging infrastructure delays. Alternative location for a smaller number of fleet, as a first phase now underway and will be located at St John's car park. Chargers due to go live end of January 2022. Second phase of chargers at Rowan House for April 2022 Strategy planning and procurement discussions underway.	January 2022 – December 2022	Procurement of electric vehicles and achievement of carbon emission savings Procurement of electric vehicles and associated charging infrastructure with achievement of carbon emission savings	

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How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)	
NEPP fleet review underway and to be published Summer 2021.		May 2021– April 2022		
Procurement of at least 1 EV for the Park Safe scheme in 2021.	2x EVs (Renault Zoes) have been purchased and will become part of NEPPs Park Safe expansion.	October 2021		
Production of an initial strategy to set out guidance for provision of EV charge points	Engagement with EST and ECC ongoing as part of research/ scoping phase. ECC now looking to set up a 'request EV charging' form to centrally collect/identify areas of	March 21 – December 2022	Strategy approved and in place	
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1.13 Investigate emissions of nitrogen dioxide from Crematorium and explore opportunity to purchase deNox equipment to reduce nitrogen dioxide	Install diffusion tubes upwind of crematorium to measure nitrogen dioxide concentrations in air. Measure nitrogen dioxide as part of cremator emissions testing.	Cremator tests complete. Reviewing results alongside diffusion test modelling to see if there is a case for installing deNox equipment	May 2021 – December 2021	Nitrogen dioxide concentrations measured in air surrounding Crematorium and from cremators
emissions	Depending on results look to purchase deNox equipment to help reduce nitrogen dioxide emissions from crematorium to improve air quality.	TBC	TBC	TBC
1.14 Develop Milestones and Pathway to reach net zero for direct emissions by 2030.	Work with Carbon Trust to develop milestones for emission reductions between now and 2030.	Findings presented to the Panel on 13 th January.	May 2021- November 2021	Several milestones developed for emission reduction between now and 2030 to ensure we stay on track to reach net zero emissions by 2030.

2. Produce Renewable Energy

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
2.1 Continued development of Northern Gateway Heat Network site to generate low carbon energy	Construction of the main energy centre and beginning to build connections to residential, commercial, health and leisure sites.	D&B post tender contract negotiations	Q2 2021/Conne ctions up until 2027	Heat Network site fully complete and operating
2.2 Explore the creation of a microgrid to link up new sites of solar PV generation and load (buildings) and probably battery storage	Conduct feasibility study and development of a business case for a solar PV farm.	Stage 3 Business case being developed, with the grid capacity issues leading the dependencies	2021/2023	Reducing carbon intensity of Northern Gateway development and ideally provide lower cost energy

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3.1 Plant 200,000 trees by 2024 as part of the Colchester Woodland and Biodiversity Project to benefit biodiversity and for capturing carbon emissions.	Volunteer planting days in Autumn for residents to help with planting around 20,000 trees on 11 different Council sites	Final planting day set for 5 th February – all others have now been completed with over 400 volunteers helping us to plant.	November 2021 – February 2022	Planting of 20,000 trees in 2021/22
	Parish Councils, Local Schools & Landowners to be offered tree whips for planting on their own land.	Over 23,000 trees now delivered to these groups all to be planted by the end of March 2022	November 2021 – March 2022	
	Work with relevant experts to ensure planting sites are chosen appropriately to ensure tree planting will benefit biodiversity. Environmental Impact Assessments will also be undertaken	Careful engagement undertaken for each planting site with a number of stakeholders	Ongoing	Continue to work with experts/communities to ensure tree planting is carried out at appropriate sites

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
	on new tree planting sites. Establishment of tree seed nursery at Highwoods Country Park so trees can be grown from seed for future use in project.	Ongoing	Tree seed nursery established, just needs management	Management of nursery, so that future trees planted in the project can be sourced locally.
3.2 Review the Council's Parks and Green Spaces Strategy, exploring opportunities to tackle	Data and consultation will be used to inform the strategy	On track	April 2022 – April 2023	Approval of revised strategy

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
climate change and to safeguard and enhance existing habitats and species.				
3.3 Improve the ecological and amenity value of the riverside lake and island near the Castle Park to enhance biodiversity, capture carbon and allow better access to the site.	Plans in early development and will be expanded on in future update of the action plan	Environment Agency permission received. Sending out for quotes from contractors	tbc	tbc
3.4 Ceasing the use of glyphosate herbicides in Council operations through a phased approach as a way to manage	Agreement reached to phase out glyphosate use for general maintenance by end of March 2021	Complete	September 2020 - April 2021	Significant reduction in glyphosate use. Increases in biodiversity found on Council green spaces.
weeds, and encouraging other stakeholders to do the same	Alternative ways of managing weeds without glyphosate will commence at the start of the growing season	Will remain ongoing	April 2021- April 2022	New methods adopted for managing weeds going forward.

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3.5 Trialling 'no mow' or reduced mow approaches to rewild Council green spaces and support biodiversity, particularly pollinators.	14 green spaces identified where areas of reduced frequency mowing will occur, allowing for the growth of grasses and wildflowers, with rewilding approach developed through engagement with Town and Parish Councils	Review underway	May 2021 – April 2022	Weed and verge maintenance policy agreed and implemented Trial for no mow/reduced mow approaches leads to formally adopting new mowing regimes for Council green spaces going forward.
	Engagement with local schools led to pupils producing designs for signs explaining why the Council is changing its mowing regimes.	Some schools have helped to produce signage for the activity – this will be installed in February and schools invited to see the signs. Those that have taken part have also been offered 15 native trees and wildflower seeding for their school grounds.	Ongoing	Signs developed that help to explain reason for changes to mowing regimes.

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4.1 Continue to support local organisations to encourage active travel through the Travel Plan Club	Work and support local organisations to encourage active travel and reduce reliance on private car for commuting through creating workplace travel plans	Working with CBH to write new travel plan. Working on travel to work survey with University of Essex. Engaging with new travel plan coordinators at Hythe Mills and The Maltings to res-establish and focus their travel planning	Ongoing action	Deliver annual plan of action with helping to review and refresh workplace travel plans
4.2 Implement the Electric Cargo (eCargo) bike project to	Using eCargo bikes within Council operations to reduce emissions from travel	Over 10,000 miles completed on eCargo bikes	May 2020-May 2023	eCargo bikes used for several routine Council services
reduce emissions from travel and operations of the Councils and local organisations	Providing eCargo bikes to 10 organisations (project champions) to break down barriers to using eCargo bikes as a sustainable mode of travel for conducting deliveries and other operations.	Bikes provided and being used successfully by champions. Giving feedback to Energy Saving Trust on their use.		Normalisation of ecargo bikes in Colchester and businesses buying their own to replace cars/vans for their operations

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	Loaning eCargo bikes out to local organisations to promote this mode of travel, in a 'try before you buy' approach.	ECargo bikes are now being let out on short term loans. A self-employed maintenance contractor and Cllr Laws are two of the latest individuals to loan the bikes Training for adult Bikeability to support the project has been secured through a further successful Defra grant and is being		
4.3 Improve air quality in the borough by promoting the adoption of no idling and encouraging cycling and	No idling behaviour change campaign led by the community.	In process of agreeing 2022 action plan with new actions and focusses for the campaign	June 2019- June 2021 for behaviour change campaigns	Post project survey results which demonstrate increased awareness of pollution and its effects and a change in attitudes towards idling (including understanding effectiveness of different signage messaging)
walking for shorter journeys	Launch of new campaign to promote responsible home burning	Engagement events been ongoing including Colchester Library, Firstsite and Fenwick	November 2021 – March 2022	Improved public understanding of impact wood burning has on air pollution if not done responsibly.
	Behaviour change work with a resident community and 4 schools to support walking and cycling for	Work continuing with 'Get Monkwick Moving' project as detailed at Panel meeting on 7 th December 2021. Continuing to promote the schools toolkit for	March 2021 – August 2022	Evidence of increased walking and cycling amongst target schools/resident group

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	short journeys, particularly through air quality management areas (AQMA's)	raising awareness and taking action on air quality in schools.		
	Psychological signage encouraging no idling to be installed in East Street/ Brook Street and monitored for effectiveness.	Signs put back up on 8 th January. 3 new research assistants. Will monitor the progress of the signage on engine turns offs (and also impact on air quality when new air quality sensors are installed)		Evidence of reduction in air pollution and idling (particularly in Brook St/East St)
4.4 Provide enabling policies and strategies to promote walking and cycling in Colchester	Influence: Colchester Cycling Delivery Strategy SPD Vehicle Parking Standards review ECC's Local Cycling and	New SPD text to be drafted in 2022 On track LCWIP 4 plans to be delivered	April 2021 – April 2022	Influence future developments and lobby for funding Influence others to increase uptake for sustainable travel
	Walking Investment Plans (LCWIPs)	through Town Deal		
	Rail operators Integrated Transport Forum and liaison with Network Rail	On track	Ongoing	

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	Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership	On track	Ongoing	
4.5 Promote walking and cycling routes in Colchester through improving signage and	Introduce wayfinding signage along the University to Town Centre routes to encourage walking Making improvements to	Pending s106 funding allocation – will aim to link in with Greenstead too.	April 2021 – April 2022	Signage improved and more people using the routes on foot
wayfinding	the wayfinding signage between: - Town centre and port	On track	April 2021 – April 2022	
	- North Station and Colchester General Hospital	On track	April 2021 – December 2022	
4.6 Improve infrastructure along the route from North Station to Town Centre to encourage	Fixing the Link – Project to encourage those arriving at Colchester Station to walk the route to Town Centre through installing better wayfinding and public realm improvements.	Flags along route are to be replaced. Process starting to do this. Also having conversations in restoring Middleborough fountain as part of the route improvement.	April 2021 – April 2022	Increased numbers of people walking the route, by clear wayfinding and enjoying a quality welcome experience.

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
walking and cycling.				
4.7 Map and promote use of the Colchester Orbital	Mapping a circular walking and cycling route around Colchester and ensuring routes are accessible for all. Adding greenery to orbital and expand	Promotion of orbital and other walking and cycling routes being done through active travel pages on CBC website. Hard copy maps to be reprinted. Greening the Orbital final report received – being edited.	Map already produced – Will be updated when required with new information	Map produced that can be used by residents and making changes to route where appropriate to ensure it remains accessible for all Parts of orbital made more natural with added greenery along route.
4.8 Encourage the uptake of alternative sustainable travel methods for work and leisure purposes	Taking part in electric scooter (escooter) trial Colchester Future Transport Strategy – Work with ECC to review consultation responses ready to finalise the Strategy and promote schemes which will help implement the initiatives contained within the Strategy.	Trials proceeding well and agreement to extend until November 2022 On track	February 2021 - November 2022 February 2021 - December 2021	Learn how escooters could be used as a sustainable mode of travel for getting around Colchester Input into and influence ECC's Strategy to enable projects which promote sustainable travel are taken forward

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	Influence Rapid Transit system linking Garden Communities, park and ride/choose site with town centre, hospital and Colchester Station, route and provision.	On track	April 2021 – April 2022	
	The Council's Scrutiny Panel to review bus operations in Colchester and to consider how to increase use of this sustainable mode of travel.	Draft response to the ECC Bus service improvement plan prepared. Decision run by portfolio holder and submitted for council approval.	Spring 2021 – Spring 2022	Encourage greater uptake of buses in Colchester
4.9 Facilitate walking and cycling in Colchester by providing suitable infrastructure.	Identifying funding for, and a site in, the Town Centre to create a secure cycle parking facility, and plan how this will be managed.	Preferred operator for secure cycle park identified and meetings being arrange	January 2021 – April 2022	Secure cycle parking facility identified and created
	Working with ECC to support the introduction of infrastructure such as segregated cycle lanes and school streets along	Active Travel Fund improvements for Colchester agreed and now waiting timescales for implementation	January 2021 – Summer 2022	Improvement of cycling infrastructure in and around the town centre meaning greater uptake of cycling

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
	key routes in and around Colchester Town Centre Reviewing S106 funding to plan and work with others to install and improve a range of measures and infrastructure Wivenhoe Trail - identify funding for and implement improvements. Work with partners to agree future maintenance plan. Stanway to Tollgate - identify funding and working with others to initiate improved links	See updates below r.e. Wivenhoe Trail/Stanway to Tollgate Awaiting finalisation and release of funding, and will then work with engineers to identify and plan improvements No further progress – Awaiting results of a new development	April 2021- April 2022	S106 identified and schemes promoted/designed ready for implementation. Funding mechanism identified to implement schemes. Greater numbers of people walking and cycling along the Wivenhoe Trail. Better access between local communities and growing major retail area.

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4.10 Bring an electric vehicle car club to Colchester, alongside a shared bike hub	Identify funding to create a network of electric car club vehicles in Colchester to support sustainable travel and move away from private car ownership	Funding secured for 2 e carclub cars for the town centre through a 3 rd successful Defra grant. 1 electric vehicle car club bay agreed for Priory Street Car Park Car club specification drafted, with advice sought from other local authorities. To go out to tender in February 2 ebike/ecargo bike hubs for residents plan to be set up, with some bikes in process of being procured For the shared eCargo bike/ebike hub, research is currently being completed into how the scheme will be run – e.g. pricing, booking systems. Following up with members of community who are interested in being involved with the community shared bike hub.	January 2021 – December 2021	Car Club provider starts electric vehicle car club in Colchester

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4.11 Develop actions as part of the Positive Parking Strategy that will help to reduce congestion in the town centre and promote sustainability.	Park Active – A project to encourage people to park in car parks on the outside of the town centre – This will help encourage walking/cycling into town and reduce congestion. Installing electric vehicle charge points in Council owned car parks Review usage and requirements of Council car parks to determine the quantity of parking required, where parking should be located and parking tariffs.	Project ongoing Being considered by North Essex Parking Partnership – See 4.12 On track	April 2021 – April 2022 (for all projects)	Fewer cars parking in the town centre and encouraging active travel Charge points installed to support a transition to electric vehicles Ensuring car parking is used more efficiently and in a way that promotes active, and greener forms of travel.
	Promotion of the Park and Ride service in Colchester	Inputted into ECC discussions about Severalls workers parking in Park and Ride site and using Spin scooters to access their work		More people using the Park and Ride service.

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4.12 Deliver Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure	Pilot/Developmental project with MiPermit.	2 EV charging points (3 sockets) have been installed and commission to the MiPermit Park & Charge system from 18 th Jan 2022.	August 2021- December 2021 (Phase 1)	Meeting customer/residential demand for EV charging.
in CBC car parks	Installation agreed into Priory Street car park with a Phase 2 rollout to be considered supported with Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) funding through the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS) scheme.	Further sites have been assessed and are being considered for EV charging, using grant funding from the ORCS scheme.	November 2021-April 2022 (Phase 2)	Meeting additional demand for EV charging and building a fully functioning network of charging points within the Borough.

5. Provide sustainable waste management and support residents to reduce, reuse and recycle

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
5.1 Improve systems for collecting household waste, recycling, food and garden	Re-establishing textiles recycling collections Rolling out programme to encourage residents	Action complete Action complete	Completed in April 2021 Completed in June 2021	Reintroduction of the service Reduced contamination of cans/glass and reduced operational time on these collection routes
waste with a focus on waste minimization, increased recycling and composting	to separate cans and glass Improving recycling equipment distribution to residents	New 'click and collect' service launched November 2021	April 2021 – April 2022	Improve solutions for distributing recycling containers, bags and sacks to residents working with local community stockists and preventing abuse. Customer Satisfaction measure at 4/5 for Click & Collect
	Calendars and missed bin reporting to be personalized	Personalised calendars and Missed Bin reporting rolled out	April 2021 – July 2021	and 3.6/5 for Deliveries. Calendars data automated and driven from Fusion Route data
	Route Optimisation	Dry Recycling Routes optimised around the introduction of new Waste Vehicle	November 2021	All customers (Kerbside and Flats) can report a missed bin based on our collection schedules

5. Provide sustainable waste management and support residents to reduce, reuse and recycle

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
	Strategic Options to support Growth	Route 19 introduced for dry recycling within 1 week of vehicle delivery.	Winter 2021/2022	Planned resilience introduced.
5.2 Develop trade waste collection service to offer further commercial recycling collections for businesses	Establish profitability of current operations and identify new recycling options for businesses	Community Engagement Warden for Waste appointed to manage all Business Waste sales. Credit Control processes reviewed for nonpaying customers	April 2021 – April 2022	Improved commerciality of trade waste collections Improve customer experience based on customer need, demand and feedback
5.3 Improving communication with Colchester residents to improve participation in	Establishment of Community Education and Engagement team to deliver this work	New social media campaign ran between August-December 2021 on tips for reducing, reusing and recycling, collaborating with local organisations and residents	April 2021 – April 2022	Data insight captured and used to inform a communication and campaign plan
recycling and waste minimization work		Education and Engagement Wardens starting to develop new programmes of work, including working with local school on naming of 'food waste trucks'		Food Waste naming competition held in Q3 21-22. Further themed Schools engagement planned for Q4

5. Provide sustainable waste management and support residents to reduce, reuse and recycle

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
5.4 Work actively within communities to promote recycling, reuse, upcycling and repairing opportunities	Introduction of new Community Engagement and Education Team within Neighbourhood Services, working collaboratively with the Community Engagement Team	Education and Engagement Wardens starting to develop new programmes of work, including visiting 'hot spot' areas and talking to local residents. Re-launching Litter Warrior project, with improvements to the sign-up process and requests for litter picking equipment/litter collections. Also adding in extra volunteer tasks such as weeding of paths.	April 2021 – ongoing action	Community group engaged and suitable campaign delivered around this topic Litter Warriors project extended to support weeding of pathways whilst undertaking litter picks with full recycling of green waste
5.5 Explore trialling smart waste technology to improve efficiency of waste collections in the Borough	Support the introduction of smart waste technology within new developments Explore funding opportunities for the introduction of 'smart' waste bins	Four new SMART bins procured for Dedham for a technology and operations trial Order for route technology placed and to be implemented in the coming month.	October 2021 – April 2022	Incorporate smart waste technologies into Waste Strategy Assess effectiveness of Smart technology to inform next steps in deploying Smart Technology across the borough Smart Trackers procured for the Cage Vans to enable tracking of litter bin emptying routes

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6.1 Support community organisations in the borough to help deliver environmental benefits within	Work with community organisations/individu als to help spread the message of their work and provide expertise where required.	New webpages developed that signpost to community groups providing support/information on environment/climate change.	Ongoing	Raise awareness of existing community groups that are acting to produce positive environmental change
communities	Support the Dedham Value Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Stour Valley project team to product a 5 year Management Plan to conserve and enhance natural beauty.	On track	Ongoing	Continue to support the project team to help protect the AONB site for future generations of people/wildlife.
	Support the delivery of Eco Festival 2021 with Council staff volunteering and contributing to the	Complete Planning is now beginning for Eco	March 2021 – September 2021 Feb 2022-	
	event where possible.	Festival 2022.	Sept 2022	

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6.2 Provide opportunities for residents to participate in Council decision making and action on	Provision and promotion of the 'have your say' option at the Environment and Sustainability Panel (ESP)	To be reviewed	Sept 2020 – Ongoing	Increased numbers of residents attending Panel meetings to have their say on what action they would like the Council to take on the climate emergency
environmental issues	Providing opportunities for residents to volunteer on Council environmental projects such as tree planting and monitoring air quality.	Litter Warrior programme offers opportunities for volunteering. Shared travel hubs work is also involving a volunteer working group to help deliver project	Ongoing action	More opportunities provided for residents and increased numbers of residents taking part in this.
6.3 Support the Colchester Business Centre (Colbea) to develop policies and practices within their corporate strategy to include corporate environmental responsibility	Develop key performance indicators (KPIs) in Colbea's lease agreement for the North Colchester Business Incubation Centre	Colbea agreed to include enviromental impact / carbon reduction in its lease KPIs for the North Colchester Business Incubation Centre from 2021 onwards	Will be subject to annual review March 2021 – April 2022	Maximise use of resources and minimise the occurrence of activities that may cause negative environmental impacts.

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6.4 Collaborate with the University of Essex to ensure actions we	Take part in a university 'challenge lab' to co-develop with researchers, solutions to a particular climate	Took place in January/February 2022. Project briefs being worked on for judging panel for February 2022.	September 21/2022	1 challenge lab completed, with solutions developed to tackle a climate challenge in the borough
develop are informed by academic expertise (where appropriate)	challenge in Colchester Build rapport with researchers on existing Council projects, and understand the expertise available at the University.	Latest engagement with University of Essex involved University researchers presenting to Council staff about participatory budgeting. Ongoing relationship with University of Essex on many projects.	Ongoing	Continue work with the University of Essex to inform design/operation of our projects and actions.
6.5 Work with anchor/key organisations in the borough to promote the uptake of sustainable actions across the borough and improve engagement on taking action on climate change.	Creation of a network of key organisations in Colchester to share learning on good practice and provide a platform for ideas developed to be informed by detailed resident engagement.	Group was successful, but has been dissolved, being replaced by the Essex Anchor Climate Action Working Group.	April 2021 – January 2022	Network developed that is effective for sharing solutions to tackle climate related challenges, ensuring these are informed by resident views.

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
6.6 Increase engagement with schools in Colchester to promote and support awareness raising and behaviour change around environmental issues	Pilot a project with one primary school in Colchester to understand the challenges with embedding environmental content into lessons and school life, and use this to better design resources to help schools reduce their environmental impact	Project environmental days went well at pilot school and followed up with further days in November 2021, supported by Together We Grow CIC and Essex Wildlife Trust. In process of finishing final activities and organising handover to Together we Grow CIC	January 2021 – March 2022	A document of 'learnings' produced that summarises the challenges schools face with engagement on environmental issues
	Conduct interviews/focus groups with other primary schools to understand challenges faced with becoming more environmentally friendly and to understand best practice that can be shared between other schools	Interviews/surveys carried out with teachers to understand challenges and state of play. Interviews/visits carried out with 6 other primary schools displaying good environmental practice. This information will be shared with other primary schools in early 2022.		Best practice collected which can then be shared with schools to help them become greener.

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
	Prepare resources and support that Council can offer to Schools to support the Essex Schools Green Day on 6 th July 2022	Have shared this date with Essex County Council, and will be encouraging all Essex local authorities to support their schools in taking action for the environment and climate change on this day, alongside getting local organisations on board to support.		
6.7 Develop a Climate Emergency communications and engagement plan which will	Survey with residents to help understand how residents prefer hearing about work to tackle the climate emergency.	Survey completed – Insights noted and informing communications plan	March 2021 – April 2021	Survey completed with residents and used to inform Communication and Engagement plan
support the delivery of, and engagement around, the Council's Action Plan.	Use survey insight to develop an external communications plan with key messages and content to deliver to our residents.	Comms Plan with key dates developed and is adapted as we go.	May 2021 – ongoing	External Communication Plan produced and is updated regularly.
6.8 Collaborate with Essex County Council and other local authorities in	Take part in Carbon Reduction Across Essex (CORE) meetings with other	Attending when these take place, alongside District and Borough Climate Action Forum	Ongoing action	Build up a relationship with Essex County Council and other Essex LA's to help share learning

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
Essex and those in the UK to share learnings around work on the climate emergency	Essex local authorities. Where appropriate, join grant funding bids with ECC to increase access to funding for environmental projects	No grant bids to join at current time, but sharing Essex Climate Challenge Action Fund for Communities	Ongoing action	Opportunities utilised to collaborate with ECC on grant funding bids
	Participate in national local authority forums such as the Collective for Climate Action to share learning and ask questions about work on the climate emergency.	Regular activity in forums	Ongoing action	Use forums to gain ideas, knowledge and experience from other LAs on how to tackle the climate emergency.
6.9 Communicate with Town and Parish Councils to understand how we can	Sharing resources with Town and Parish Councils that will help them reduce their environmental impact.	Continue to regularly share resources with Town and Parish Councils that may be of interest to them around climate change and sustainability.	Ongoing action	Successful collaboration and communication with Town and Parish Councils on climate emergency related work.
work together to tackle the climate emergency and	Conduct a presentation with Town and Parish Councils to share our	Presentation to Town and Parish Councils went well on 24 th June, with opportunities for Towns/Parishes to tackle the	June 2021	

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
ensure this reflects the wishes of communities we serve	work, and show how they can take action on the climate emergency Provide opportunities to collaborate on Council projects e.g. eCargo bikes, Rewilding plans	climate emergency highlighted in this. Residents provided opportunity to join working group to discuss creation of shared travel hub.	Ongoing action	

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
7.1 Create a Planning Sustainability Checklist so decision makers can understand the sustainability of proposals	Planning Sustainability Checklist is drafted, brought to the ESP and then following consultation the Checklist will become a local validation requirement	ESP approved consultation on the Checklist in January 2021.	October 20 – May 2021	Checklist is required & used by decision makers Greatest success will be if developers incorporate sustainability measures highlighted in the checklist
7.2 Create & adopt a new Supplementary Plan Document (SPD) on sustainability and carbon reduction	Creation of a new Supplementary Planning Document to provide guidance and encouragement to developers to consider carbon reduction and sustainable design within new developments (including biodiversity net gain)	A sub-group of the Climate Opportunities Working Group (COWG) has been set up to work on the SPD with work on this to begin Spring 2022.	January 2022 – January 2023	Supplementary Planning Document adopted and used as a material planning consideration
7.3 Information on sustainable travel choices to be included in marketing of residential properties for developments where there are good sustainable transport options to encourage reduced car use and ownership.	Provision of leaflet detailing walking and cycling routes, as well as public transport options in the locality of the development Research and training for members on car free developments in accessible locations	On track	April 2021 – April 2022	Information on sustainable travel options is included in all new homes

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
7.4 Consideration given to car free developments and other approaches to reducing car parking provision and encouraging car free lifestyles	Adoption of new ECC parking standards, which includes car free developments	On track	April 2021 – April 2022	More developments in Colchester to become car-free in accessible locations and support car-free lifestyles

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
8.1 Development of the Climate Challenge and Sustainability Strategy to	Review previous Environmental Sustainability Strategy, Action Plan and Strategic Plan 2020- 2023.	Action complete	Dec 2020 – March 2021	New strategy created
provide oversight for the Council's work on the climate emergency	Develop strategic themes for Strategy and to guide action plan	Strategic themes of this document created and shared on website and on social media.	March 2021 – June 2021	
	Produce full strategy, detailing key outcomes and objectives for each strategic theme and provide opportunity for consultation on this	Being developed further with internal teams	May 2021 – Autumn 2022	
8.2 Ensuring internal strategies and policies are consistent with the climate change emergency	Review of internal core strategies with at least 3 updated to show consideration of the climate emergency – This will include the Housing Asset Management Strategy	On track	February 2021 – February 2022	At least 3 key strategies reviewed and updated by 2022 Future workplans for these strategies to embed decarbonisation and sustainability as detailed in the supporting strategy
8.3 Write and agree an internal data management plan which sets out roles and responsibilities for	Set up monitoring and reporting template for Climate Emergency Action Plan which will align with reporting to Environment and Sustainability Panel	Complete	January 2021 – March 2021	Monitoring and reporting plan produced

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
data capture and verification as well as a timetable for reporting				
8.4 Develop a learning and development programme for staff (and members) on climate change	Utilise training for planning officers provided by Essex County Council (ECC) to help planners understand how they can mitigate environmental impacts within their role.	On track - Signposted free training for two councillors to Cllr Crow and Cllr Ellis	June 2021/Dec 2021	Planning staff become more aware of how to practically implement steps to reduce environmental impacts in the work they do e.g. with developers
and environmental issues to help increase awareness and promote	Deliver a presentation to councillors explaining the Council's climate emergency declaration and how councillors can support this work.	Complete	June 2021	
behaviour change	Use resources developed by the Carbon Literacy Project to deliver sessions to staff to increase awareness of climate change, and the action we can take within our roles to reduce our environmental impact.	Postponed, and instead doing shorter presentations to staff to keep them engaged with opportunities for environmental action.	September 2021 – April 2022	Pilot session delivered with small group of staff and then rolled out more widely to increase staff environmental awareness

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
8.5 Embed consideration of the environment and climate change within	Develop an internal comms strategy to plan out how to inform staff of environmental work and projects.	Messages planned as and when and adapted to key events/actions.	Ongoing action	Strategy developed
internal communications to promote awareness and behaviour change of environmental issues and the climate challenge	Run a pilot behaviour change challenge to promote the uptake of environmentally friendly behaviours	Pilot run, and will inform future engagement with staff	March 2021 - April 2021	Pilot run successfully and insights used to inform future engagement with staff

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
8.6 Strengthen assessment of environmental impacts in all levels of Council decision making	Develop sustainability and carbon reduction assessment (and associated guidance) to help staff consider and reduce the environmental impacts/emissions throughout their projects, drawing on learnings from the environmental checklist originally developed.	New Sustainability & Carbon Reduction Assessment produced (with guidance) within project management, launched in May 2021. Progress of assessment completion is being monitored and staff are so far completing these well.	February 2021 – May 2021	New assessment and guidance created that staff use effectively to increase their knowledge of environmental impacts/emissions from their projects and how these can be reduced.
	Creation of internal KPIs linked to environmental performance to monitor how Council operations and projects are becoming more environmentally friendly e.g. emissions reporting, all staff completing sustainability and carbon reduction assessments.	Two KPIs have been developed. These are annual emissions reduction and percentage of projects with completed sustainability and carbon reduction assessments	Ongoing action	Progress seen regarding several KPIs - I.e. consistent reductions in emissions, 100% of staff completing sustainability and carbon reduction assessments

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
8.7 Improve our procurement processes so that environmental considerations are made within	Develop guidance to help staff include more environmental considerations within procurement specifications.	Started by reviewing 3 current contract specifications and bidder responses to identify future improvements.	January 2022- December 2022	Procurement specifications developed that support carbon reduction and sustainability
sourcing goods, service and works	Review use of Social Value Portal (SVP) and its ability to help the Council work with greener contractors and recognise the positive env benefits delivered through specific contracts	Completed as part of report to Panel on 7 th December. From 2022, work will be done to help support companies to use the portal and see how the Council can use it most effectively to understand the social value of companies it works with.	September 2021 – December 2021	The Council is more informed about the environmental credentials of the contractors it works with
8.8 Reviewing the Council's Travel Plan to ensure this continues to promote sustainable travel to staff	Review the Council's Travel Plan in light of changes to staff working location patterns to ensure Travel Plan facilitates sustainable travel to staff going forward	Results from travel plan survey with CBC staff are currently being analysed. Additional Dr Bike session held at Shrub End Depot, repairing 13 bikes and giving out lights, helmets, puncture repair kits. Contributing to purchase of new cycle storage at Shrub End Depot.	January 2021 – March 2022	Council Travel Plan reviewed and updated

Action	How will action be achieved?	February 24th update	Date Started/ Finish	Measurement of Success (MoS)
8.9 Reduce the environmental	Review the Events Policy and associated documents to see how	Inspired by the Eco Festival, a sustainable events guide is	September 2021 – April	Successfully pilot several ways to make an event more environmentally friendly
impacts of events organised by Colchester Events Company	events could be made more sustainable in the long term.	being written, in collaboration with Eco Colchester – Will use this to review Events Policy for improvements on environmental sustainability.	2022	in 2021 A revised Events Policy and other documents that help to promote sustainability further in events.
8.10 Ensure our ICT systems are environmentally sustainable	Ensure that sustainability is considered in the lifecycle of using ICT equipment (from procurement to disposal)	On track - Ongoing	Ongoing action	Council assesses need for ICT equipment and looks to dispose of equipment responsibly after use (e.g. getting it repaired, giving to other organisations to reuse, sending parts for recycling)
	Use of the cloud to store files resulting in lower emissions than using a data centre (more efficient equipment used for operating cloud)	Current CBC practice	Ongoing action	Calculator provided by Microsoft to show and estimate our IT based emissions savings from storing files in the cloud.