



## **Climate and environment emergency executive panel**

**Date:** Wednesday, 01 July 2020

**Time:** 10:00

**Venue:** Meeting will be held remotely

### **Committee members:\***

#### **Councillors:**

Maguire (chair)  
Stonard (vice chair)  
Carlo  
Giles  
Lubbock  
McCartney-Gray  
Osborn

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## Agenda

### Page nos

1      **Apologies**

To receive apologies for absence

2      **Declarations of interest**

(Please note that it is the responsibility of individual members to declare an interest prior to the item if they arrive late for the meeting)

3      **Minutes**

3 - 6

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2020

4      **Environmental Strategy 2020-2025**

7 - 76

**Purpose** - To consider the draft environmental strategy 2020 – 2025 in advance of its consideration by cabinet on 8 July 2020.

Date of publication: **Wednesday, 24 June 2020**



**Climate and environment emergency executive panel**

**09:30 to 11:35**

**12 February 2020**

Present: Councillors Maguire (chair), Stonard (vice chair), Carlo, Giles, Lubbock, McCartney-Gray and Osborn

**1. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Minutes**

**Environment Strategy**

The chair explained that the consultation on environmental strategy had closed on Friday, 7 February. There had been an overwhelming response. It would take time to analyse the responses and review the draft strategy. The environmental strategy manager said that cabinet would consider adopting the strategy on 10 June 2020. The committee officer would circulate copies of the cabinet report to members of the climate and environment emergency executive panel in advance of this meeting.

**RESOLVED** to approve the accuracy of the minutes held on 18 December 2019.

**3. Strategic Frameworks**

The strategy manager gave a presentation. He explained that the purpose of the presentation was to outline the existing strategic frameworks within which the panel could make recommendations to cabinet for the deployment of council resources in response to the climate and biodiversity emergency. (Copies of the presentation are available on the council's website with the documents for this meeting.)

(The panel then split into two groups for a 15 minute period to conduct an exercise to apply the framework for making recommendations to cabinet. The strategy manager suggested that retrofitting private sector housing had the potential to significantly reduce carbon emissions and make an impact on achieving the Paris Agreement target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Whilst the adoption of a plant based diet would make greater impact in reducing carbon emissions, the council would not be able to control or evaluate the outcome.)

The vice chair reported back on behalf of the first group and commented on the usefulness of the framework to make recommendations on actions or policies, which had the greatest impact or influence so that the maximum could be achieved within

the council's limited resources. The three pillars of analysis, economic, social and environment, demonstrated that environment was integral to everything that the council did. The group had a general discussion rather than just on the "exam question". The group had considered that the cost of retrofitting private sector housing was beyond the council's ability but that it could use its influence to secure external funding as it would be significant in carbon emission reduction and as a long-term project would benefit residents and the local economy. The group also considered that the council could use its influence in the local economy and Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, to fill skill gaps in the construction industry and manufacturing by creating opportunities for training and apprenticeships to provide jobs for local people and use locally produced materials. Norwich Regeneration Ltd could be the vehicle that would drive this forward. Members had also commented that there was potential to use local community groups, such as Norwich Community Solar. The vice chair said that modular kitchen units had been used in the council's Bullard Road development. Due to the high specifications, it had been difficult to procure these locally and it was therefore an ambition to produce modular housing and units locally. A member suggested that the panel undertook a visit to Leeds to see the production of prefabricated housing modules. The group had also commented on the potential for renewable heat sources to serve communities. The council should continue to use its influence with its neighbouring authorities to drive forward its ambitions for sustainable transport. The group considered that the licensing of private sector housing would ensure that accredited accommodation was a high standard but there was concern that it would exacerbate inequality with unlicensed properties. Members also commented that the council should reconsider the policy to lease its roof spaces for solar panels. The environmental strategy manager advised members that earlier attempts had not been implemented because of government reductions to the feed-in tariffs, making schemes unviable. There was an opportunity to install Tesla roof tiles over entire roofs to create energy stations.

The second group reported that they had also been less focussed on the objective of the exercise but had considered resources and constraints in a number of areas where the council could either provide or influence carbon reduction. The group had noted that by 2025, the government had banned the installation of gas boilers in new builds. Members considered what constraints were in place to phase these earlier and whether it would be realistic and enforceable. Members also considered how private sector housing could be improved, as some older properties were cold and damp, and there was potential to use air source heat pumps where practical. Members also considered that given the climate and environment emergency, the council had the potential to influence the other local authorities in the Greater Norwich Development Partnership and produce exemplar policies through its supplementary planning guidance. Transport issues also impinged on all of these factors.

The strategy manager by way of conclusion referred to the exercise and said that the framework was a useful tool for the panel to consider its recommendations to cabinet and the approach that the panel could use for the actions within the environmental strategy and the wider work on the environment within the core strategy of the council.

During discussion a member expressed concern that greater weight should be given to the climate and environment emergency to reflect its urgency and pointed out that the earth's resources were finite and should not be depleted further. The strategy

manager commented on the application of Kate Raworth's "doughnut model", produced for Oxfam ahead of the Rio summit 2012, which demonstrated that well planned policies for inclusive growth would not be to the detriment of the environment and could be applied from a macroeconomic to local level. He referred to the invidious situation of the present and future as demonstrated by the NHS where it needs to use equipment for life saving at the detriment of saving carbon emissions. The cost of losing lives to reduce carbon emissions was not viable. Members commented that there were often trade-offs for economic expansion, contrary to the framework, such as the expansion of Heathrow and that in future greater consideration should be made in transport policies as to whether roads or airports were required, as it was not sustainable. A member also pointed out that, similarly, developers should construct buildings to the highest standards of energy efficiency available rather than being deterred by production costs. It was considered that these were areas where the council could use its influence in the development of the Greater Norwich Local Plan and with its other partners, such as the Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. A member suggested that economic growth was not a "dirty" word and that it could be environmentally sustainable. He argued that the retrofitting of housing would create "green" jobs in the local area bringing wealth into the local economy. In reply to a question, he said that retail contributed to the viability and diversity in the city centre, which was a sustainable location. The strategy manager said that this was a paradigm of the society that we lived in and the council could also encourage and inform people to reuse, recycle as much as possible. A member pointed out that if carbon neutrality was to be achieved then it would be necessary for the council to use its influence where it would have most traction.

The strategy manager advised the panel that when framing recommendations to cabinet it should be clear where the council could have a role to play or the most influence, or where the council's resources could be best used and would be most likely to have a tangible outcome. He said that there was an opportunity to build on the retrofitting of private sector housing and to include it in the future work plan for the committee. The environmental strategy manager referred to the discussions at the two previous meetings of the panel and said that the next step was to consider the work programme for the future meetings. He confirmed that the biodiversity strategy would be presented to the panel. A member suggested that a citizen's assembly should be considered so that the views of members of the public could be considered. Members commented that the application of the policy framework and exercise had been useful. The environmental strategy manager asked that members took into consideration the resources available to the council, adding that the environmental strategy team was a small one. He referred members to the scatter tool, and said that proposals needed to be targeted where the greatest impact could be made and to make the best use of officer time.

## **RESOLVED to**

- (1) thank the strategy manager for the presentation;
- (2) note the framework for developing sustainable policies and proposals;
- (3) consider the work programme for the panel at the next meeting.

## **CHAIR**



**Report to** Climate and environment emergency executive panel  
1 July 2020

**Item**

**4**

**Report of** Director of place

**Subject** Environmental Strategy 2020 – 2025

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### **Purpose**

To consider the draft environmental strategy 2020 – 2025 in advance of its consideration by cabinet on 8 July 2020.

### **Recommendation**

To recommend the draft environmental strategy and associated action programme to cabinet for adoption.

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority for great neighbourhoods, housing and environment, inclusive economy, and people living well.

### **Financial implications**

Funding for specific proposals would be subject to a separate approval process at the appropriate time. Commitment to setting up a carbon offsetting fund from 2030 if required.

**Ward/s:** All wards

**Cabinet member:** Cllr Kevin Maguire – Safe City Environment

### **Contact officers**

Graham Nelson, Director of place 01603 212530

Richard Willson, Environmental strategy manager 01603 212312

### **Background documents**

None

## **Background**

1. The council's emerging new environmental strategy has been prepared within the context of increasing recognition of the fact that climate change is happening and poses a long-term challenge to the prosperity and wellbeing of the city of Norwich. This new strategy commits the council to work in partnership with our citizens and businesses to make a real difference to how Norwich responds to climate change. The level of change required is not something that any one organisation can achieve alone. The city's people, businesses and institutions will need to work together to make the Norwich of the future a truly liveable and sustainable city.
2. Environmental issues are increasingly entering the public psyche: locally, nationally and globally. In October 2018, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a Special Report which warned that we had only 12 years to limit the rise of global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and that beyond this the risk of drought, flooding and extreme heat would rise significantly. There has also been a greater involvement in local and national grass-roots activism, such as the Schools Climate Strikes and Extinction Rebellion who ask that authorities "take the science seriously" and act as civic leaders.
3. As of February 2020, 274 of 408 UK local authorities have declared a climate emergency and committed to take action to reduce the impact of global warming and slow the rate of climate change (source: Climate Change UK). Norwich City Council declared and passed a climate emergency motion in January 2019. The original motion was strengthened to acknowledge that the climate emergency faced is inextricably linked with social and economic emergencies. The council has also set up CEEEP (climate and environment emergency executive panel) to enable more cross party discussion on environmental issues before consideration at cabinet.

## **Environmental Strategy 2020 - 2025**

4. Within the framework of the council's corporate plan, the environmental strategy sets out in more detail the council's environmental vision and priorities and how these will be achieved. This will guide the council's work across its departments and by its contractors, and influence projects and partnerships over the next five years.
5. This is the council's fourth environmental strategy. Over the last 12 years when the baseline was established for the measurement of emissions, the council's operational emissions have fallen by 59.6 per cent which is a notable achievement when set against the wide range of public services delivered. In the wider Norwich area, government figures show that over the last 10 years per capita emissions have also fallen consistently from 6.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per person in 2005 to 3.8 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per person in 2017, the most recent dataset available at this time.

6. The council has also received external recognition as being a high environmental performer from numerous awards both locally, nationally and internationally as well as receiving positive reports on the city's sustainability from organisations such as the Friends of the Earth and CDP Climate Disclosure.
7. There will usually be an update on the environmental strategy halfway through its lifetime to take into account any changes in national policy or new funding developments from central government. There is optimism that funding clarity will be presented at the delayed COP26 summit in Glasgow 2021 and that resources will become available for the programmes required to achieve the net zero 2050 target which is set in law. This review process will enable our action plan to adapt and remain agile during a period of great uncertainty which has been highlighted by the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.
8. The environmental strategy has been developed through the following methods:
  - (a) Analysis and assessment of targets on the current environmental position in Norwich using a variety of tools including government national indicators, SCATTER and research provided by the Tyndall centre.
  - (b) Review of the wider policy and legal context.
  - (c) Review of external and internal funding opportunities.
  - (d) Workshops and input from expert stakeholders including the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP).
  - (e) Review of existing activities and future opportunities across services and contractors.
  - (f) Discussions and input from elected members including across services and contractors.
  - (g) Discussions and input from elected members including cabinet and two all-member Tyndall workshops.
  - (h) Assessment of the likely resources the council will have in the future to carry out environmental work.
  - (i) Commentary from various external stakeholders including any relevant government agencies, other council and selected environmental NGO's.
  - (j) An online public consultation which received 1831 responses.
9. A draft version was discussed at CEEEP in October 2019 before being published for consultation. The consultation was delayed by the announcement of the general election.
10. The draft environmental strategy is appended to this report at Appendix 1. An analysis of the consultation results is attached to this report at Appendix 2.

## **Public consultation**

11. During December 2019 and January 2020, Norwich City Council undertook a public consultation exercise to elicit views on the draft environmental strategy. An

online questionnaire was created. The aim of the questionnaire was to seek to feedback on the success, or otherwise, of the draft environmental strategy.

12. The public consultation exercise was promoted via the council's social media channels and in the local press. The questionnaire consisted of 7 questions. In all the consultation received 1,831 responses. The responses ran to over 25,000 words. This is a considerable increase over levels of response to previous consultation exercises on the environmental strategy.
13. The responses, views from other stakeholders (including the Environment Agency, other councils and the Tyndall Centre of Climatic Research) as well as comments from the members of CEEEP have been used to update our draft Environmental Strategy ready for cabinet approval.
14. As originally outlined in the draft, there is something of a disconnect between the government's stated ambition to improve the carbon efficiency of homes, transport and our industrial systems and the funding it has made available to resource these ambitions. As the council prepares this new strategy it needs to be mindful of the demands on it and the limited resources available. It cannot deliver a global solution to the "climate emergency" but will seek to play a part in delivering local contribution where adequate resources are provided.
15. Hopefully stable and well-designed policies to reduce emissions further are introduced across the economy without delay by central government. Regretfully policy reviews from various NGO's and the governments Independent Climate Change Commissions (ICCC) have all concluded that current policy is insufficient for even the previous target of 80% emissions reduction by 2050.
16. Therefore, whilst we continuously seek new opportunities the council cannot be complacent that even current funding streams will continue to be available to us. We must remain realistic in our aspirations with what we can deliver with the expected resources.

### **Changes arising from the consultation**

17. A considerable number of revisions to the environmental strategy in the light of the comments received via the public consultation and stakeholder feedback. These include:
  - (a) Updating the document to take into account the UK leaving the EU
  - (b) Greater focus on the funding gap identified by the Committee on Climate Change
  - (c) Acknowledgement of various citizens assemblies and if a similar approach would be warranted depending on their outcomes/ conclusions.
  - (d) Addition of a glossary of terms
  - (e) A greater focus on partnership working and the ability of Norwich City Council to influence outside its controllable emissions
  - (f) Greater inclusion of scientific data analysis of the city using SCATTER and Tyndall research
  - (g) Additional references to the climate emergency

- (h) Further narrative around the contributions of individuals and businesses around ownership of emissions reductions
- (i) Inclusion of more images via a design process which enables increased accessibility
- (j) Removal of grammatical errors contained in the draft action programme
- (k) Greater emphasis on the council's achievements and success to date mitigating emissions locally for the citizens of Norwich via its service delivery and role as a community leader.
- (l) A new net zero by 2030 operational emissions target.
- (m) Revised action programme to take into account Covid-19

18. The council would like to thank all stakeholders and partners for the enormous effort in delivering workshops, potential projects ideas and feedback on draft proposals. As this programme moves towards endorsement by cabinet, CEEEP is asked for its final recommendations before its adoption.



**Norwich City Council**

**Environmental Strategy 2020 - 2025**

**FINAL REVISION**

DRAFT

# **Norwich City Council**

## **Environmental Strategy 2020 - 2025**

- 1. Foreword – portfolio holder**
- 2. Executive summary**
- 3. Key achievements since the last strategy**
- 4. Context: Global to local**
- 5. Developing the new strategy**
- 6. Emissions data**
- 7. Vision, themes, priorities**
- 8. How will we get there?**
- 9. How will we know and review**
- 10. How will we engage and communicate?**
- 11. Action Plan**
- 12. Norwich City Council Environmental Policy**
- 13. Glossary of terms**
- 14. Emissions data**

# 1 Foreword

Councils have an important leadership role in creating low carbon and climate-resilient communities. The Paris Agreement will need local, national and international action to fully deliver its objectives. Councils are the local planning authority and represent local concerns and perspectives. The council also provides a number of services to residents and visitors. We will continue to work to minimise their environmental impact, as well as working across a number of other sectors within the city to facilitate and encourage coordinated action on sustainability.

Norwich City Council has a long history of innovation, and an excellent track-record for leading change. Over many years, this has helped to improve and protect the environment of this extraordinary city, one in which so many people appreciate living, working and visiting.

We must be mindful however that local authorities have had their funding reduced by an average of 60 per cent in the last 10 years, and operate within the constraints of continuing financial challenges. Austerity has affected the ability of local government to respond to additional responsibilities or unforeseen events; such as severe weather events due to climatic change, or the Covid-19 pandemic which has created much uncertainty for the future of our city.

Councils will therefore need to work in partnership with our citizens, businesses and other forms of government to make the step change needed to address this global climate crisis. Only by working together will we achieve our sustainability objectives and play our part in delivering a better future.

However, we also must be mindful to balance the environmental needs of the city with the social and economic needs of our citizens. Only by addressing all three can true sustainability be achieved. Sustainable cities are resilient cities that are able to adapt to, mitigate, and promote economic, social, and environmental change. Rest assured, we will be lobbying national government at every opportunity to encourage them to provide councils across the country with the significant levels of extra funding required to effectively tackle climate change.

This document is the fourth environmental strategy that the city council has produced, and details the council's environmental vision and priorities until 2025. In shaping these priorities, we have been extremely fortunate in being able to listen to evidence from world-renowned researchers at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, at UEA. Their research has helped us set the context for our future direction and we will continue to draw on their expertise over the life of this strategy and beyond.

Since the publication of our last strategy, we have delivered a wide-ranging action plan. We have improved cycling and walking infrastructure, which has resulted in a 40 per cent increase in cycling since 2013. We have protected our parks and open spaces and promoted biodiversity. In 2008, the council set itself a target of reducing operational CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 40 per cent by 2018 and we have now achieved 59.6 per cent.

The importance that we give to energy efficiency, renewables and tackling fuel poverty has also been demonstrated through our Passivhaus building, our social housing retrofitting programme and, more recently, the creation of our own renewable energy provider, Roar Power. Since the production of our last environmental strategy, Norwich City Council has also received a number of regional and national awards in recognition of our environmental successes. The city council has also recently been recognised as one of the top performing councils in the country by Friends of the Earth, for our response to the climate change emergency.

It is predicted that more people will be living in urban areas in the future, so the population and scope of the city is likely to grow. Cities have a vital role to play in the fight against climate change. They have the ability to translate global climate commitments into tangible local actions – transitioning towards more efficient circular economies. We need to drive the change towards a sustainable Norwich and meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. In leading this work, we will achieve a better future for Norwich and the planet we all share.

This is only possible if timely, clear, funded and well-designed policies to reduce emissions and mitigate against climate change are introduced across the UK. Current UK policy is insufficient for delivering the existing target, let alone the new UK net zero target of 2050. Sustainable living, defined by the International Institute for Sustainable Development as a need to ensure that *'today's citizens meet the needs of the present without compromising future generations'*, is a common thread which runs throughout the work of the council and is not a new concept for this local authority.

This new strategy commits us more than ever to working in partnership to make a real difference to how Norwich responds to climate change. The level of change required is not something that any one organisation can do alone. The city's people, businesses and institutions will need to work together to make the Norwich of 2040 a truly liveable city and the best place to be.

Finally I wish to thank all the individuals and organisations who took the time to contribute to preparation of the strategy.



## Dr Kevin Maguire

**Councillor Kevin Maguire**  
**Cabinet member for safe city environment**

## **2 Executive summary**

### **The council as civic leader**

Councils have an important leadership role in creating low carbon and climate-resilient communities. This strategy focuses on what action the city council can take to reduce its own carbon emissions from the services it delivers to citizens as well as how we can work in partnership to lower the carbon emissions of the city as a whole.

It is clear that the level of change required is not something that any one organisation can do alone. The city's people, businesses and institutions will need to work together like never before to make the Norwich of the future a truly liveable city. Taking action on climate change is a fundamental part of achieving the city's 2040 vision.

### **Consultation**

During December 2019 - January 2020 the council undertook an online public consultation. This took the form of a questionnaire. The consultation aimed to seek feedback on the draft environmental strategy; giving the citizens of Norwich the opportunity to have their say on the way that Norwich City Council proposes to manage environmental issues within their sphere of influence. The council also reached out to various stakeholders such as the Environment Agency, other planning authorities and numerous 3<sup>rd</sup> sector groups.

Some responses ran to over a page of A4 in length. One engaged respondent provided 19 individual answers to one question. 1831 responses were collected in total, with the responses running to over 25,000 words.

The consultation results have been scrutinised by the environmental strategy team. Consideration has been given to how viable it might be to deliver various suggestions made by respondents.

### **The context - Covid-19**

This document is the fourth environmental strategy that the city council has produced. In shaping these priorities, the council has listened to evidence from a variety of stakeholders and scientific experts. The council has reviewed its available resources to deliver the action programme contained within this document and will also review how responding to Covid-19 may affect its delivery as well as presenting a possible new focus on the low carbon agenda moving forwards.

### **Achievements from the last strategy**

Since the publication of the last environmental strategy the council has delivered a wide-ranging set of actions to improve sustainability in the city and there have been some noticeable achievements: Improved cycling and walking rates,

decreased domestic waste, better recycling rates, increase domestic energy efficiency, a 59.6% fall in operational CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and a 45% fall in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the entire city.

### **Award winning council**

Our environmental success has been recognised at a local and national level via numerous awards for sustainability and environmental best practice. These include the RIBA Stirling Award and Edie Carbon Reduction Award in 2019 and Global Good Awards in 2020. The city council has also recently been recognised as one of the top performing councils in the country by Friends of the Earth, for our response to the climate change emergency. (his is where I think we need some logos)

### **Our priorities**

**Priority 1:** work with partners, through the Norwich 2040 City Vision, to develop a citywide response to climate change to reduce the city's carbon dioxide emissions;

**Priority 2:** reduce the council's own carbon dioxide emissions;

**Priority 3:** increase reuse and recycling in the city and reduce the amount of residual waste;

**Priority 4:** increase the energy efficiency of all the housing stock in the city;

**Priority 5:** ensure that new development is carried out in a sustainable way;

**Priority 6:** support and encourage more sustainable transport solutions;

**Priority 7:** support a low carbon economy in Norwich;

**Priority 8:** prepare for the impacts of climate change;

**Priority 9:** work with local communities to ensure our local environment is protected and enhanced where possible;

**Priority 10:** work with partners to promote behavioural change to establish a more sustainable society

### **Call to action**

This new action programme and the councils new target to become net zero by 2030 provide a pathway to enable the city to continue this positive trend of environmental improvement. We hope that this inspires others to take action and to become involved to ensure a more sustainable future for Norwich and the planet we all share.

### 3 Key achievements since the last strategy

In 2015, the council's third environmental strategy was published. The strategy ran until December 2019 and identified the following areas as fundamental to the council. The strategy also offered key priorities to maintain a healthy and sustainable local environment.

The strategy delivered a detailed action plan containing over 120 actions.

Below is a snapshot of some of our recent environmental achievements, coming off the back of our previous priorities.

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 01 | <b>Lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the council</b><br>We said we would lower our operational CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 40%.<br>We achieved a 60% reduction since 2008.                       |
| 02 | <b>Lower the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of the city</b><br>We said we would lower the carbon footprint of the city.<br>Norwich emissions have decreased by 45% since 2008                           |
| 03 | <b>Decrease residual waste</b><br>We said we would lower the amount of waste per household.<br>We achieved a 3.2% decrease.   |
| 04 | <b>Building passive homes</b><br>We completed over 100 new passivhaus houses and won the RIBA Stirling Prize award.   |
| 05 | <b>Increase recycling rates</b><br>We said we would increase recycling rates<br>There has been a 2.6% increase in recycling since 2013  |
| 06 | <b>Cycling and walking levels</b><br>We said we would increase cycling and walking levels. no. of people cycling up 40% since 2013. 23.8% of people in Norwich walk to work                       |
| 07 | <b>Energy</b><br>Created a local renewable energy company for the city and county called ROAR POWER   |
| 08 | <b>Better Air Quality</b><br>Overall, NO <sub>2</sub> concentrations within the central AQMA are falling.   |
| 09 | <b>Recognition</b><br>Won a number of awards and ranked joint-15th nationally (out of 350 local authorities surveyed) with a performance score of 80 per cent by Friends of the Earth 2019 survey |
| 10 | <b>Open Spaces and biodiversity</b><br>We have continued to enhance and maintain our parks and open spaces with positive management for biodiversity  |

## 4 Context: Global to Local

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report 'Global Warming of 1.5°C' released in October 2018 found that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require reductions of global human-caused emissions (Carbon Dioxide) of 45 per cent by 2030, and reach net zero by around 2050. If the average global warming was limited to 1.5°C, it still worsens the risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

Average global warming is 1°C already when compared to pre-industrial averages. At 2°C, the upper limit of the UN Paris Agreement, the risk of negative impacts of climate change increase significantly. Global carbon dioxide emissions currently show no signs of peaking and are expected to hit a record high in 2020/21, despite urgent calls from climate scientists, the United Nations and others.

Energy pathways that could limit global warming to 1.5°C require rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land and infrastructure - including transport, buildings, farming, businesses and industry. This transition is unprecedented and requires deep emission reductions in all sectors of society.

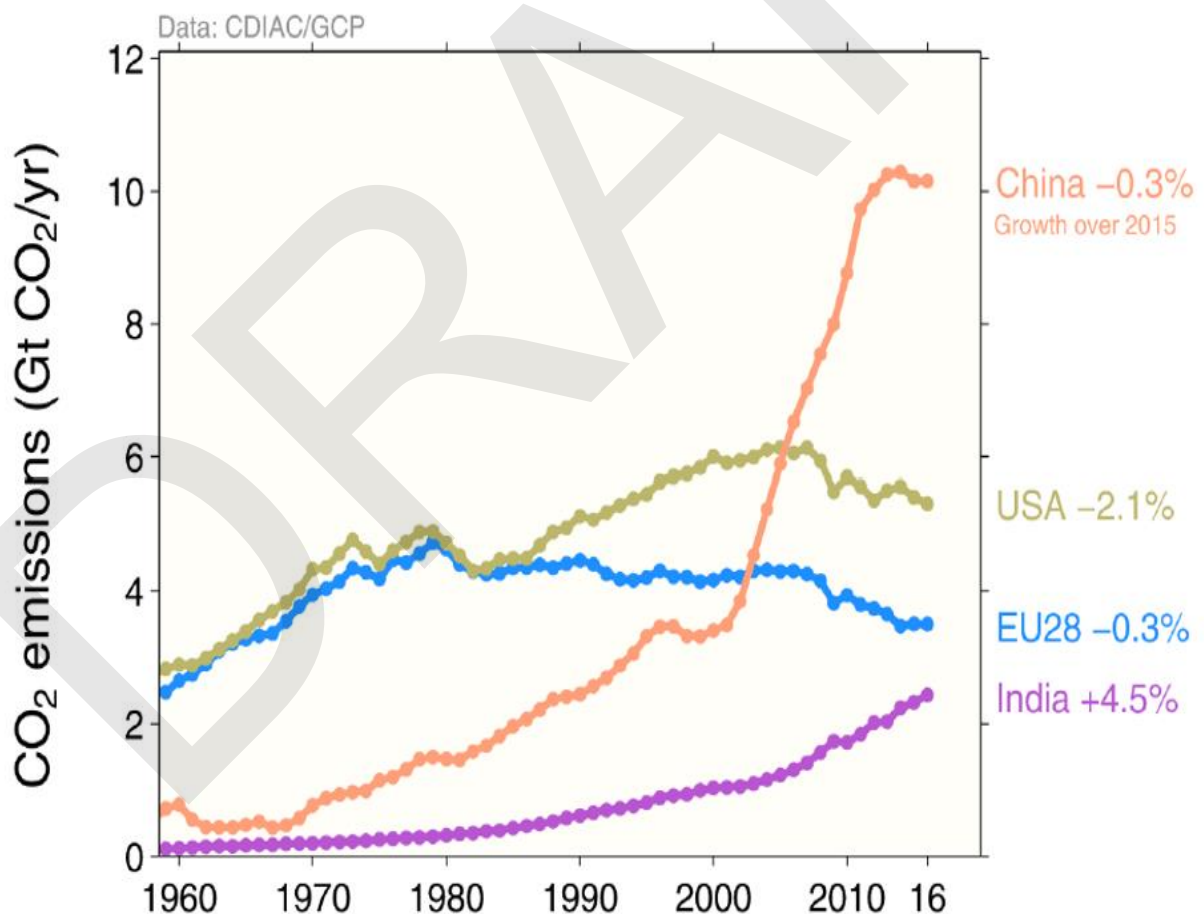


Fig: 1 Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions Gt CO<sub>2</sub>/yr

The UK was the first country to introduce long-term, legally-binding national legislation to tackle climate change. The 2008 Climate Change Act provides the UK with a legal framework including a new net zero target for carbon emissions by 2050. It also includes five-yearly 'carbon budgets' (limits on emissions over a set time period, which act as stepping stones towards the 2050 target), and the development of a climate change adaptation plan.

The new net zero target fully meets the requirements of the Paris Agreement, including the stipulation of 'highest possible ambition', and sets the standard for other developed countries as they consider their own pledges towards this global effort in emissions reduction, and preparedness for the changes expected to follow.

Current UK emissions constitute only a small percentage of the global total, but those who say the UK's actions no longer matter are wrong. Every tonne of carbon counts in the atmosphere, wherever it is emitted. In setting a net-zero target, the UK will be among a small group of countries viewing climate change with appropriate urgency and importance.

The city council's new operational net zero 2030 target and our ongoing 5 year rolling environmental programme reflects the latest scientific advice and provides a clear pathway to contributing towards the national objectives whilst also providing a clear plan to deliver the local sustainability objectives contained in our 2040 City Vision.

## **5 Developing the new strategy: The City - Norwich 2040**

In the autumn of 2018, the Norwich 2040 City Vision was launched. It is a vision for the city to help make Norwich the best place to be by 2040. This was the result of a collaborative exercise and extensive consultation shaped by the council, voluntary organisations, community groups, businesses and residents.

The Norwich 2040 City Vision identifies five themes:

### **A Liveable City**

The city takes pride in being the place with a great local environment that people value. We are committed to shifting to clean energy by 2040 (carbon neutral by 2050). We will support and promote sustainable living –where today’s citizens meet the needs of the present without compromising future generations.

### **A Fair City**

Norwich is a place where many already enjoy a great quality of life. By 2040, the health, wellbeing and life chances of all of our citizens will be improved. We will remove barriers to achievement and a high standard of living will be enjoyed by everyone.

### **A Connected City**

At the heart of any good city is how well it connects with both its citizens, and the world at large. In 2040, Norwich will have a modern transport system, be at the forefront of digital connectivity and create opportunities for all residents to link with each other.

### **A Dynamic City**

Today Norwich has two successful universities and thriving sciences, creative tech, leisure and retail sectors. In 2040, Norwich will be a place where entrepreneurs, social enterprises, national and global companies choose to provide good jobs, prosperity and success.

### **A Creative City**

Norwich is a place where culture and creativity play an important part in how the city feels about itself and how others perceive it. In 2040, Norwich will be world-renowned for its creativity – a leader in innovation, culture, education and invention.

The city’s 2040 City Vision, under its liveable city theme, reflects the more recent and ambitious goal set by the Committee on Climate Change of achieving “carbon neutrality” by 2050. The 2040 City Vision also commits Norwich to shifting to clean energy by 2040.

## **Developing the new strategy: Norwich City Council's Corporate plan**

The council's new Corporate Plan has been shaped to respond to the most uncertain period in our city's history since the end of the Second World War, over 70 years ago.

There are a number of different factors at play. The first is the unresolved issue of how we exit the European Union, and on what terms. The second: the impact on the council's budget after a decade of continuous cuts in central government funding (over 60 per cent since 2010), in conjunction with a lack of clarity about whether this funding trajectory will change or continue. The third: longer-term changes that are moving more rapidly than anticipated to confront us in the next two decades; among which are climate change, automation, demographic shifts and galloping inequality.

Covid-19 and the cities response through ongoing work, new programmes, policies and partnerships will also present new unexpected challenges and potentially some new opportunities to reinforce our sustainability objectives.

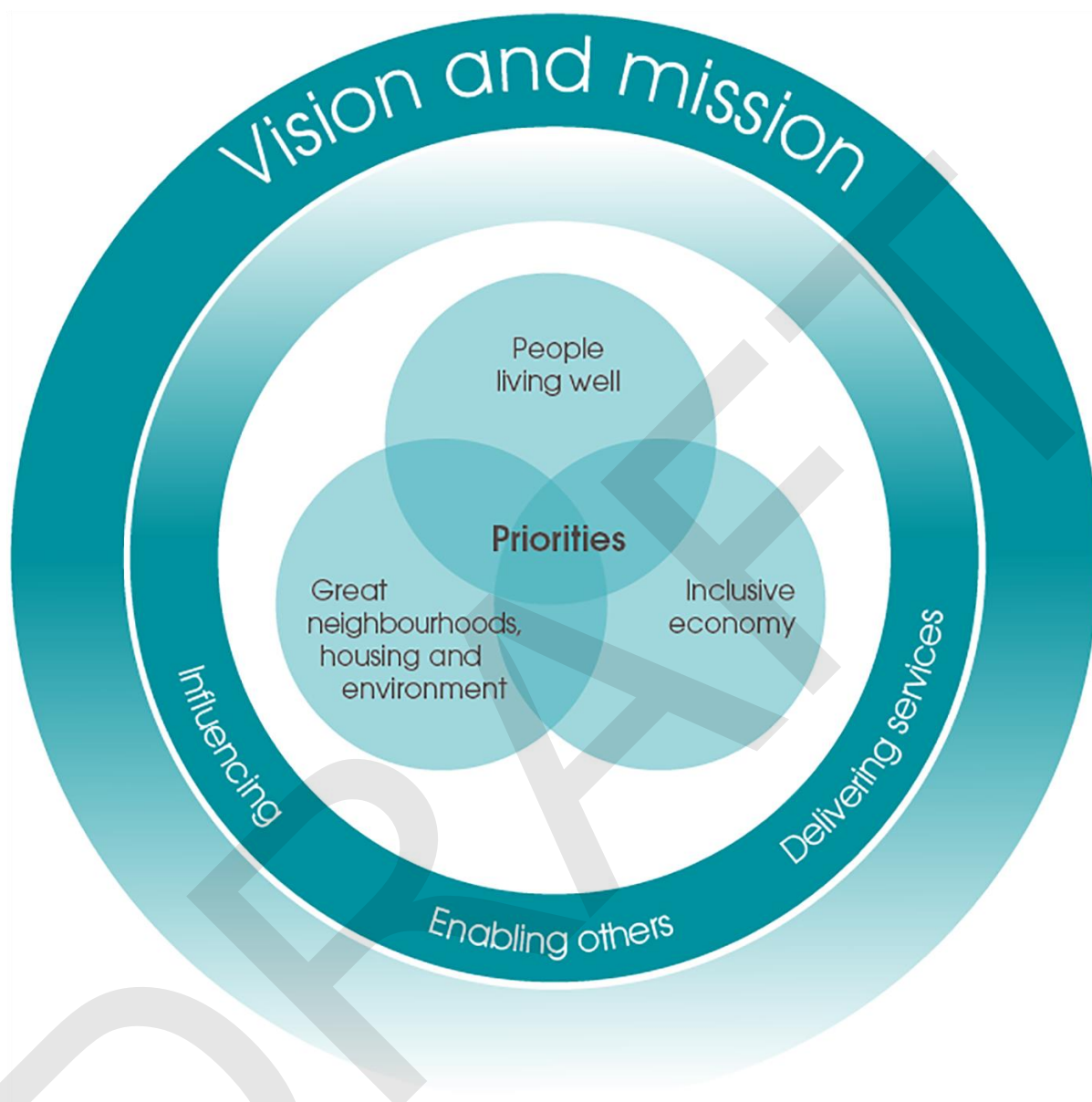
The councils Covid-19 recovery plan highlights actions which support progress on the green economy and climate change. As the council and the city looks towards recovery, there is an opportunity to build on these existing approaches by incorporating opportunities to support and extend the behavioural change that the pandemic has initiated, such as decreased road traffic.

The council also has the opportunity to use its ongoing place-making activity and other investment to support recovery to drive growth in the local green economy. This could be taken forward by, for example, by encouraging and supporting sustainable travel infrastructure and enhancing biodiversity of council estates, parks and open spaces. This could also include identifying further opportunities to reduce waste and enhance the circular economy locally.

Finally this year's corporate plan has been developed in the context of the work around shaping the Norwich 2040 vision, and how the council has reshaped its key priorities around three themes:

- Great neighbourhoods, housing and local environment
- Inclusive (good) growth
- People living well

Norwich recognises that action on climate change is a fundamental part of achieving the city's 2040 vision and objectives. Taking urgent action to become a zero carbon city, starting in 2020, will achieve benefits for residents and businesses in Norwich up to 2040 and beyond. To help us accomplish this, we propose to work with our partners to mobilise residents, businesses and all stakeholders to take action on climate change and resource use. We will invite all organisations that work in the city to be part of our collective ambition in supporting our 2040 vision.

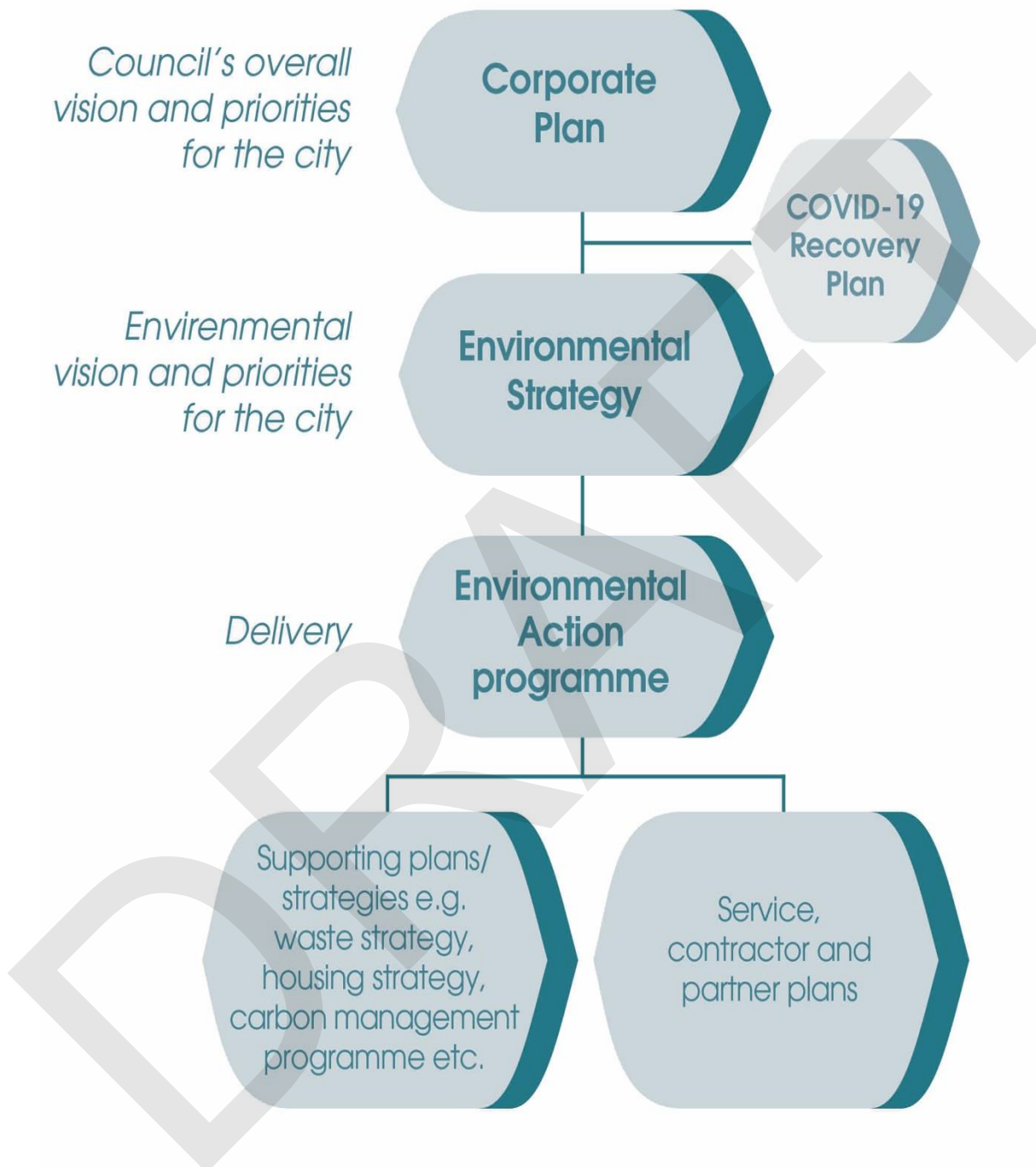


*Fig 2: City Vision on mission*

Within this framework, the purpose of this environmental strategy is to set out in more detail the council's environmental vision and priorities for the city for the next five years and how they will be achieved.

It guides all the environmental work programmed to be carried out by the council between 2020 and 2025. This work is conveyed in greater detail in service plans and other council plans, and those of partners and contractors. This is summarised in the diagram below:

## Framework for Environmental Strategy



*Fig 3: Framework for Environmental Strategy*

## **Developing the new strategy: Data, discussion and consultations**

The new environmental strategy has been developed through the following methods:

- Analysis and assessment of targets on the current environmental position in Norwich
- Review of the wider policy and legal context
- Review of the best available national datasets
- Review of the best available local datasets
- Review of external funding opportunities
- Workshops and input from expert stakeholders including the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research and the Carbon Disclosure Project
- Review of existing activities and future opportunities across services and contractors
- Discussions and input from elected members including across services and contractors
- Discussions and input from elected members including cabinet and an all-member Tyndall/UEA workshop
- Assessment of the likely resources the council will have in the future to carry out environmental work
- Commentary from various external stakeholders including any relevant government agencies
- Meetings with local action groups such as XR (Extinction Rebellion) Norwich and CHAIN (Climate Hope Action in Norfolk)
- An extensive public consultation

## **Developing the strategy: Responding to feedback**

In addition to the feedback of partners, contractors and other local governmental bodies, the council undertook a public consultation exercise to elicit views on the council's fourth draft environmental strategy.

There was a high level of ambition for the city to continue to reduce emissions and become more sustainable. However, some of the ideas expressed via the consultation were outside the remit of the council and will potentially need others to investigate their potential to be delivered.

Norwich has a two-tier local government system, with the county council taking responsibility of services such as transport, social services and education. In addition to this, the greater Norwich area (which many regard as the city) actually has three local councils, delivering lower-tier activities such as waste collection and planning (Broadland, South Norfolk and Norwich City council).

The action plan highlights how different tiers of government can work together to deliver change via partnership working. Where possible councils can work together in collaboration to facilitate positive changes. This work is delivered via a number of different forums such as the Greater Norwich Develop Partnership (GNDP), New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), emergency planning and various other local officer groups such as the Climate Change Partnership and wider all-stakeholder partnerships such as the City Vision. Via these groups, Norwich City

council will try to influence improvements to environmental sustainability, as highlighted by the consultation.

We hope that we can work in partnership with our citizens and businesses to continue to reduce emissions; and that they can, in turn, encourage others to understand that these choices can have wider economic, environmental and social benefits.

A number of respondents referenced the climate emergency and the targets set out within the strategy. The council has formally recognised the climate emergency and will continue to build on the achievements already delivered by continuing to drive down emissions within the services it operates, as well as developing programmes to reduce domestic and commercial emissions within the city.

Comments were also made on the city council hosting a citizen's assembly. In 2008 the council commissioned an independent climate change committee to shape and inform our environmental policies. This event, chaired by our Lord Mayor Professor Tim O'Riordan OBE, invited numerous stakeholders including environmental NGO's such as Transition Norwich. We will therefore add any outcomes from the national debate to outcomes already discussed from this valuable exercise in shaping our future policy directions.

The council does recognise that we can do more and will be calling on central government to provide the appropriate resources in order that we can better achieve our decarbonisation pathways.

## 6 Emissions - where have we come from and where do we want to be?

As of February 2020, 274 of 408 UK local authorities have declared a climate change emergency and committed to take action to reduce the impact of global warming and slow the rate of climate change (source: Climate Change UK). Norwich City Council declared and passed a climate emergency motion in January 2019. The original motion was strengthened to acknowledge that the climate emergency we face is inextricably linked with social and economic emergencies.

The council has been working on the sustainability agenda since before Local Agenda 21 and has delivered much progress over the last few decades. As a city, Norwich is on track to achieve 2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per person by 2023/24 and based on trajectory data the city will achieve carbon neutrality before 2050 assuming adequate local and national resources are provided.

Fig 4: (See section 14) UK local authority carbon dioxide emissions since 2005 (Source: DBEIS) shows the cities progress to date and projects them to 2023.

Fig 5: (See section 14) Tyndall Centre pathway projections for Norwich is an alternative dataset calculated for the city council by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. This shows a steep reduction in emissions from 2010. However, the cities emissions will need to continue to reduce significantly over the next two decades, in order that the city contributes to global emissions reduction targets and national policy to be net zero by 2050. This will only be achieved if central government policy provides the necessary resources and incentives nationally and locally for every sector.

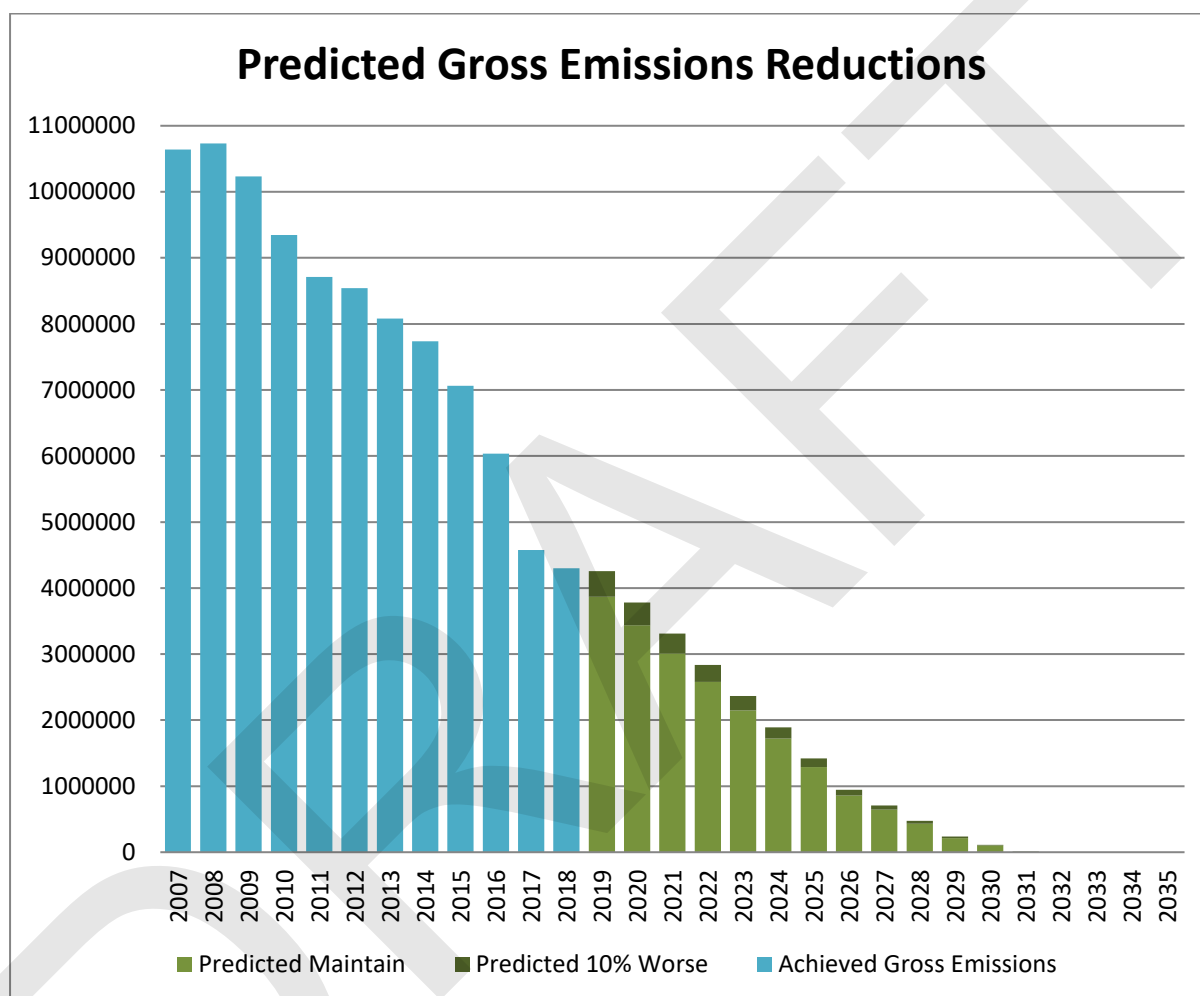
Fig 6: (See section 14) The SCATTER tool developed by DBEIS, Anthesis, Nottingham City Council and the Tyndall Centre identifies residential buildings and on-road transport as being significant CO<sub>2</sub> emitters within the City. Both these sectors will need significant investment to decarbonise and will be a considerable challenge moving forwards to a zero carbon Norwich.

Central government will need to provide the levels of funding needed to deliver the clean growth agenda outlined in the UK Industrial Strategy. While the current Covid-19 pandemic will lower UK economic growth, as the economy recovers, the low carbon economy could provide a solid foundation for better economy and give rise to a better global future by accelerating and prioritising investment in the UK's low-carbon sector.

Retrofitting energy inefficient homes, helping citizens and businesses to take advantage of new technology and electrifying travel will clearly need sufficient central government funding if we are to succeed. It will require close to 28 million homes and the premises of 6 million businesses to change the way they use energy via the installation of energy efficient measures, microgeneration, and new low carbon heating systems. It will require retrofitting programmes at a scale never seen before as well as a revolution in transport and energy. The pace of change in the UK economy will need to quicken if net zero is to be achieved by 2050.

## The council: Our carbon reduction journey

To date we have reduced the carbon emissions of Norwich city council by 59.6 per cent since 2008, a notable achievement given the diverse range of services we deliver to the city. In recognition of the council's sizeable carbon emissions reductions we have been awarded several national accolades, firmly establishing the council as a high achiever, delivering a real step change in the sustainability of its public services.



*Fig 7: Reductions in CO<sub>2</sub>e from baseline year Norwich City Council*

Emissions have fallen year on year since 2008. Norwich City Council plans to be net zero by 2030. The graph shows a potential pathway to this objective from 2019 onwards.

## 7 Vision, themes priorities

To be recognised as one of the best councils in the country for delivering the way in which we help address climate change.

### Themes:

**Community leadership:** through providing leadership to the city including championing and advocating, listening, engaging and communicating, and building and maintaining strong partnerships.

**Service provision:** through providing a range of services including planning, housing, transport, waste collection and recycling, environmental management and protection.

**Buyers of goods and services:** through purchasing a range of goods and services including ensuring procurement processes support sustainability.

**Estate management:** through better management of our own transport and buildings the council can cut emissions and save money and manage the estate so it can be better adapted to the changing climate.

### Our priorities will be:

**Priority 1:** work with partners, through the Norwich 2040 City Vision, to develop a citywide response to climate change to reduce the city's carbon dioxide emissions;

**Priority 2:** reduce the council's own carbon dioxide emissions;

**Priority 3:** increase reuse and recycling in the city and reduce the amount of residual waste;

**Priority 4:** increase the energy efficiency of all the housing stock in the city;

**Priority 5:** ensure that new development is carried out in a sustainable way;

**Priority 6:** support and encourage more sustainable transport solutions;

**Priority 7:** support a low carbon economy in Norwich;

**Priority 8:** prepare for the impacts of climate change;

**Priority 9:** work with local communities to ensure our local environment is protected and enhanced where possible;

**Priority 10:** work with partners to promote behavioural change to establish a more sustainable society

## **8 How will we get there?**

The council will achieve its environmental priorities through delivery of a comprehensive environmental action plan. This sets out the key projects, actions and activities the council will progress within the areas of its responsibility.

Responsibility for the overall delivery of the environmental action programme rests with the corporate leadership team and is co-ordinated and managed by the environmental strategy team.

Specific projects, actions and activities within the programme will be the responsibility of services, contractors and partner organisations.

## **9 How will we know and review?**

Delivery of the environmental strategy and action programme will be closely monitored through the council's performance management framework. This includes regular performance review and challenge by officers and formal performance reporting and review by councillors through:

- Cabinet (quarterly through the council's performance report).
- Sustainable development panel (regularly on specific projects, services and activities).
- A new members group called CEEEP (Climate and Environment Emergency Executive Panel)

We will also publish a biennial environmental statement that sets out overall performance against the priorities within the strategy.

The environmental strategy will be subject to a review at the end of each year looking at:

- Overall performance and progress.
- Changes in the national or local landscape.
- Success of engagement and communication activities.
- New opportunities identified e.g. through partnership work or engagement work.
- Learning from pilot projects and approaches that have been tested.
- Resourcing levels.

This process will determine any changes to be made to the strategy.

## **10 How will we engage and communicate?**

The council will carry out a range of work to engage and communicate with residents, voluntary and community organisations, businesses, academic institutions and other statutory bodies on the progression of this environmental strategy.

Engagement and communication activities will draw on the latest research and approaches in community engagement and environmental psychology (a discipline concerned with effective communication and behaviour change with regards to environmental issues) and utilise concepts and principles such as:

Making sustainability meaningful for citizens (focusing on factors such as the wider environment and community and communicating with people based on their environmental values).

Habit discontinuity (taking advantage of existing lifestyle opportunities to encourage behaviour change e.g. promoting energy efficiency when people move homes).

Using social networks and norms (utilising what other people do and/or is the expected behaviour e.g. most people in this area now recycle food waste).

Two-way participatory engagement/communications (engaging others in discussions and work on the issues and the solutions to deliver the environmental priorities for the city e.g. the development of community energy projects through the use of grants).

Using existing engagement and communication activities wherever possible (to ensure a holistic approach, maximise the use of resources and prevent engagement/communication overload).

Pre-testing and evaluating different engagement and communications (to ensure that they are as well designed as possible and that lessons are learned for future activities).

## **11 Action Plan**

## Action plan: Theme 1 - the council as community leaders

| Outcome/<br>priority                              | Key Actions (RAG)  | Environment<br>priorities they<br>contribute to<br>delivering | Lead Service   | Delivery<br>timescale |
|---|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Theme 1 - the council as community leaders</b> | 1.1 To work with the LEP, County Council and other districts on the low carbon agenda.   | All   | Environmental Strategy                               | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.2 Support Earth Hour, Car Free Day and other environmental campaigns locally   | 1,3,4,6,7,8,9,10  | Communications/<br>Transport                         | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.3 Update risk register using UKCIP18 and LCLIP study   | 8   | CLT/<br>Neighbourhoods                               | 2020                  |
|   | 1.4 To provide grants and advice for local communities to develop community energy projects  | 1, 4 & 7  | Environmental Strategy                               | 2021                  |
|   | 1.5 Promotion of ECO Energy Company Obligation   | 1,4,5&7   | Environmental Strategy                               | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.6 To promote an online reuse portal to facilitate and increase reuse <a href="http://www.lumi.org.uk">www.lumi.org.uk</a>  | 1,7,  | Neighbourhoods                                       | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.7 To develop local sustainable living and 'love where you live' type campaigns to promote simple measures to residents and organisations to lower carbon emissions and adapt to climate change                 | All   | Environmental Strategy/Neighbourhoods/Communications | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.8 Promote Norwich as a sharing city  | 1,3,6,7,9,10  | Communications                                       | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.9 To promote local food production through the council's allotments service and communication activities   | 1,7,8   | Citywide Services                                    | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.10 To continue to promote waste prevention and recycling through public engagement   | 1,3,9,10  | Citywide Services                                    | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.11 New SUP free bins and more recycling in the city centre   | 3   | Citywide Services                                    | 2019                  |
|   | 1.12 Support the Anglia Water CATCH project  | 1,8,9   | Environmental Strategy                               | 2020                  |
|   | 1.13 Work with Anglia Water to promote water efficiency  | 1,8,9   | Environmental Strategy                               | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.14 Continue to run an annual eco living event for residents and organisations  | 1,3,5,6,7,8,9,10  | Environmental Strategy                               | Ongoing               |
|   | 1.15 Continue to run an annual eco awards scheme in the city to promote environmental excellence to residents and organisations including encouraging carbon reduction and use of renewable energy by businesses | 1,3,6,7,8,9,10  | Environmental Strategy                               | Ongoing               |

| Outcome/<br>priority | Key Actions (RAG)   | Environment<br>priorities they<br>contribute to<br>delivering | Lead Service                      | Delivery<br>timescale |
|----------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                      | 1.16 To develop and publish an bi-annual environmental statement to show our progress   | All   | Environmental Strategy            | Bi-Annual             |
|                      | 1.17 Continue to do thematic networking around open spaces and food and deliver growing communities   | 2,9,3   | Strategy and Neighbourhoods       | 2019 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.18 To work with expert partner organisations in the city e.g. University of East Anglia/ Environment Agency/ Tyndall Centre to provide external advice and challenges, to utilise, share and promote environmental research and learning and develop joint bids and solutions to environmental issues | All   | Environmental Strategy            | Ongoing               |
|                      | 1.19 Introduce a new cycle sharing scheme for Norwich   | 1,6,7   | Transport Team                    | 2020                  |
|                      | 1.20 Introduce a new cycle map for Norwich  | 1,6,7   | Transport Team                    | 2021                  |
|                      | 1.21 Encourage more walking and cycling via the transforming cities bid   | 1,6,7   | Transport Team                    | 2020 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.22 Establish a new rapid transport route into the city (Potential EV travel hubs)   | 1,6,7   | Transport Team                    | 2020 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.23 Introduce more 20 MPH zones and traffic management systems which lower CO2 emissions   | 1,6   | Transport Team                    | 2020 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.24 Refresh the Councils Local Climate Impacts Profile (LCLIP) using the latest data from the UKCIP18  | 8   | Environmental Strategy            | 2020                  |
|                      | 1.25 Explore the CPD Scatter Tool developed by the Tyndall Centre for use in Norwich  | 1,2,7   | Environmental Strategy            | 2019                  |
|                      | 1.26 To review the electric charging provision in Norwich and surrounding area to ensure Norwich is "zero emission ready" and to install further rapid chargers (if required) on council land   | 1,6,& 7   | Environmental Strategy/ Transport | 2021                  |
|                      | 1.27 Update the councils district heating map to account for the developments in low temperature systems and localised "energy centers"   | 1,2,4,5,7   | Environmental Strategy            | 2023                  |
|                      | 1.28 To run a third collective auction for solar panels so that private households and landlords can purchase and install them at a lower cost  | 1,4 & 7   | Environmental Strategy            | 2020                  |
|                      | 1.29 Review the investment potential for solar private wire for local businesses to use   | 1,5,7   | Environmental Strategy/LGSS       | 2021                  |

| Outcome/<br>priority | Key Actions (RAG)   | Environment<br>priorities they<br>contribute to<br>delivering | Lead Service                                 | Delivery<br>timescale |
|----------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------|
|                      | 1.30 To implement initiatives to raise awareness and create action at a local neighbourhood level about energy efficiency, managing energy use and the benefits of installing renewable energy by providing information, advice and education | 1&4   | Environmental Strategy                       | Ongoing               |
|                      | 1.31 To set up a series of environmental discussions and information sessions physically and virtually to inform citizens.  | 1,3,4,6,7,8,9   | Environmental Strategy                       | 2021 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.32 Reduce retail food waste via a food poverty strategy   | 1,3,7,9   | Strategy                                     | 2020 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.33 Continue to reduce the use of SUP at events on council land  | 1,3,5,7   | Events                                       | 2019 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.34 Refresh the councils Travel Plan   | 1   | Environmental Strategy                       | 2021                  |
|                      | 1.35 To set up a Climate Leaders Group via the City Vision 2040 partnership to help to deliver the environmental aspirations of the City Vision   | 1,5 & 7   | Strategy                                     | 2019 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.36 Encourage more electric taxi's by the provision of discounted rapid charge refills and potential increase of vehicle age licencing rules if fully electric   | 1,6,7   | Licencing/ Transport/ Environmental Strategy | 2023                  |
|                      | 1.37 To set up a energy company to help citizens take advantage of renewable energy as well as exploring with partner organisations the potential for a district heating scheme for the city  | 1,2,4,5 & 7   | Environmental Strategy/ Communications       | 2019 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.38 To monitor, review and potentially take forward opportunities in the local energy supply markets including exploring community energy companies/ ESCo's, use of block chain and smart meters to incentivise reduced energy consumption   | 1&7   | Environmental Strategy/ LGSS/ ENGIE/ Others  | Ongoing               |
|                      | 1.39 To have an environmental themed Lord Mayors and to use more sustainable transport  | 1,5,6 & 7   | Events                                       | 2019 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.40 Develop a sustainable food group and apply for a sustainable food city status  | All   | Strategy/ Environmental Health               | 2023 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.41 Sell local honey at the TIC to support local honey producers   | 9   | Tourist Information Centre                   | 2019 then ongoing     |

| Outcome/<br>priority | Key Actions (RAG)  | Environment<br>priorities they<br>contribute to<br>delivering | Lead Service  | Delivery<br>timescale |
|----------------------|--|---|---|-----------------------|
|                      | 1.42 Only allow companies which offer 100% renewable electricity as standard into the Big Switch and Save auction      | 1,7,10  | Environmental<br>Strategy/<br>Communications        | 2020 then ongoing     |
|                      | 1.43 Continue to develop ROAR Power to enable the deployment of ECO and Smart energy                                   | 1,2,4,10  | Environmental<br>Strategy/<br>Communications        | 2021                  |
|                      | 1.44 To review the outcomes of citizen assemblies to help inform our ongoing local debate around the low carbon agenda | 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10  | Environmental<br>Strategy/ Strategy/<br>City Vision | Ongoing               |

## Action plan: Theme 2 - the council as service providers

| Outcome/ priority                          | Key Actions  | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service           | Delivery timescale |
|--|--|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| Theme 2 - the council as service providers | 2.1 To ensure that new developments include sustainable travel options from the start  | 1&6  | Planning               | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.2 To support parties wishing to undertake voluntary remediation of land  | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.3 To ensure the infrastructure at Threescore will provide attractive landscaped areas around the drainage lagoons for local people to use and to provide important habitats for wildlife | 9  | Planning               | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.4 To ensure all emergency plans for major weather events are kept up to date   | 8  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.5 To keep accurate records of the effects of weather events on council services  | 8  | Environmental Strategy | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.6 Include climate change on the councils risk register   | 8  | CLT/ Planning          | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.7 Revise the TOR of the Councils Sustainable Development Panel   | All  | Democratic Services    | 2019               |
|  | 2.8 Biodegradable cups in meeting rooms & improved recycling at city hall including crisp packet recycling   | 3  | Office Facilities      | 2019               |
|  | 2.9 Refresh the Councils Fleet with greater use of EV/ Hybrid  | 2  | Office Facilities      | 2024               |
|  | 2.10 Run a training event on climate change adaptation for planners and members of the planning committee  | 1,4  | Planning               | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.11 Remediate the old depot site to enable new use for housing  | 1,4  | NRL                    | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.12 To continue to lobby OFGEM for a standard for renewable energy tariffs so that this can be included within the council's switch and save scheme                                       | 1 & 7  | Environmental Strategy | Ongoing            |
|  | 2.13 Investigate the use of Green Gas for City Hall  | 2  | Environmental Strategy | 2024               |
|  | 2.14 To continue to run a staff awareness campaign to reduce the amount of carbon emissions from business operations at Norwich City Council   | 2  | Environmental Strategy | Ongoing            |

| Outcome/ priority | Key Actions  | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service           | Delivery timescale |
|-------------------|--|--|------------------------|--------------------|
|                   | 2.15 Continue to measure social environmental and economic factors as part of our contract management  | All  | Procurement            | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.16 Continue to replace trees and deliver sponsorship opportunities through Blooms for Norwich  | 1,9  | Neighbourhoods         | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.17 To increase landfill diversion rates and reduce landfill tonnage  | 1&3  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.18 To identify ways to reduce and treat food waste   | 1&3  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.19 To identify ways to reduce and treat garden waste   | 1&3  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.20 To develop and improve the quality and range of recycling services available to Norwich residents   | 1&3  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.21 To continue to work with the other local authorities in Norfolk to achieve the objectives set-out in the joint waste strategy                                   | 1&3  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.22 To deliver programmes and projects to improve energy efficiency measures in privately owned housing e.g. Cosy City  | 1,4,7,8  | Environmental Strategy | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.23 To implement the Greater Norwich Joint Core strategy by 2026  | 5,6,7&8  | Planning               | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.24 Review the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework for green infrastructure opportunity  | 5,6,7&8  | Planning               | 2019 then ongoing  |
|                   | 2.25 Work with other districts to improve the GNDP Energy Policy   | 5,6,7&8  | Planning               | 2019 then ongoing  |
|                   | 2.26 Implement the River Wensum Strategy   | 8,9  | Planning               | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.27 To explore the energy aspects of new developments and possible new policy from central government   | 1,4,5&7  | Planning               | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.28 To develop new homes for the city council that conform to the "Norwich Standard"  | 1,4,5&7  | Housing                | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.29 To continue to monitor air quality and meet EU standards and to take action where necessary to address nuisance issues where they occur e.g. from bonfires etc. | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.30 To work with local businesses to drive down emissions to atmosphere under the Pollution Prevention & Control (PPC) regime                                       | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |

| Outcome/ priority | Key Actions   | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service           | Delivery timescale |
|-------------------|---|--|------------------------|--------------------|
|                   | 2.31 To review the objectives of the tree strategy for Norwich which will consider carbon storage, biodiversity, air quality and climate change adaptation  | 8&9  | Citywide Services      | 2022               |
|                   | 2.32 To deliver a new open spaces strategy in Norwich including ensuring all Norwich City Council Wildlife Sites (SWS) are in positive management   | 9  | Citywide Services      | 2022               |
|                   | 2.33 To utilise external funding sources to undertake a programme of improvements at key city council owned natural areas to improve the biodiversity, increase their resilience to extreme weather and enhance access for visitors on foot. To initially include Marston Marshes, Earlham Millennium Green, the Heronry and Danby Wood | 8&9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.34 To investigate the potential for managing some intensively-managed grass areas under 'conservation cuts', involving fewer cuts per year  | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.35 To replace water-intensive planting with wildflowers and herbaceous shrubs, to encourage wildlife and become more resistant to drought in parks and green spaces in the city   | 8&9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.36 To continue to involve local communities in the management of their local parks, natural areas and open spaces   | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.37 To carry out the climate adaptation tool review of services  | 8  | Environmental Strategy | 2020               |
|                   | 2.38 Make the cemetery more sustainable by the introduction of "ECO" incentives and "for nature" planting   | 8,9  | Citywide Services      | 2020               |
|                   | 2.39 Investigate the use of electric gardening equipment to replace those driven by fossil fuels  | 1,2  | Citywide Services      | 2020               |
|                   | 2.40 To explore other mitigation and adaptation measures that could be included in the planning framework in the future   | 8  | Planning Service       | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.41 To ensure gullies are emptied effectively across the City  | 8&9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |

| Outcome/ priority | Key Actions  | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service             | Delivery timescale |
|-------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|
|                   | 2.42 To continue to deliver an affordable warmth strategy and programme to reduce fuel poverty and increase wellbeing  | 4  | Environmental Strategy   | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.43 Explore other monitoring options for air quality including real-time monitoring   | 5,6  | Citywide Services        | 2020               |
|                   | 2.44 Develop a new "Norwich Standard" for homes built by the councils housing company.   | 1,4,7,9  | Norwich Regeneration Ltd | 2021               |
|                   | 2.45 Undertake a feasibility study to develop a range of low carbon modular homes for future developments and self build and/or sale   | 1,4,9  | Norwich Regeneration Ltd | 2024               |
|                   | 2.46 Work with other districts to improve the energy policy SDP for new developments via the GNDP  | 1,4,5  | Planning                 | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.47 Investigate decentralised energy – locally generated heat and electricity – rather than depending on the less efficient national energy infrastructure  | 1,2,4  | Environmental Strategy   | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.48 To produce and publish the Home Energy Conservation Act report  | 1&4  | Environmental Strategy   | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.49 Install more ground source and air source solutions where possible for district heating   | 1,4  | NPS                      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.50 To continue to work with PIXIE and others in the energy markets to find new ways to reduce carbon for the domestic and industrial energy markets: including the use of block chain, behind the meter services, private wire, ECO aggregation. | 1,4,9  | Environmental Strategy   | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.51 To carry out a CDP annual review of our climate actions   | All  | Environmental Strategy   | Annual             |
|                   | 2.52 Upgrade commercial buildings to the latest EPC standards  | 1,5  | NPS                      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.53 Balancing cost effectiveness alongside social, environmental and economic factors   | ALL  | Procurment               | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.54 Continue to maximise the use of friends groups and volunteers to make Norwich a biodiverse and eco city   | 1,9  | Citywide Services        | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.55 Develop a new Open Spaces strategy  | 1,9  | Citywide Services        | 2022               |
|                   | 2.56 Develop a tree strategy   | 1,9  | Citywide Services        | 2022               |
|                   | 2.57 Encourage people to plant trees at home   | 1,9  | Citywide Services        | 2020               |

| Outcome/ priority | Key Actions  | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service           | Delivery timescale |
|-------------------|--|--|------------------------|--------------------|
|                   | 2.58 To improve participation, set-out rates and collected tonnages for recycling services, particularly the weekly food waste service | 1&3  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.59 Deliver the Transforming Cities Bid   | 1,6,7,9  | Transport Team         | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.60 To increase the number of 20 mph zones in the city to make cycling and walking safer  | 1&6  | Transport Team         | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.61 To continue the implementation of bus rapid transit, city centre improvements and walking and cycling investment                  | 1&6  | City Development       | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.62 To explore with partner organisations the potential for establishing electric charging points in the city                         | 1,6,7,10   | Environmental Strategy | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.63 To investigate the potential for improving other natural areas using external funding   | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.64 To plant trees and vegetation that prevent rapid run-off and protect areas from flooding  | 8&9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.65 Continue to minimise the use of Glyphosate  | 9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.66 To carry out flood mitigation modelling and develop a future investment plan  | 8  | Planning Service       | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.67 To ensure effective maintenance of highway drainage systems and partnership working with Norfolk County Council and Anglian Water | 8&9  | City Development       | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.68 To deliver a preventable seasonal excess deaths action plan with key partner organisations e.g health                             | 8  | Environmental Strategy | Annual             |
|                   | 2.69 Refresh the Councils Carbon Management Plan   | 2  | Environmental Strategy | 2020               |
|                   | 2.70 Continue to keep our natural areas to the Higher Level of Stewardship (HLS)   | 1,9  | Citywide Services      | Ongoing            |
|                   | 2.71 Trial biodegradable wrap straps to reduce SUP in council activity   | All  | TBC                    | 2021               |
|                   | 2.72 Trail the use of energy Arbitrage with battery storage  | 8  | TBC                    | 2023               |
|                   | 2.73 Explore the feasibility of a virtual power plant via ERDF funding   | 8  | TBC                    | 2022               |
|                   | 2.74 To enable more students to undertake research at NCC  | All  | TBC                    | 2021               |

## Action plan: Theme 3 - the council as a purchaser of goods and services

| Outcome/ priority   | Key Actions   | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service | Delivery timescale |
|---|---|--|--------------|--------------------|
| <b>Theme 3 - the council as a purchaser of goods and services</b> | 3.1 - To implement a sustainable procurement strategy and contract management framework                     | 1,2&7  | Procurement  | Ongoing            |
|   | 3.2 - To continue to ensure 100% of the councils energy is sourced from a "green" tariff                    | 1&2  | Procurement  | Ongoing            |
|   | 3.3 - To work with our contractors to reduce waste and ensure the delivery of high environmental standards. | 1,2&3  | Procurement  | Ongoing            |
|   | 3.4 - To adopt an ethical investment policy, with commitment to divestment from fossil fuels                | 1  | Finance      | Ongoing            |
|   | 3.5 To ask all new contractors (Gold/ Silver) to use green energy/ offset carbon emissions                  | 1  | Procurement  | 2020 then ongoing  |
|   | 3.6 Use of "green" tariff for gas use at city hall and at Riverside LC                                      | 1  | Procurement  | 2025               |
|   | 3.7 Develop and implement a social value procurement framework  | 1  | Procurement  | Ongoing            |

## Action plan: Theme 4 - the council as an estate manager

| Outcome/ priority                                 | Key Actions  | Environment priorities they contribute to delivering | Lead Service           | Delivery timescale |
|---|--|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Theme 4 - the council as an estate manager</b> | 4.1 - To deliver an ongoing investment programme of energy efficiency improvements in council housing across the city  | 1,4&7  | Housing                | Ongoing            |
|   | 4.2 - To carry out a review of the council's asset portfolio informed by energy performance surveys to guide opportunities for energy efficiency improvement and rationalisation   | 1,2&7  | City Development       | Ongoing            |
|   | 4.3 - To explore the development of a programme of LED lighting and more efficient landlord lighting working closely with residents  | 1,2&7,10   | Housing                | 2021               |
|   | 4.4 - To refresh and re-launch the council's employee travel plan including looking to reduce single occupancy car journeys by 20% by 2024 and the continuation of the cycle to work scheme, pool bike scheme and encouragement of walking | 1,2,6&7  | Human Resources        | 2021               |
|   | 4.5 - To rationalise and reduce the number of fleet vehicles run by the council by 2.5%  | 1,2&7  | City Development       | 2023               |
|   | 4.6 - To produce and deliver a council water reduction action plan   | 1&2  | Environmental Strategy | 2024               |
|   | 4.7 - To reduce SUPs where possible  | All  | All                    | Ongoing            |
|   | 4.8 - To explore the development and delivery of a large scale PV scheme on council housing across the city in consultation with tenants and review other opportunities for micro- generation and storage.                                 | 1,2,4&7  | Housing                | Ongoing            |
|   | 4.9 - To deliver the council's carbon management programme for the next 5 years to realise a 100% reduction (from a 2007 baseline) from local authority operations by 2030   | 1,2&7  | Environmental Strategy | Ongoing            |
|   | 4.10 - To deliver large scale solar PV schemes on a minimum of 2 commercial or operational sites in the city   | 1,2&7  | City Development       | 2022               |

## **12 Annex A: Norwich City Council's published environmental policy**

The council's environmental policy will play a key role in working towards sustainable development because the health and well-being of our environment is crucial for providing us all with a good quality of life, both today and for years to come.

### **The policy:**

It is our policy to meet our national and international legislative obligations, to develop local sustainable communities, enhance the local environment, deliver environmentally-friendly services and enforce environmental legislation to help stem the depletion of finite natural resources.

We are committed to preventing pollution of the environment through compliance with legislation and the continual improvement of environmental performance. We will also monitor our resource use, by:

- increasing energy efficiency in council-owned property
- promotion of domestic energy efficiency
- reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill
- increasing recycling opportunities
- reducing consumption of paper in council activities
- reducing consumption in fuel in council operations
- reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from council operations to achieve net zero by 2030
- reducing per capita carbon emissions, until becoming carbon-neutral by 2050
- preventing groundwater pollution and contamination of land
- protecting and enhancing of habitat and biodiversity
- enhancing of the quality of the built environment
- environmental considerations laid out within the procurement strategy.

## 13 Glossary of terms:

**Austerity:** The United Kingdom government austerity programme is a fiscal policy adopted in the early 21st century following the Great Recession. It is a deficit reduction programme consisting of sustained reductions in public spending and tax rises, intended to reduce the government budget deficit and the role of the welfare state in the United Kingdom.

**Biodiversity:** The variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular habitat, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable. A good level of biodiversity is indicative of a healthy ecosystem or habitat that can support a range of species.

**Cabinet committee:** Norwich City Council's main decision-making body. It is made up of a small number of councillors, called cabinet members. They each have responsibility for particular service areas of the council (e.g. housing, sustainable city development, waste and recycling, planning, finance).

**Climate Change Act (2008):** 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. The Act also establishes the framework to deliver on these requirements.

The Climate Change Act commits the UK government by law to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% of 1990 levels (net zero) by 2050. The 100% target was based on advice from the CCC's 2019 report, 'Net Zero – The UK's contribution to stopping global warming'.

**Climate Change Adaptation Plan:** Government strategy to address the main risks and opportunities identified in the risk assessment for England. Produced every five years. The first National Adaptation Programme was published in July 2013 and the second in 2018. The latest programme sets out what government and others will be doing over the next 5 years to be ready for the challenges of climate change.

**Climate Change Emergency & Environment Executive Panel (CEEPP):** Norwich City Council committee created in October 2019 to consider climate change and sustainability including social and economic issues in both the short and the long term in order to gather information and generate reports to advise Cabinet.

**Climate Change Emergency:** A declaration by local authorities and countries, which states that urgent action needs to be taken to slow the progress of climate change. An affirmation that the struggle against climate change is an emergency and needs to be treated as such.

**Climate resilient communities:** Communities which are able to absorb and withstand the stresses placed upon them by climate change, and continue to function, adapt and evolve into communities which are increasingly sustainable and better able to deal with future climate change impacts.

**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:** Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is a colourless, odourless and non-poisonous gas formed by combustion of carbon and in the respiration of living organisms and is considered a greenhouse gas. Emissions means the release of greenhouse gases and/or their precursors into the atmosphere over a specified area and period of time.

**Council:** A branch of local government in the United Kingdom: Supervising one of the Districts of England: A Metropolitan borough. A Non-metropolitan district.

**Energy efficiency:** Using less energy to provide the same service. For example, a compact fluorescent bulb is more efficient than a traditional incandescent bulb as it uses much less electrical energy to produce the same amount of light. Whilst an LED bulb is more energy efficient still.

**Five year carbon budget:** In order to meet the government's Climate Change Act (2008) targets, five-yearly carbon budgets were set. These budgets currently run until 2032. They restrict the amount of greenhouse gas the UK can legally emit in a five year period. The UK is currently in the third carbon budget period (2018 to 2022).

**Fuel Poverty:** Not having sufficient income to be able to heat one's home sufficiently, including hot water to keep clean, or a source of heat to cook with. Where a resident is fuel poor, they may have to make the decision to "heat or eat".

**Global Warming of 1.5°C:** In October 2018, the IPCC published the Special Report on 1.5°C (SR15). Drawn together by 91 authors, and with 6,000 scientific references, the report shows that "limiting global warming to 1.5 °C compared with 2 °C would reduce challenging impacts on ecosystems, human health and well-being". Also that a 2 °C temperature increase would exacerbate extreme weather, rising sea levels and diminishing Arctic sea ice, coral bleaching, and loss of ecosystems, among other impacts.

The report also presents modelling that shows that to ensure that global warming is limited to 1.5 °C, "Global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) would need to fall by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching 'net zero' around 2050."

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):** The IPCC is an organization of governments that are members of the United Nations or WMO. IPCC scientists volunteer their time to assess the thousands of scientific papers published each year to provide a comprehensive summary of what is known about the drivers of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and how adaptation and mitigation can reduce those risks.

The objective of the IPCC is to provide governments at all levels with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies.

**Local Agenda 21:** Local Agenda 21 is conceptualised in chapter 28 of Agenda 21, which was adopted by 178 governments at the 1992 Rio Conference. Agenda 21 recognised that many environmental problems can be traced back to local communities and that local governments have an important role to play in

implementing environmental programs and gathering community support. Adoption of Local Agenda 21 is voluntary. The most appropriate implementation method is not prescribed. Rather local government and the local community agree upon a suitable implementation method for their region.

**Local Authorities:** A local authority is officially responsible for all the public services and facilities in a particular area. Depending on where you live, local government consists of at least one or two tiers of authorities. Two tiers, with responsibilities of local services divided between them: County council/ borough, district, city councils. Or one (unitary) tier, providing all the services: unitary, London boroughs, metropolitan boroughs. In Norwich we are part of a two-tier system with Norfolk County Council.

**Local Government:** The administration of a particular county or district, with representatives elected by those who live there.

**Local Planning Authority:** The local planning authority is usually the planning department of the district or borough council. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) defines a local planning authority as, 'the public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area.'

**Low carbon:** causing or resulting in only a relatively small net release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

**Mitigate:** To make the impact of something less serious or severe. To soften or reduce.

**Norwich 2040 City Vision:** Launched in Autumn 2018, the Norwich 2040 City Vision is a document which brings together the results of a large consultation exercise with a wide range of stakeholders, to consider what residents, businesses and visitors might like Norwich to be like as a place to live, work and play in the year 2040.

**Norwich City Council's corporate plan:** A plan that details how the council intends to deliver the services it provides for the people who live, work and play in Norwich. The most recent corporate plan has been written in response to the Norwich 2040 City Vision document, in order to facilitate in delivering the aspirations laid out in this document.

**Paris Agreement:** An agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), dealing with greenhouse-gas-emissions mitigation, adaptation, and finance, signed in 2016. The Paris Agreement's long-term temperature goal is to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels; and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C, recognizing that this would substantially reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.

**Passivhaus:** A voluntary standard for energy efficiency in a building, which reduces the building's ecological footprint. It results in ultra-low energy buildings that require

little energy for space heating or cooling. Can be applied to domestic or commercial properties.

**Renewable energy:** Energy that is collected from renewable resources, which are naturally replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves, and geothermal heat.

**Renewables:** Refers to types of technology, including solar, wind, hydro, that harness energy from infinite (or renewable) sources such as the sun, wind, water, as opposed to energy created by burning gas or coal (fossil fuels) which are finite sources of energy, and therefore not renewable. They will run out eventually.

**Retro-fitting:** Modifications to existing (commercial or domestic) buildings that may improve energy efficiency or decrease energy demand.

**SCATTER Tool:** SCATTER is a local authority focussed emissions tool, built to help create low-carbon local authorities. SCATTER provides local authorities and city regions with the opportunity to standardise their greenhouse gas reporting and align to international frameworks, including the setting of targets in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. Its use is free of charge to all local authorities in the UK.

**Sustainability:** Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance.

**Sustainable Development:** "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

**Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research:** The Tyndall Centre is a partnership of universities bringing together researchers from the social and natural sciences and engineering to develop sustainable responses to climate change. We work with leaders from the public and private sectors to promote informed decisions on mitigating and adapting to climate change.

**UK net zero target of 2050:** Carbon neutrality means having a balance between emitting carbon and absorbing carbon from the atmosphere in carbon sinks. Carbon sink is any system that absorbs more carbon than it emits. The main natural carbon sinks are soil, forests and oceans. According to estimates, natural sinks remove between 9.5 and 11 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Annual global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reached 37.1 Gt in 2017. To date, no artificial carbon sinks are able to remove carbon from the atmosphere on the necessary scale to fight global warming.

## 14: Emissions data:

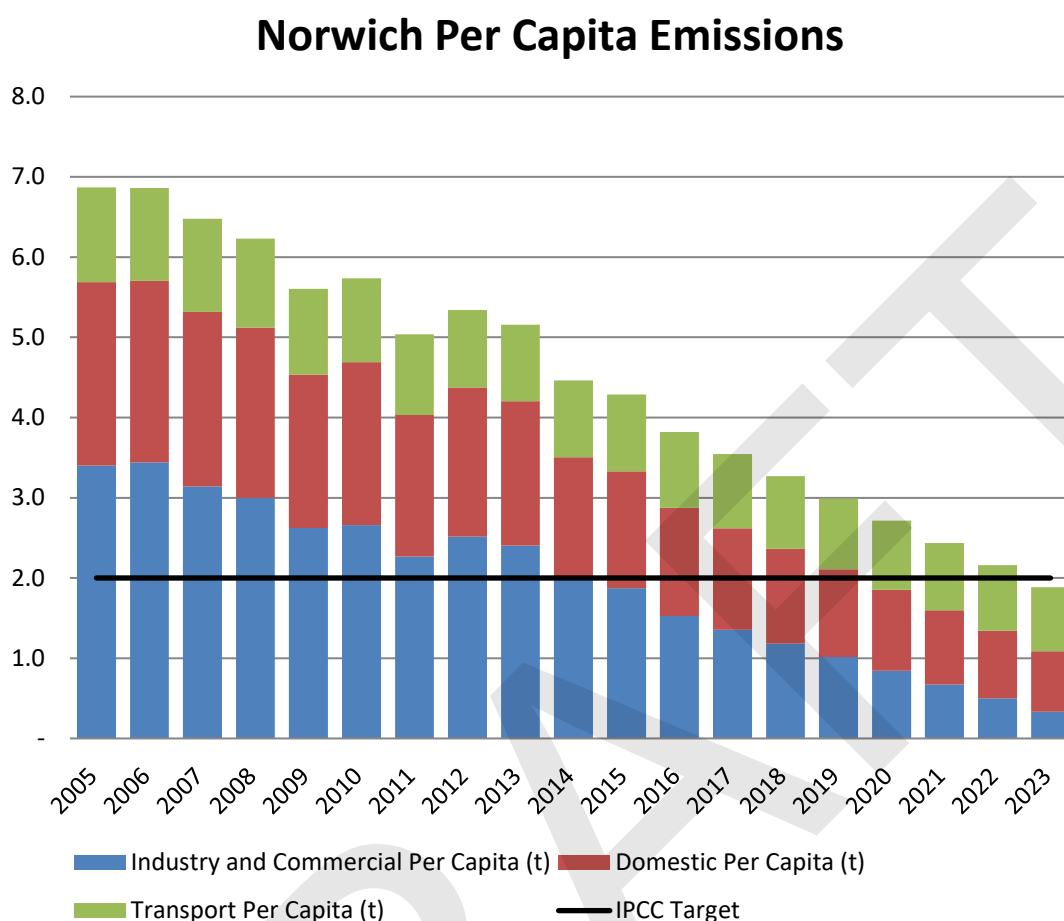
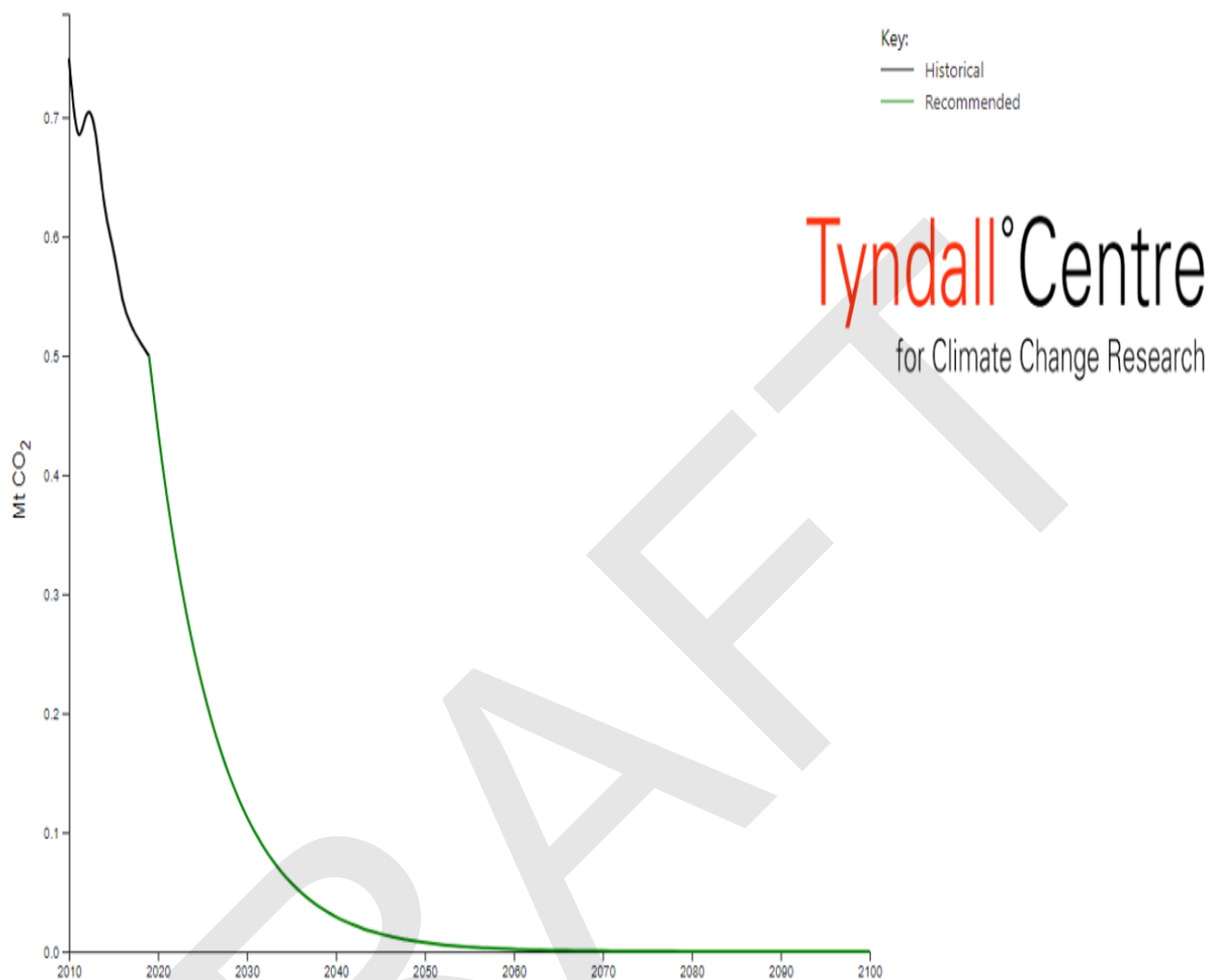


Fig 4: UK local authority carbon dioxide emissions since 2005 (Source: DBEIS)

Produced by Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (DBEIS), the National Indicator (NI) comprises annual reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions across an agreed set of sectors (housing, road transport and business). This is measured as a percentage reduction of the per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the 2005 baseline year. NI 186 excludes aviation, shipping and consumed emissions, as a reliable dataset has not been created at a national and regional level. As a city, Norwich is on track to achieve 2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per person by 2023/24 and based on trajectory data the city will achieve carbon neutrality before 2050.

### Pathway projections for Norwich



*Fig 5: Tyndall Centre pathway projections for Norwich*

Tyndall Centre pathway projections for Norwich is an alternative dataset calculated for the city council by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. This shows a steep reduction in emissions from 2010. However, the cities emissions will need to continue to reduce significantly over the next two decades, in order that the city contributes to global emissions reduction targets and national policy to be net zero by 2050. This will only be achieved if central government policy provides the necessary resources and incentives nationally and locally for every sector.

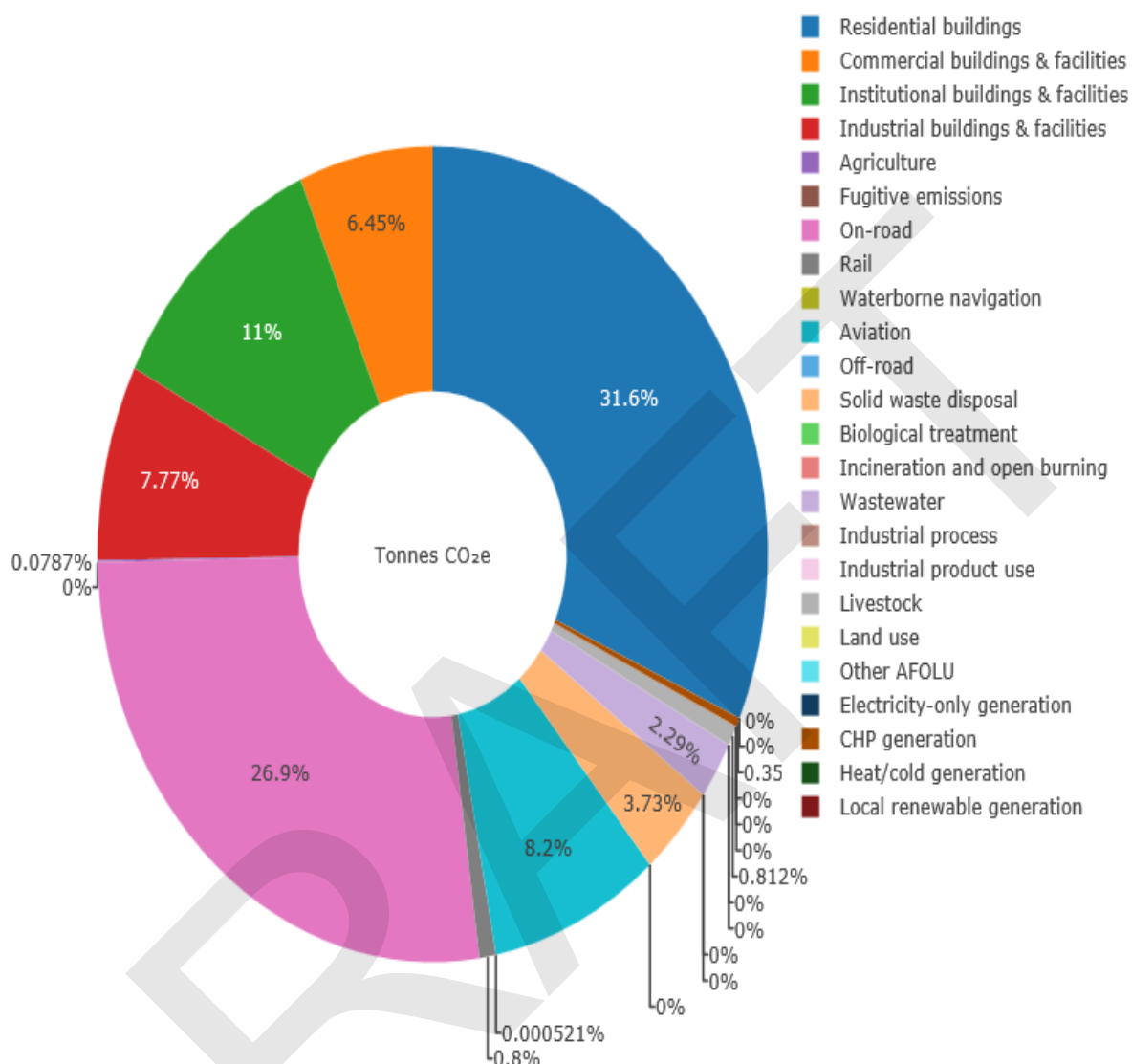


Fig 6: SCATTER (Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emissions Reduction)

The SCATTER tool developed by DBEIS, Anthesis, Nottingham City Council and the Tyndall Centre identifies residential buildings and on-road transport as being significant CO<sub>2</sub> emitters within the City. Both these sectors will need significant investment to decarbonise and will be a considerable challenge moving forwards to a zero carbon Norwich.

## Report – Environmental Strategy 2020 – 2025 Consultation Results

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 During December 2019 - January 2020 Norwich City Council undertook a public consultation exercise to elicit views on the council's fourth draft environmental strategy. An online questionnaire was created. The aim of the questionnaire was to seek feedback on the success, or otherwise, of the draft environmental strategy. To give the citizens of Norwich the opportunity to have their say on the way that Norwich City Council proposes to manage environmental issues within their sphere of influence.
- 1.2 The questionnaire was promoted via the council's social media channels and in the local press. In total 107 respondents engaged with the consultation questionnaire, an increase of over four-fold on the previous draft environmental strategy in 2015. The questionnaire consisted of 7 questions: 5 questions required open ended, free text responses; 2 required closed responses. Some responses ran to over a page of A4. One engaged respondent provided 19 individual answers to one question. There were 1,831 responses were collected in total. The responses ran to over 25,000 words.

|                        | Number of responses | No response given |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Question 1             | 157                 | 37                |
| Question 2             | 332                 | 53                |
| Question 3             | 779                 | 8                 |
| Question 4             | 108                 | 46                |
| Question 5             | 422                 | 6                 |
| Question 6             | 135                 | 25                |
| Question 7             | 131                 | 58                |
| <b>Total responses</b> | <b>2064</b>         | <b>233</b>        |

***Table 1: Total responses to consultation.***

- 1.3 In order to make meaning from this large amount of qualitative data, it has been necessary to extract recurrent themes from the answers provided. We have also included a selection of responses at the end of each section.

### 2 The Questions:

- 2.1 In order to allow the public consultation to capture as many differing views on the proposed strategy a range of open and closed questions were asked. The council allowed consultees unlimited "free text" so that more detailed opinions could be provided.

The following questions were asked:

**Question 1:** Do you have any comments or suggestions to make about our draft environmental strategy? *(free text response)*

**Question 2:** What do you think should be the city council's main environmental priority, or priorities, for Norwich? *(free text response)*

**Question 3:** Please indicate how important you feel each of the proposed priorities are by ordering them from 1 - 10 (where 1 = least important and 10 = most important) *(closed answer response)*

**Question 4:** Do you have any further comments or suggestions to make about the draft priorities? Please provide any ideas you have. *(free text response)*

**Question 5:** In which ways can the council engage on environmental issues? Please tick all you feel could be effective. *(closed answer response)*

**Question 6:** What would be most likely to make you engage with environmental issues? Please provide any ideas you have *(free text response)*

**Question 7:** Please provide any further comments or suggestions about the draft strategy *(free text response)*

### **3 Analysis of Question 1**

**Do you have any comments or suggestions to make about our draft environmental strategy?**

3.1 There were 120 responses to this question. 37 respondents chose not to answer. The following recurrent themes were identified:

- (a) Sustainable Transport
- (b) Sustainable Development
- (c) Waste
- (d) Domestic energy efficiency
- (e) Diet
- (f) Private Industry partnership
- (g) Air Pollution
- (h) Renewable energy
- (i) Biodiversity/ Green Spaces
- (j) Finance
- (k) Partnership working
- (l) Norwich City Council carbon emissions
- (m) Climate Change Emergency
- (n) Happy with draft strategy
- (o) Querying data used
- (p) Querying ambition of report
- (q) Airport

- (r) Look of document
- (s) Querying amount of detail in strategy
- (t) Other

### **Response: Question 1**

- 3.2 It was clear from the consultation that some of the respondents believed the council operates or has significant influence over a number of services which in fact the council has little or no control over. This can be potentially explained as local government models differ across the UK and can be vastly different depending on where you live.
- 3.3 Norwich has a two-tier system with Norfolk County Council taking responsibility of services such as transport, highways and education. In addition to this the greater Norwich area (which many people regard as the city) actually has 3 local councils delivering lower tier activities such as waste collection and planning (Broadland, South Norfolk and Norwich City Council).
- 3.4 It was clear that many citizens who live outside the boundary of Norwich City Council believed this strategy could implement policies which could improve sustainability where they lived. The strategy will therefore be amended to highlight that this is a strategy for the area managed by Norwich City Council and the services it operates.
- 3.5 However the strategy will also highlight how different tiers of government can work together to deliver change via partnership working. Where possible councils can work together in collaboration to make positive change. This work is done via a number of different forums such as the Greater Norwich Develop Partnership (GNDP), New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), emergency planning and various other local officer groups such as the Climate Change Partnership and wider all stakeholder partnerships such as the City Vision. Via these groups Norwich City Council will try to influence improvements to environmental sustainability as highlighted by this consultation.
- 3.6 A number of comments related to services delivered by the private sector. (The provision of public transport for example). Where possible and appropriate the council will work with the private sector to improve quality, reliability and usability. The council recognises the importance of shared transport in lowering the cities dependence on single occupancy transport. (This includes but is not limited to the electrification of transport).
- 3.7 The consultation received numerous comments about diet and lifestyle choices. Where possible the council will continue to influence behaviours, which have a pro environmental outcome. We hope that we can work in partnership with our citizens and businesses to continue to reduce emissions going forwards and encourage others that these choices can have economic, environmental and social benefits.
- 3.8 It is obvious that there is a high level of ambition for the city to continue to reduce emissions and become more sustainable. However, some of the ideas

expressed via this consultation were outside the remit of the council and will potentially need others to investigate their potential to be delivered.

- 3.9 The split between respondents who are happy with the draft strategy and feels it meets ambition versus the respondents who believe the strategy lacks detail and ambition is indicative of the difficult line which needs to be tread in order to meet the needs of as many people as possible. The council will consider all suggestions and seek to deliver them where resources, opportunity and authority exist.
- 3.10 A number of respondents also referenced the climate emergency and the targets set out within the strategy. The council has formally recognised the climate emergency and will continue to build on the achievements already delivered by continuing to drive down emissions within the services it operates as well as developing programmes to reduce domestic and commercial emissions within the city. The council does recognise that we can do more and will be calling on central government to provide the appropriate resources in order that we achieve or better our decarbonisation pathways.
- 3.11 Finally there were several comments about the use of scientific data, the sources of this and the language used. The document will now include the SCATTER tool and the Tyndall emissions pathways, however we need to balance the readability of the document so that it reaches a wider audience as possible. The final draft will therefore have more imagery.
- 3.12 Some example comments:

***Sustainable Transport:***

- (a) *"Build more cycle paths if you build them people will use them...Borrow money to change the buses to electric. This is vital for clean air for our city. Have proper car-free days where cars are actually excluded from the city so people can see what it is like to cycle and walk without cars and to breathe clean air."*
- (b) *"Make public transport better, cheaper and reliable."*
- (c) *"We live in the Earlham area and the cycle path road works have had a nasty and disruptive effect on our lives. Travel delays, small pathways - the prospect of being run at by having to share narrow pavements with cyclists - when you use a wheelchair there is not much movability"*
- (d) *"Sustainable transport is a challenge in Norfolk. The price and reliability of the train services needs reviewing. You really need a car to get around in Norfolk, so more initiatives required to support less car use."*
- (e) *"Change buses from diesel to electric as used in the rest of the country."*
- (f) *"Norwich, and the UK at large, needs greener, cheaper public transport. That will be what will enable us to meet CO2 reduction targets and to change the face of our cities and towns, if not rural areas too. Other countries have subsidised public transport systems which makes public*

*transport available to all. I work and own my own home (and car), but I couldn't contemplate switching to public transport given the huge fares charged and (reportedly) dismal service provided. Free urban buses and cheaper (electric) rail fares are the only way to go."*

- (g) "Glad to see the city is introducing a bike share system (Beryl) and that active transport is a priority. I believe the cycle routes in Norwich are under-utilised and myself only found that they exist by chance. The updated cycle map should be introduced ASAP and kept up to date regularly, perhaps in partnership with an active transport charity or organisation. It would also be great to see a walking map too, though most out of town cycle routes are suitable for walking not everyone knows this! The council should priorities [sic] active transport levels within itself to lead by example and publicise the results. On street electric vehicle charging should be provided at least as a trial, and Cycle parking in homes and flats, should also be a priority."*
- (h) "The same goes for corporate companies in the area, their action needs to be demanded and car sharing insisted upon if possible. To make use of public transport the prices of parking could be increased, and public transport prices reduced so that is the most efficient way of travelling. This also means it should reach areas without good public transport links like small villages. Preferably public transport should be electric or at least hybrid."*

**Satisfied with the draft strategy:**

- (i) "The strategy looks the most compete of the councils around Norfolk. It's good to have deadlines. The Themes are reasonable. I am unclear if new funding is happening."*
- (j) "It [the strategy] is comprehensive and ambitious."*
- (k) "Very encouraged that the city council is taking a lead on the climate change emergency. Some very good and proactive elements in the document..."*
- (l) "Great environmental policy that should be actioned upon with great urgency by cross-party consensus..."*
- (m) "The council has a solid track record in terms of reducing our own carbon footprint. We have achieved a 59.6% reduction in carbon emissions over the period 2008 to 2019. And, more widely, the city has reduced carbon emissions from 6.9 to 3.8 tonnes per capita over the period 2005 to 2018."*

**The draft strategy needs greater ambition and detail:**

- (n) "What measures are you using to verify "Great neighbourhoods, housing and local environment, Inclusive (good) growth, People living well" - needs more detail!"*

- (o) *"I would like to see more about the ways in which the ambitions will be realised. For example, item 4.1 to delivery ongoing investment programme for energy efficiency improvements simply won't be enough."*
- (p) *"Nowhere near ambitious enough. Although a lot of these ideas are really helpful they aren't getting us where we need to be. Some of the proposals ....environmental themed mayors, annual eco fairs...are largely tokenistic. Too much reliance on promoting life-style changes. The council has larger responsibilities. We need change on a systemic level and the council need to show leadership and recognise the urgency of this situation."*
- (q) *"There is a need for a more ambitious strategy and a challenging overall target to reflect the magnitude and urgency of the climate and ecological emergency."*
- (r) *"However, the scope of our ambition is hampered by the restriction in available funding." This is something that several respondents also commented upon.*
- (s) *"It seems an achievable goal but will need significant funding and cross agency cooperation."*
- (t) *"cost money so make the corporate giants pay should have consideration for local people inc those of the future should want to maintain our beautiful buildings there are some very old ones."*
- (u) *"positive aims but I think national financial restraints might affect the future."*

#### **4 Analysis of Question 2**

##### **What do you think should be the city council's main environmental priority, or priorities, for Norwich?**

- 4.1 Respondents were given the opportunity to provide up to 3 different priorities for the city. 279 responses were received. 58 respondents chose not to answer. The following themes were identified:
  - (a) Carbon neutral
  - (b) Renewable energy provision
  - (c) Sustainable transport
  - (d) Sustainable Development
  - (e) Reduce Air Pollution
  - (f) People's assembly for Climate Change
  - (g) Communicate clearly regarding environmental issues such as Climate Emergency
  - (h) Plant trees and improve green spaces and biodiversity
  - (i) Waste reduction
  - (j) Reduce carbon emissions
  - (k) Domestic energy efficiency

- (l) Educate and engage with Norwich residents
- (m) Assist switch to plant-based diet
- (n) Stop airport expansion
- (o) Divest from fossil fuel investments
- (p) Convert council and contractor fleet to electric
- (q) Best practice sharing with other urban centres
- (r) Lobbying central government and private industry
- (s) Energy efficient street lighting
- (t) Incentivise small local businesses to lessen their environmental impact
- (u) Green energy provider for the city
- (v) Other

#### 4.2 Some examples of the priorities raised by respondents:

##### **Sustainable Transport:**

- (a) Clean air by changing to electric buses and limiting car use in city
- (b) More car-free cycle paths
- (c) Integrated public transport
- (d) Reduce car access to Norwich
- (e) Create better integrated transport systems
- (f) Create light rail and tram systems for Norwich and suburbs
- (g) Consider trams again, electrification of local transport would radically improve the city
- (h) Reduction in cars and car use, prioritising walking (and then cycling) in all highway design
- (i) Banning petroleum and diesel cars from the city centre
- (j) Introducing electric charging points for vehicles
- (k) Electric buses in the city
- (l) Make it easy for bicycles and electric bicycles
- (m) Investment in mass transit and carpool schemes to reduce traffic emissions
- (n) Sustainable transport - car free roads and sustainable transport
- (o) Prioritise this for new developments
- (p) Subsidised public transport for those living in surrounding villages

- (q) Car-free city centre, with electric buggy availability for those with temporary mobility problems
- (r) Cheaper fares for short journeys on city buses, at the moment prices are cheaper on longer journeys to destinations outside city
- (s) Remove diesel, petrol buses and taxis
- (t) Transport for the city must become non carbon in every way possible - pedestrians, bikes, public transport to be prioritised
- (u) Make public transport environmentally friendly, connected and efficient so that people choose to use it
- (v) Start installing electric charging points around the city and larger towns, people may the start replacing their dirty vehicles. Maybe every car share parking space could have an extra space designated alongside with a charging point? Free or reduced car parking charges for electric vehicles?
- (w) To reduce private car use, including exclude cars altogether from the City Centre
- (x) As well as improving sustainable transport provision in the city, increasing biodiversity and improving green spaces was a seen as a key priority:

**Plant trees, improve green spaces and biodiversity:**

- (y) Plant more trees
- (z) Improve public parks spaces
- (aa) Increasing green space and trees
- (bb) Greening the city - tree planting in urban areas and greenery on buildings and roofs
- (cc) Re-wilding, de paving tree planting, hedgerow planting more biodiversity
- (dd) Protect and enhance green spaces, with more sensitive management for wildlife
- (ee) Plant more trees
- (ff) Tree planting and nature restoration in areas laid to waste
- (gg) Reduce fragmentation of existing habitats through new roads passing through areas of park or woodland
- (hh) Plant more trees

(ii) More micro habitats, e.g. bee lines, micro ponds for insects and bird 'pit stops', 'dead hedges' using prunings as insect habitats. These look good covered in ivy, another food source for pollinators

(jj) Preserve Woodland Spaces

(kk) Massive increase in green spaces in Norwich

(ll) To plant more trees, and to stop developers cutting trees down

(mm) Plant 1,000s of trees across the city

(nn) The cities green spaces are essential - as a carbon and flood management system, and for mental and physical health - and the council must work to support communities to enjoy them

4.3 Other popular themes included:

(a) Waste reduction

(b) Improve domestic energy efficiency

(c) Reduce air pollution and achieve carbon neutrality.

## **Response to question 2:**

4.4 As in the previous response, what lies within the remit of the council in terms of being able to influence private companies is more limited than if the activities were publically owned. However, we remain in contact with a variety of external stakeholders to enable positive change where possible. We recognise the importance of the council as a community leader and hope to channel support via the City Vision and other platforms highlighted in the previous response.

4.5 With regards to green spaces the council has been out to consultation on how it manages them and is due to publish the new green spaces strategy later this year. The council also hope to update its biodiversity strategy by spring 2021. The city is well serviced for green spaces with over 132 hectares of parks, woodlands, and other green spaces, including 8 nature reserves. Our aim would be to enhance these wherever possible or if funding is limited to maintain them. The council would like to highlight the overwhelming community support we have received via the voluntary sector. These voluntary groups have enabled the council to maintain the high quality of our open spaces whilst also being an oasis for nature.

4.6 Where possible and where resources are available any ideas which are possible to develop a business case will be investigated for potential deployment.

## 5. Analysis of Question 3

**Please indicate how important you feel each of the proposed priorities are by ordering them from 1 - 10 (where 1 = least important and 10 = most important)**

**Priority 1:** work with partners through Norwich 2040 to develop a city wide response to climate change to reduce the city's carbon dioxide emissions

**Priority 2:** reduce the council's own carbon dioxide emissions

**Priority 3:** increase reuse and recycling in the city and reduce the amount of residual waste

**Priority 4:** increase the energy efficiency of all the housing stock in the city

**Priority 5:** ensure that new development is carried out in a sustainable way

**Priority 6:** support and encourage more sustainable transport solutions

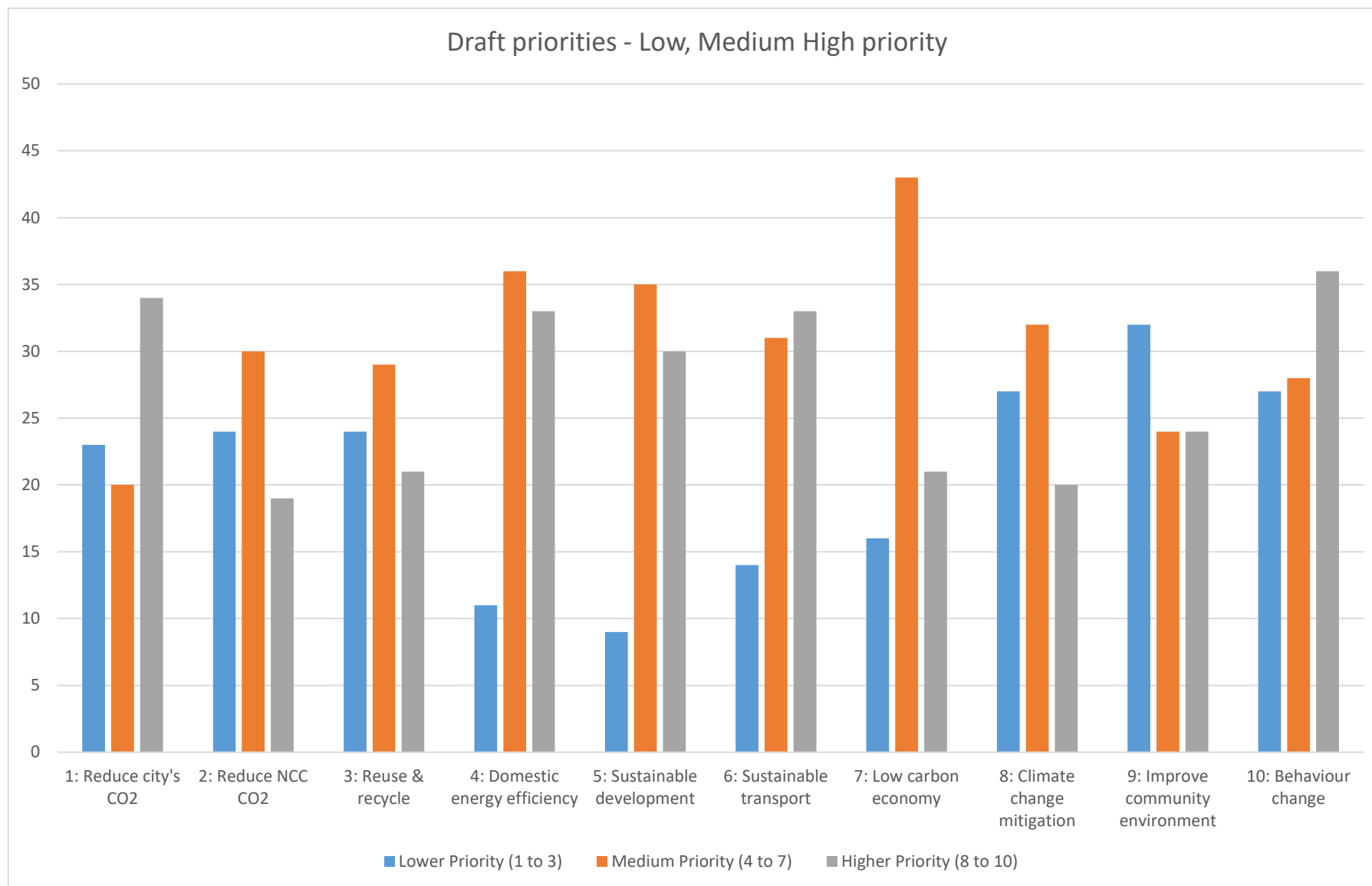
**Priority 7:** support a low carbon economy in Norwich

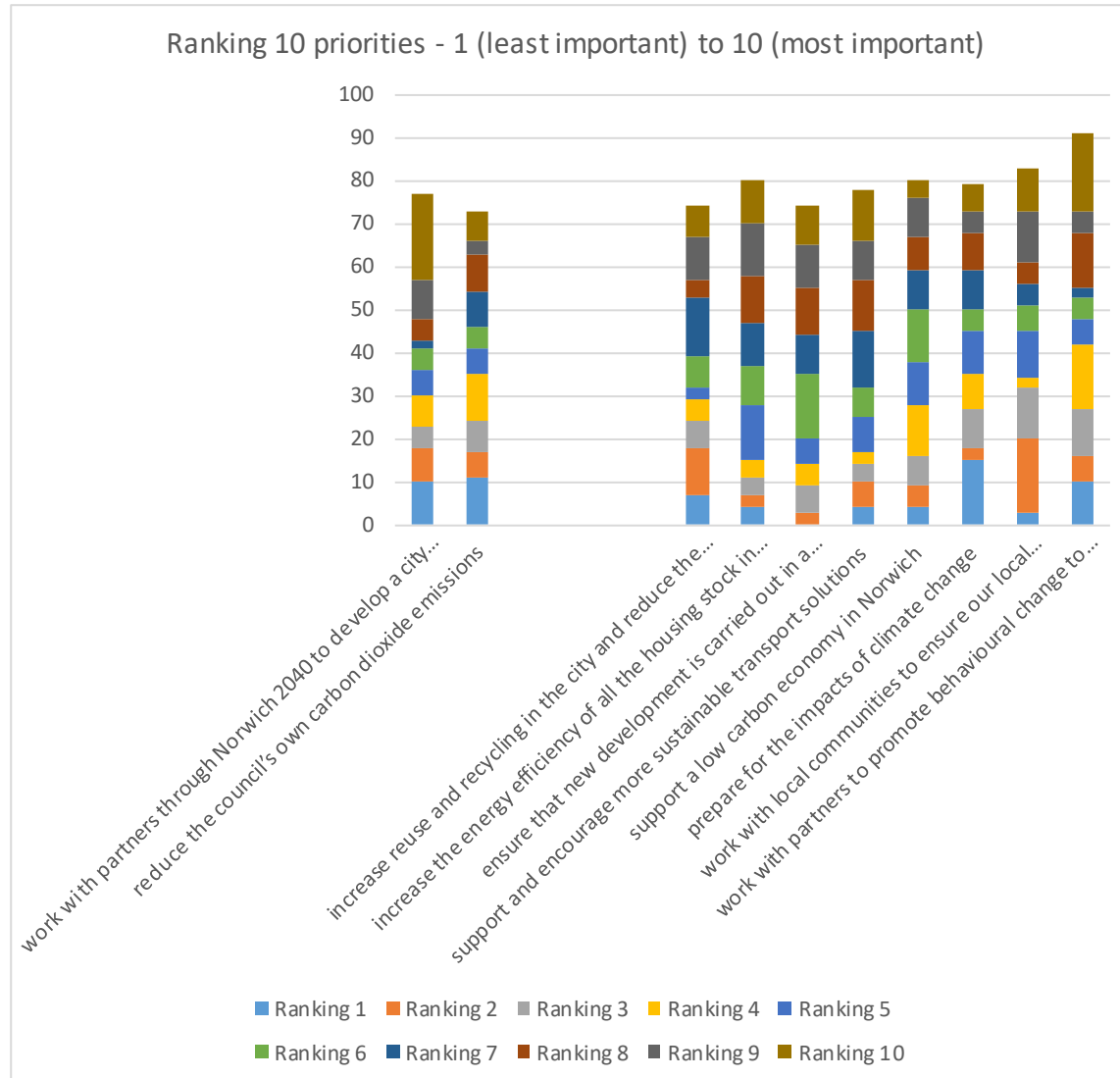
**Priority 8:** prepare for the impacts of climate change

**Priority 9:** work with local communities to ensure our local environment is protected and enhanced, where possible.

**Priority 10:** work with partners to promote behavioural change to establish a more sustainable Society.

### 5.1 The responses are shown in the following tables:





## 6. Analysis of Question 4

**Do you have any further comments or suggestions to make about the draft priorities? Please provide any ideas you have.**

6.1 Respondents were given the opportunity to comment on the draft priorities given in Question 3. 62 responses were given, and 46 respondents chose not to answer. The following themes were identified:

### 6.2 Themes

- (a) All draft priorities were felt to be of equal priority
- (b) Happy with the draft strategy
- (c) Sustainable transport
- (d) No airport expansion/ no new roads
- (e) Other
- (f) Excess lighting
- (g) Air quality
- (h) Sustainable transport
- (i) Climate change adaptation
- (j) Lobbying central government
- (k) Improving/increasing green spaces
- (l) Public education and engagement
- (m) Sustainable development
- (n) Achieve carbon zero by 2030
- (o) More clarity and ambition
- (p) Incentivise/Penalise residents

6.3 A considerable number of the respondents felt they were unable to rank the draft priorities in order of importance, instead considering them to be interlinked or of equal importance. Here is a selection of comments:

#### **Priorities of equal importance:**

- (a) *"I would like to make them all a ten"*
- (b) *"I would have put all the above at 10 if allowed! There is a high priority on all these measures"*
- (c) *"The one to 10 scale isn't very useful. All of these areas need to be priority....they are incredibly interlinked and asking people to rate them in this way seems meaningless"*
- (d) *"All the above should be priorities ranking them in 'order' is somewhat redundant!"*
- (e) *"Although this exercise requires some priorities to be listed as lower than others these policies are really all high priority"*
- (f) *"It's really difficult to prioritise them as they are all important"*

- (g) *"I don't feel it is appropriate to order these priorities, as I feel some of them are equally important and a number of them are very clearly overlapping and interlinked. E.g. priority 1 clearly overlaps and interlinks with priority 7 (and 5 and 6) and seems to be almost the same as priority 10"*
- (h) *"It was difficult to choose ONE as they are all important in order to achieve a beneficial outcome and help tackle climate change"*
- (i) *"In reality they are all important and inter linked"*
- (j) *"All the areas listed above need to be considered TOGETHER"*
- (k) *"Action needs to be taken in ALL AREAS"*
- (l) *"All aspects of the climate and environmental emergencies need to be considered together. Action is needed in all areas, not just some. We gain nothing by prioritising"*
- (m) *"These are all important. However, they are all quite specific. They all need to happen at the same time. Priorities cannot be compared usefully in this way, particularly when the aims and actions listed should not be in competition with each other but part of a holistic solution. All aspects of the climate and environmental emergencies need to be considered together. Action is needed in all areas, not just some"*
- (n) *"Very hard to order them - they're all important"*
- (o) *"The aims set out in the list of priorities would need to be undertaken together, with equal priority, to achieve the aim of being sustainable"*

6.4 In addition, respondents were invited to contribute their own ideas of priorities to be considered. Below is a selection of these:

**Other suggestions:**

- (a) *Open up Norwich's old waterways as a way of moving freight lorries from the roads*
- (b) *Stop airport expansion*
- (c) *Stop building new roads*
- (d) *Support tourism*
- (e) *More community solar projects.*
- (f) *Reduce lighting in the city e.g. blocks of flats and reduce the impact of light pollution.*
- (g) *Peer to peer energy trading*

- (h) *Expand definition of carbon emissions to include transport and animal agriculture*
- (i) *All new build houses should have solar panels installed*
- (j) *Improve air quality*
- (k) *A car plan for Norwich*
- (l) *Mitigation against climate change, adapting for Norfolk residents moving in from the rural and coastal areas.*
- (m) *Lobbying the government to introduce new legislation to combat the climate emergency.*
- (n) *Work with local groups*
- (o) *Fines for people who litter and behave in a disorderly manner.*
- (p) *Go out and speak to residents about their views on environmental issues.*
- (q) *Educate citizens and residents on the need to change.*
- (r) *Bring together community groups and environmental groups to work together as a network.*
- (s) *Goldsmith Street should be held up as an exemplar for all future house building.*
- (t) *Create more green spaces to bring communities together and educate them.*
- (u) *Set up a company to retrofit all council housing stock. Offer these services to private households at cost.*
- (v) *Wider promotion of city cycle routes and map.*
- (w) *More detail regarding the council's journey to reduce their own carbon footprint by 59.6%, so that learning can be taken by households in reducing their own domestic footprint*
- (x) *Educating citizens to make behaviour changes.*
- (y) *Reduction in bus fares.*
- (z) *Prioritise walking and cycling over driving.*
- (aa) *Airport should not be expanded*
- (bb) *Reduce air pollution*
- (cc) *Incentivise the use of cars with smaller engine sizes.*

- (dd) *Achieving carbon neutrality*
- (ee) *Target schools and factories to implement change*
- (ff) *Prevent ecological damage.*
- (gg) *Install habitat corridors.*
- (hh) *Become a net zero carbon council by 2025*
- (ii) *Demand the highest standards of energy efficiency in the built environment*
- (jj) *Generate renewable energy*
- (kk) *Reduce transport emissions*
- (ll) *Repair, Reduce, Recycle*
- (mm) *Decrease the amount of 'embedded carbon' used in items in Norwich City Council*
- (nn) *Increase food resilience*
- (oo) *Increase biodiversity each year*
- (pp) *Apply for sustainable food city status*
- (qq) *Lobby supermarkets to have surplus food available daily for charity collection*
- (rr) *Check out principles of Nottingham city council and North Somerset council.*
- (ss) *Education regarding the importance of 20mph zones.*

#### **Response to question 4:**

- 6.5 The answers to this question reflect the difficulties in selecting one or two priorities as being of greater importance or urgency than others. As some respondents acknowledged, there is a great deal of overlap and interconnectedness between the draft priorities detailed in Question 3.
- 6.6 Thank you to respondents for these wide range of responses. Some of the ideas are already being delivered by the council or local community groups. Where this is not the case, we will consider them and where sufficient resources are available will work to deliver them or seek to support others to deliver them.
- 6.7 Where the regulatory or legal frameworks are non-existent or lacking (e.g. peer to peer energy trading) the council will support initiatives to support its commercialisation.

6.8 Where scientific analysis is improved to allow better measurement of emissions nationally, regionally and locally the council will adopt these standards if they are statistically robust, comparable and are not so resource intensive to implement over existing analytical methods. Our priority remains the delivery of emission reducing projects and analysis should not compromise local progress.

6.9 Whilst there continues to be ongoing government austerity the council will endeavour to continue emissions reductions across a variety of sectors including its own service provision. The council will continue to call on central government to provide more resources as well as working with others in partnership.

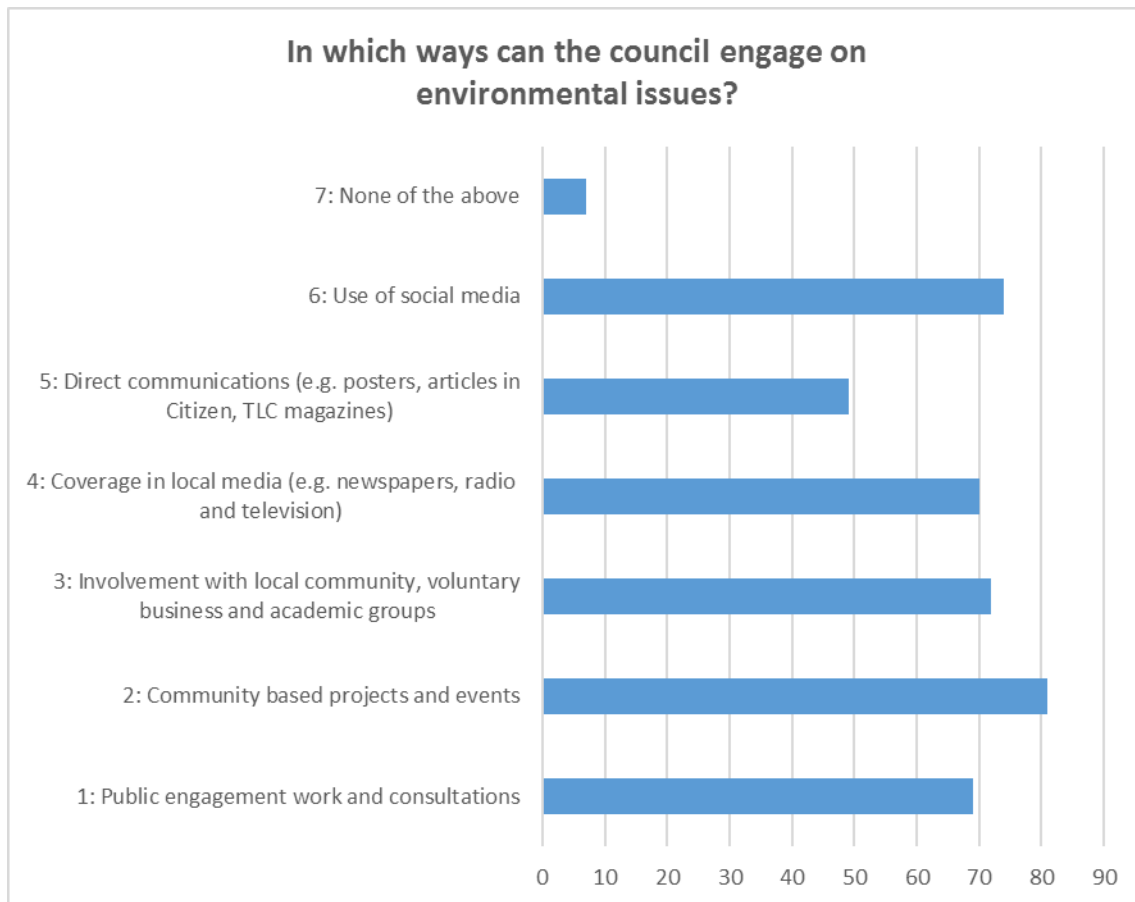
## 7 Analysis of Question 5

**In which ways can the council engage on environmental issues? Please tick all you feel could be effective.**

| In which ways can the council engage on environmental issues? Please tick all you feel could be effective | Public engagement work and consultations | Community based projects and events | Involvement with local community, voluntary business and academic groups | Coverage in local media (e.g. newspapers, radio and television) | Direct communications (e.g. posters, articles in Citizen, TLC magazines) | Use of social media | None of the above |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Total number of respondents   | 69                                       | 81                                  | 72   | 70  | 49   | 74                  | 7                 |
| Rank  | 5 <sup>th</sup>                          | 1 <sup>st</sup>                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 4 <sup>th</sup>   | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 2 <sup>nd</sup>     | 7 <sup>th</sup>   |

Table 2 - Engagement analysis

7.1 422 responses were given in total. Community based projects and events were considered to be the most effective form of engagement, followed by social media and then involvement with local groups.



### Response to question 5:

- 7.2 The council seeks to support a range of local community-based projects, either in situ, or via providing opportunities to widen their reach through events such as One Planet Norwich or by celebrating their important work at the Eco Awards. We will consider where we can best continue to support community-based projects via the use of localised Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding and/ projects such as Lumi.
- 7.3 Having run environmental campaigns for over 15 years the council will engage with various stakeholders to maximise further pro environmental behaviour messaging and monitor its reach to ensure successful delivery to as wide an audience as possible.

### 8. Analysis of Question 6

**What would be most likely to make you engage with environmental issues? Please provide any ideas you have.**

- 8.1 Responses were provided, and 25 respondents chose not to answer this question. In order to make a meaningful analysis from the range of answers given, the following these were extracted.

(a) Social media

(b) I'm already engaged with environmental issues,

- (c) Workshops/events
- (d) Community groups
- (e) Education
- (f) Incentivise
- (g) Penalise
- (h) Citizen's Assembly
- (i) Funding for Projects
- (j) Lobby Central Government
- (k) Strong leadership from the council
- (l) Working with businesses
- (m) Other

### **Engagement in environmental issues:**

- 8.2 Perhaps not surprisingly, a number of respondents felt they were already engaged with environmental issues. Respondents were also keen for the council to incentivise or penalise as motivators to encourage engagement in environmental behaviours:

#### **Incentivise:**

- (a) *"I'd like the council to play more of an enabling role, e.g. running citizen assemblies on issues (not consultations like this one!), helping small groups to start up, running prizes for ideas of better ways to do things, engaging on social media. Maybe reductions in council tax for households that attend waste and recycling training (controversial)".*
- (b) *"For every stick have a carrot, and vice versa".*
- (c) *"Social media campaigns Vouchers etc. for recycling - i.e. a 20% off voucher for coffee if you recycle 10 coffee cups - even better if in conjunction with a local business".*
- (d) *"Council tax reductions / incentives for good recycling behaviour".*
- (e) *"Help with changing central heating boilers of a certain age to one that runs on electricity or hydrogen might help. So many people have access to a car and like myself, as with most people, incentives of many kinds must be offered such as a clear indication of vehicle type such as green*

*number plates for those using an EV and/or free parking (blue badge status?) for those owning an EV”.*

**Penalise:**

- (f) “Taxes on businesses that waste energy and have high CO2 output (based on energy usage)”.*
- (g) “Establishing local tree wardens; making the pavements safer. (I am harassed by cyclists on the pavements; dedicated cycle lanes”.*

**Engage/educate/inform:**

- (h) “During the N&N Festival, the Lord Mayor's weekend, or other city events provide trails or quizzes etc to develop awareness in families of relative carbon emissions, water use, and other environmental effects of behaviours and purchases, and suggest/ask for suggestions for better alternatives”.*
- (i) “Explain the urgency of the situation. Explain that the cost of not tackling the causes of climate emergency will far outweigh the costs of ignoring it. Explain that this is opportunity - by making lifestyle changes to reduce consumption etc. - for us all to enjoy better quality lives - healthier, more active, culturally fulfilling etc”.*
- (j) “A steady flow of information to keep me engaged. Perhaps there could be a dedicated section of the City Council's website with alerts for updates. Opportunities for discussions in more depth on individual priorities over the duration of the strategy”.*

**Strong Council Leadership:**

- (k) “I would like to see the council act and approve policies that fall under carbon net zero targets, e.g. those related to public transport, green initiatives etc.”*
- (l) “A demonstration of genuine strong commitment to the goal of attaining a carbon neutral environment by 2030.”*
- (m) “Wholehearted response from the local borough council and our Member of Parliament to declare a Climate Emergency”.*
- (n) “No need for individuals to engage. Simply implement new policies and provision”.*
- (o) “A leading from the front approach from Norwich city council.”*
- (p) “The banning of lorries from the Lord Mayor's Celebration is an example which could be built on. The controversial nature of this action got people*

*talking, and even the people who didn't support it may be more aware of environmental issues as a result".*

*(q) "I think that the council's decision to ban lorries from the Lord Mayor's Parade was a highly successful action in terms of engaging the public on environmental issues. Clearly this had a beneficial direct effect, but the wider effect was to engage the news media and public debate".*

*(r) "There were also a range of responses which did not fit the main categories, and were allocated to the 'Other' category".*

### 8.3 Examples of other responses:

- (a) Reduce car use
- (b) Tree planting
- (c) Helping homeowners to retrofit their homes to increase energy efficiency e.g. Energiesprong
- (d) Peer to peer energy sharing
- (e) Regular round table meetings
- (f) Fitbit for sustainable transport
- (g) Collaborating with other cities on best practice learning

### **Response:**

- 8.4 The answers to this question reflect the difficulties in implementing a range of projects to communicate and engage with the wider public, business and other stakeholders on the steps required to achieve net zero. Presently the council may not hold the legislative powers outlined in some of the suggestions to our consultation. There may also be issues around surveillance and the right for citizens to make their own decisions around personal carbon budgets and the scale and resources required to achieve meaningful emission reduction.
- 8.5 In addition there may not be much added value in implementing localised schemes that are in addition to national programmes. Potentially such efforts could marginalise the city against its local and national competitors. The council is already engaging with local partners, such as the local chamber of commerce, via the City Vision 2040. Fostering these new relationships will enable businesses to monitor and reduce emissions by sharing best practice. Lower emissions and waste often mean lower bills and increased economic output.
- 8.6 Whilst there continues to be ongoing government austerity the council will endeavour to continue emissions reductions across a variety of sectors including its own service provision. The council will continue to call on central

government to provide more resources as well as working with others in partnership.

- 8.7 The council notes that messaging from its campaigns may not be as effective as previously thought. We will endeavour to grow the cities messaging via a variety of platforms possibly including a new citywide environmental campaign potentially using analytical tools to measure its reach and impact. The council does recognise that some decisions might not be universally popular such as the removal of lorries from the Lord Mayor's procession. We hope to engage with all members of our community and bring as many along as possible to a low carbon, prosperous, fair and socially equal Norwich.
- 8.8 Many of the replies to the question suggest the council learns and is open to new ideas from other councils and stakeholders. Presently the council is already engaging with other cities from around the world via the CPD programme as well as via the LGA, Carbon Trust and a number of additional specialist knowledge platforms such as Edie, the EMA and the Lord Mayors' Covenant on Climate Change.
- 8.9 For the last 10 years the council has initiated a range of carbon reduction campaigns and programmes resulting in a 57% reduction in emissions as well as a 45% reduction in per capita emissions. The council wishes to work with citizens and a range of business/ third sector partners to build on this progress taking the council towards its net zero target.
- 8.10 Finally where new technology is appropriate and commercially available the council will encourage commercial terms funding and government grants to enable citizens to take up the new measures. A good example of this is the councils Solar Together programme.

## **9 Analysis of Question 7**

**Please provide any further comments or suggestions about the draft strategy?**

- 9.1 Respondents were given a final opportunity to comment upon the draft strategy in a free text box. There were fewer responses to this question, which is perhaps indicative that respondents felt that the previous questions had provided adequate opportunity to explore their views on the draft strategy.
- 9.2 However, some respondents used this opportunity to give much fuller answers, with the longest answer (877 words) being given in this section.
- 9.3 There were 73 comments or suggestions provided. With 58 respondents (out of 107) opting not to answer this question.
- 9.4 As might be expected with this type of question, which seeks to elicit opinion, the answers were widely spread, including comments on:

- (a) Sustainable Transport
- (b) Strategy needs to be more ambitious
- (c) Strategy needs to be more detailed/set more targets
- (d) Strategy is too complex
- (e) Happy with draft strategy
- (f) Publish a regular update document
- (g) Call for council to take bold action now
- (h) Conflict between detailed in the strategy and other schemes e.g. airport expansion and road building in Wensum Valley
- (i) Lobby government for support/funding
- (j) Supporting community groups
- (k) Citizen's assembly
- (l) Use of council powers to encourage pro-environmental behaviours
- (m) Look of the document
- (n) Other

9.5 Examples of other responses:

- (a) Introduce air quality readout signs
- (b) Encourage shopkeepers to wash the pavement and gutter each day outside their premises
- (c) Incentivise residents to reduce their car size
- (d) Reintroduce paint recycling facilities
- (e) Stop printing leaflets and magazines
- (f) Produce a carbon neutral supplementary planning document
- (g) Use the LEP and GNDP to influence other members to act more sustainably
- (h) Support community food growing

9.6 Although there were fewer answers provided to this question, and lesser degree of consensus, several respondents made a plea for a call to action, reflective of the depth of feeling on environmental issues, in particular climate change.

9.7 There were several comments about targets, level of action and the speed of mobilising emissions reduction locally and nationally:

- (a) *"Please listen to people's responses and take them seriously. We need to change course. You have a lot of responsibility resting on you. Please make us proud of you."*
- (b) *"This is not a drill. This is an emergency. Act now. Please."*

- (c) *"Please don't waste this opportunity to improve our great city".*
- (d) *"I think this climate emergency needs to be taken seriously and Norwich could lead the way."*
- (e) *"I consider it essential to be frank about the scale and urgency of the problem. It calls for a "war-time" spirit of cooperation."*
- (f) *"The Council must tell the public about the climate crisis we face and the scale of the emergency."*
- (g) *"Tell the truth and make clear the scale of the climate emergency."*
- (h) *"The council is in an ideal position to communicate the reality of the climate emergency to people and get them ready for the changes that are coming, which will be on a scale not seen since the second world war."*

**Response:**

- 9.8 Environmental issues are important and emotive. The impact of climate change and interrelated issues will affect everyone. The level of increased engagement in environmental issues is also reflected in the number of responses received to the public consultation on the draft environmental strategy, and the considered and detailed responses provided.
- 9.9 Norwich City Council has a solid history of delivering carbon emissions reductions on its own estate, with a reduction of 59.6% in carbon emissions since 2008. In the city more widely, per capita carbon emissions have reduced from 6.9 tonnes to 3.8 tonnes between 2005 and 2017. Most recently the City Vision has committed the city to, "shifting to clean energy by 2040 (carbon-neutral by 2050). We will support and promote sustainable living – where today's citizens meet the needs of the present without compromising future generations."
- 9.10 However, we are operating in a sustained period of financial austerity, and the public sector has been hit hard by cuts to central government grants over a period of many years. This means that year on year it has become increasingly challenging to deliver council services with less and less funding. Therefore, it would be wrong for the council to suggest we could deliver every suggestion that has been contributed during the consultation. This simply is not possible. However, this is not an accurate reflection of our commitment or ambition. The council will give each contribution due consideration and balance the benefit of delivering against our priorities and available budgets.
- 9.11 Thank you to everyone who took the time to contribute their views to this public consultation.

