

Climate Action Plan

Jan 2023 V1



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Ratified by Full Council on: 7th March 2023

Introduction & Background

Didcot Town Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 with the promise to reach Carbon Neutrality by 2030 and specified that all Council activities should be carried out in a way that considers the impact on the environment and should improve the Council's environmental positions.

The building blocks to focus on are:

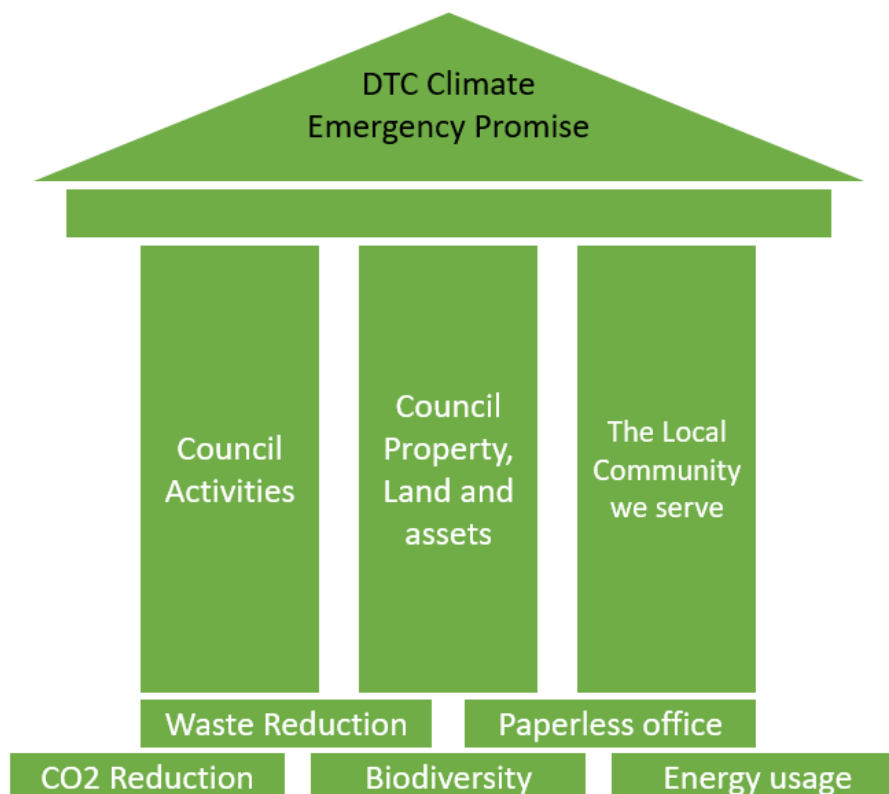
- Biodiversity
- Energy Usage Reduction
- CO2 Reduction / Capture
- Waste Reduction (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)
- Paperless Office

Many of these are interrelated and actions in one building block can support another.

These five building blocks will support the pillars of the Council in achieving the council's Climate Based Objectives.

These are

- Council Activities
- Council Land, Property and Assets
- The Community.



This Document sets out the strategic goals of the Council.

The overall objective is: ***To achieve Carbon Neutrality by 2030.***

Building Block Strategy

Biodiversity Strategy

The Council needs to change its activities to increase the biodiversity of the land that it is responsible for.

The council wants to increase its Biodiversity on all its land and property by:

- Increasing the Tree Density on our Recreation Grounds and open spaces
- Increasing of biodiversity of our land through wildflower beds and strategic mowing
- Utilising green building strategies on all new buildings, where appropriate.

GOAL: Increase the Biodiversity of the Didcot Town Council Managed Estate.

Energy Usage Reduction Strategy

To Support the Carbon Neutrality Goal the Council wants to move to high efficiency equipment. The following strategies should be followed to reduce the energy used by the council activities.

- All Lighting to be of LED type with advanced controls.
- B rated or higher for electrical equipment when replacing existing or buying new.
- Maximise the insulation value of all buildings
- Use of advanced systems to minimise energy usage
- Set a maximum room temp of 20c for heating and 23c for cooling

GOAL: Reduce Energy Consumption from the grid even as the size of the estate grows

CO2 Reduction Strategy

To reduce the organisations CO2 creation through Council activities by following the strategies below:

- Phase out the use of all gas on all properties
 - Replace Gas boilers with alternatives
- Phase all Council vehicles to EV
- Phase in all electric equipment
- Support the staff to use carbon free modes of transport
- Prioritise local suppliers
- Avoid Carbon Offsetting

GOAL: Reach Carbon Neutrality by 2030

Waste Reduction Strategy

The Council should look at its activities to minimise its waste, and where possible reuse it.

- Introduce a no plastic policy.
- No disposable cutlery used for Council events.
- Move all Council bins to split stream bins.

GOAL: No Waste to Land Fill

GOAL 2: Reduce the Volume of waste

Paperless Office Strategy

Didcot Town Council should aim to be a paperless office by the end of the 2025 financial year. This will dramatically reduce the Carbon Footprint of the Councils' actions, reduce costs and waste.

- No printed agendas and reports for meetings
- Utilisation of shared document systems, including One Drive and Email
- All forms to be based online,

Goal: Reduce the amount of money spent on paper and printing costs whilst simultaneously reducing the associated CO2 and Energy

Delivery of the Climate Action Plan.

Once the plan is ratified, to allow for the delivery of each of these goals the officers will develop a plan, detailing how each of the strategies will be delivered.

These plans will be brought before the relevant committees for approval where required.

These plans will then allow for the creation or change of policies, procedures and processes for their delivery.