

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Progress report 21 October 2020



1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the progress made on the actions in Plan 1 of the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP), highlighting some of the key deliverables and challenges.
- 1.2 Plan 1 of the CEAP is the first of eleven annual plans being developed with the objective of making Plymouth carbon neutral by 2030.
- 1.3 Work on the vast majority of actions has been able to continue during the period affected by Covid-19 restrictions. All actions are either underway, or have been completed.

2.0 Summary of progress

- 2.1 Attached to this report is a line-by-line description of the progress made on each CEAP action to-date. The present status of the actions is as follows:

Area of focus

| | | |
|--|------------|-------------------------|
| Power and heat | 13 Actions | 2 complete, 11 underway |
| Buildings | 17 Actions | 3 complete, 14 underway |
| Mobility | 21 Actions | 3 complete, 18 underway |
| Waste | 9 Actions | 9 underway |
| Engagement & responsibility | 15 Actions | 3 complete, 12 underway |

Approach

| | | |
|--|------------|-------------------------|
| Immediate actions | 39 Actions | 8 complete, 31 underway |
| Assessed for practicality, impact & cost | 21 Actions | 2 complete, 19 underway |
| Requiring resources, new powers and/or change at a national level | 15 Actions | 1 complete, 14 underway |

- 2.2 In summary, of the 75 actions in the CEAP:

- 11 have been completed (15%)
- 64 are underway (85%)
- 0 are not yet progressing (0%)

3.0 Key progress made to-date

- 3.1 Heating pipes have been installed in Bath Street and test wells drilled in several locations, as part of the enabling work to create renewable ground source heat systems in Millbay Boulevard and the city centre. *Action 1.1*
- 3.2 The adopted Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document includes guidance that all new buildings be connected to the electricity network via three-phase supplies. *Action 1.6*

- 3.3 Following a review of opportunities within the Plan for Homes 3 Programme, the PEC Homes initiative in Kings Tamerton has been selected to develop as a flagship zero carbon development. The planning application for the site has been submitted. *Action 1.15*
- 3.4 116 dwellings have received energy efficiency improvements in 2020 as part of the Warm Homes Fund project for vulnerable homes. The installations were on hold due to Covid-19, but the full 200 homes included in the CEAP action remain on schedule for completion by December 2020. *Action 1.17*
- 3.5 Work was undertaken to identify opportunities for the retrofit of insulation into existing dwellings in Plymouth, providing a clear understanding of the scale of the need for different tenures. This led to a Green Home Grants funding bid being submitted which has been successful in bringing £3.3 million to fund energy efficiency improvement for low income households across the city. *Action 1.19*
- 3.6 45 workplace electric vehicle charging points have been installed at businesses across Plymouth, with a further 32 installed for the City Council's fleet. Two electric ferry charge points will be installed by November 2020. In addition up to 19 vehicle to grid charge points will be installed to trial with the City Council's new electric fleet vehicles. *Action 1.31*
- 3.7 The bid to the Transforming Cities Fund was successful in securing funding to develop 50 multi-modal mobility hubs across the city, including an additional 300 public electric vehicle charge points, 400 electric bikes and the establishment of an electric car club between 2020-23. *Action 1.35*
- 3.8 Northern Corridor Strategic Cycle Network: Tavistock Road scheme complete and the Southway Drive scheme is under construction. Eastern Corridor Strategic Cycle Network: Laira Rail Bridge to Broxton Drive is complete, the Barbican to Laira Rail Bridge is effectively complete and the Ride Improvements are complete. *Action 1.38*
- 3.9 Installation of mixed/joint recycling bins in high footfall areas in the city is complete. *Action 1.54*
- 3.10 Plymouth Energy Community is organising community arts events for the UN Climate Change Conference COP26 around the theme of 'Moths to a Flame' in relation to our compulsion to consume. *Action 1.63*
- 3.11 A revision of the City Change Fund has been completed to provide greater incentive and prioritisation for community led projects that respond to the climate emergency. *Action 1.64*
- 3.12 The Plymouth Net Zero Partnership has been established with key stakeholders across the city to help accelerate delivery of actions to reduce emissions. *Action 1.66*
- 3.13 A conditional offer requiring match funding has been received and accepted for £840k (total project cost) from the Urban Tree Challenge Fund as part of work to maximise funds for tree planting. An Expression of Interest and proposal for a new Community Forest has been developed with a stakeholder group and this will be submitted to the national Community Forest team to be considered as part of their bid to DEFRA's Nature for Climate Fund. *Action 1.72*

Key points for Scrutiny:

- The first CEAP is part of the emergency response phase to the climate emergency, during which assessment is being made of the information, resources and policy changes that are needed to support the move towards net zero carbon emissions.
- The CEAP is a call to action to organisations and individuals across the city to work together to tackle the climate emergency. By working together, we can use our collective influence and resources to reduce emissions.
- This progress report only focuses on the work of City Council officers to deliver the actions included in the first CEAP.

4. Key Challenges

- 4.1 Due to pressures stemming from the Covid-19 situation, there have been delays in the Plymouth Infrastructure Forum meeting to improve coordination and encourage the alignment of planned works with the objective of making Plymouth carbon neutral by 2030. *Action 1.8*
- 4.2 An investigation has been undertaken into the feasibility of replacing Plymouth's bus fleet with ultra-low or zero emission vehicles. Due to the impact of Covid on bus patronage, the bus companies were not in a position to contribute the required 75% of the cost of new electric buses and as a consequence it was decided not to apply for funding from the all electric bus town scheme by the June 2020 deadline. *Action 1.43*
- 4.3 A city-wide communications programme around the Climate Emergency has been delayed due to Covid-19 pressures, but is now being prepared. *Action 1.68*

Key points for Scrutiny:

- It is anticipated that the key stakeholders in the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership will help to deliver the Climate Emergency message to their staff and the wider community. The group is also sharing best practice and supporting the delivery of actions to reduce emissions within Plymouth.
- Work is continuing on the majority of actions. The constraints imposed due to the Covid-19 situation has had an impact upon the timing of the delivery of some of the actions.

5. How does this translate into reduced carbon emissions?

- 5.1 Verified national data is being used to assess the emission reductions that have been achieved within Plymouth. The assessment will be included in Plan 2 of the CEAP. The quarterly Corporate Plan Performance report utilises this national data.

Key points for Scrutiny:

- National data is 2-3 years old and so it will be essential to put the data into context, particularly with respect to the impact of Covid-19 in 2020.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Progress has been made with the vast majority of CEAP actions despite the Covid-19 situation. There are 11 actions that have been completed and work is underway on 64 actions. Continued effort is needed from the officers and the teams responsible for actions in order to deliver them successfully.

Climate Emergency Action Plan – Individual Action Progress Update - October 2020

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|----------------|-------------------|-----|---|--|----------|
| Power and heat | Immediate actions | 1.1 | Install renewable ground source heat solutions to support the low carbon regeneration of the city centre and Millbay | Heating pipes have been installed in Bath Street and test wells drilled in several locations, as part of the enabling work to create renewable ground source heat systems in Millbay Boulevard and the city centre. | Underway |
| | | 1.2 | Work with stakeholders to continue expansion of district energy networks to supply low carbon heat and cooling in suitable areas across the city | Engagement is continuing with Millbay Boulevard stakeholders (Pavilions, Moxy) and Civic Centre stakeholders (Urban Splash, City Council). Engagement is also underway in respect to Barne Barton stakeholders (Sanctuary, Clarion, MVV). Discussions are taking place with Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust and Marjons at Derriford. | Underway |
| | | 1.3 | Work with partners to increase the roll out of heat pumps across the city, and explore innovative lease models that combined solar/heat pump technology | Work is underway at a number of sites, including with Plymouth Science Park, Elliott Terrace and PEC Homes Kings Tamerton net zero housing project to explore an energy services approach, with feasibility studies. Also an application has been made with Western Power and LiveWest on a Network Innovation Project to explore deployment and the impact of heat pumps. | Underway |
| | | 1.4 | Review how the integration of new technology and innovative public purchasing arrangements can help to bring forward new community owned solar farms | Legal advice on procurement options for public bodies wishing to purchase energy from community owned installations has been obtained as part of an EU-funded Interreg project. | Complete |
| | | 1.5 | Work with stakeholders to identify land and roof space for new renewable energy installations with a focus on community owned solutions | A pipeline of projects has been prepared and discussions are underway regarding Heads of Terms for leases and Power Purchase Agreement with Plymouth Energy Community. Debt finance options are being investigated. | Underway |
| | | 1.6 | Promote through the Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document that all new buildings be connected to the electricity network via three-phase supplies | The Plymouth and South West Devon Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) includes guidance that all new buildings be connected to the electricity network via three-phase supplies. The SPD was formally adopted across the three local authorities (PCC, SHDC & WDDB) on 16 July 2020. | Complete |
| | | 1.7 | Identify opportunities for smart energy infrastructure that helps to balance local supply and demand | An assessment of the feasibility of a private wire and battery storage at the Ernesettle solar site and the neighbouring sewage treatment works has begun, funded by an EU Interreg project. And funding has been secured to deliver up to 19 vehicle-to-grid charging points to be installed on the City Council estate (part of the overall 51 charge points), with procurement of the installer now completed. | Underway |
| | | 1.8 | Collaborate with major utilities and infrastructure providers through the Plymouth Infrastructure Forum to improve coordination and encourage the alignment of planned works with the objective of making Plymouth carbon neutral by 2030 | The City Council has liaised with Western Power Distribution to explore opportunities for investments that will support the transition for Plymouth to become carbon neutral. Liaison through the Plymouth Infrastructure Forum on this issue has not yet begun due to pressures stemming from the Covid-19 situation. | Underway |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|----------------|--|------|---|--|----------|
| Power and heat | Assessed for practicality impact and cost | 1.9 | Complete an up-to-date review of potential for renewable energy in Plymouth with a primary focus on PV | As assessment of the information already available on the potential for renewable energy in Plymouth has been undertaken and a briefing is being prepared for an assessment of constraints and opportunities for renewable energy across the city. | Underway |
| | | 1.10 | Develop a renewable heat strategy for the city by appraising the potential for low carbon heat networks, heat pumps and hybrid boilers, including identifying current potential funding models and barriers to uptake | A renewable heat strategy for Plymouth will be prepared in conjunction with an investigation into the potential for renewable energy across the city. A brief is being prepared. | Underway |
| | | 1.11 | Identify options for how smart renewable heat, power generation and storage could be considered when the Plymouth Plan and Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan are reviewed | Options for how smart renewable heat, power generation and storage could be considered in the future review of the South West Devon Joint Local Plan will form part of the work to investigate the potential for renewable energy across the city, for which a brief is being prepared. A review of the Plymouth Plan is underway. | Underway |
| | Requiring resources new powers and/or change at a national level | 1.12 | Lobby government to extend the Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme beyond its current end date of 2021, and expand the support available through the Heat Networks Investment Project | A response to the BEIS consultation on this issue was submitted in July 2020. And in July 2020 a letter was sent to the Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Tudor Evans OBE. The Renewable Heat Incentive has been extended to 2022. | Underway |
| | | 1.13 | Lobby government to set ambitious new targets for deployment of new renewable power generation and for the removal of VAT on solar and battery storage technologies | In July 2020 a letter was sent to the Rt. Hon Kwasi Kwarteng, Minister of State for Business, Energy and Clean Growth by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Tudor Evans OBE. | Underway |
| Buildings | Immediate actions | 1.14 | Enable housing opportunities for the delivery of more Passivhaus, modular, Modern Methods of Construction homes and carbon free homes | The North Prospect Library site has been approved for sale to Plymouth Community Homes to explore traditional and Modern Methods of Construction (MMC). The pre-app process will be used to ensure a high quality, low carbon MMC development is delivered. Low carbon homes / climate emergency is now a standing item on the Plymouth Housing Development Partnership agenda, with partners providing feedback on their experiences. | Underway |
| | | 1.15 | Review opportunities within the Plan for Homes 3 Programme to develop a flagship zero carbon development | Following a review of opportunities, the PEC Homes initiative in Kings Tamerton is being progressed as a flagship zero carbon development, using the Energiesprong approach for 38 homes. The planning application has been submitted. | Complete |
| | | 1.16 | Ensure all vacant homes brought back into use benefit from energy efficiency upgrades | The policy to enable this has been reworded to state that empty homes renovated with Empty Homes Financial Assistance should achieve an EPC rating of at least C where possible. And staff will aspire to achieve a B rating. The Empty Homes Financial Assistance programme has £500k available for loans/grants for energy efficiency as part of upgrades. | Underway |
| | | 1.17 | Improve the energy efficiency of heating systems in at least 200 fuel poor households | 116 dwellings have received energy efficiency improvements in 2020 as part of the Warm Homes Fund project for vulnerable homes. The installations were on hold due to Covid-19, but the full 200 properties are scheduled for completion by Dec 2020. | Underway |
| | | 1.18 | Work with Plymouth Energy Community to provide energy advice to 500 homes | In partnership with PEC, energy advice has been provided to households in Plymouth, including via phone following Covid restrictions. | Underway |
| | | 1.19 | Undertake an up-to-date, bottom-up assessment of opportunities for insulation within existing dwellings by tenure | Work was undertaken to identify opportunities for the retrofit of insulation into existing dwellings in Plymouth, providing a clear understanding of the scale of the need for different tenures. This led to a Green Home Grants funding bid being submitted which has been successful in bringing £3.3 million to fund energy efficiency improvement for low income households across the city. | Complete |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|---------------|---|------|---|---|----------|
| Buildings | Assessed for practicality impact and cost | 1.20 | Investigate the feasibility of establishing a loan fund for owner occupiers to improve the energy efficiency of their homes | An investigation into the feasibility of establishing a loan fund for owner occupiers in Plymouth was completed (see Action 1.23). | Complete |
| | | 1.21 | Proactively enforce the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) which apply to all privately rented dwellings and non-domestic buildings | A consultation on the draft policy that will enable enforcement of the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) in Plymouth has concluded. The policy is expected to become effective and proactively enforced from October 2020. | Underway |
| | | 1.22 | Build on the success of the Climate Active Neighbourhood project and provide simple energy efficiency measures to private households across the city | Energy efficiency measures are being provided to private households across the city by the City Council's Low Carbon Team in conjunction with Plymouth Energy Community, following a temporary pause due to Covid-19 restrictions. | Underway |
| | | 1.23 | Develop a Climate Change Adaptations Programme fund, to fund the retrofitting of existing properties and explore ways it could provide loans to low income households to enable adaptation works to go ahead | Financial modelling was completed for a Climate Change Adaptations Programme fund. Preparation of a business case for loans was not progressed due to the government launching its own £2bn programme which addresses this issue. | Underway |
| | Requiring resources, new powers and/or change at a national level | 1.24 | Lobby government to change the building regulations quickly to prevent existing planning permissions being implemented to older design standards | In July 2020 a letter was sent to the Rt Hon Christopher Pincher MP by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Tudor Evans OBE. | Underway |
| | | 1.25 | Lobby government to update the National Planning Policy Framework and associated guidance to planning inspectors, to ensure future Development Plan Documents recognise the importance of tackling climate change to enable carbon neutrality by 2030 | In July 2020 a letter was sent to the Rt. Hon Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government by the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure setting out the case for these changes. | Underway |
| | | 1.26 | Lobby government to make changes in planning regulations to allow councils who have made declarations on climate emergency to be able to fast-track reviews of their local plans to accommodate new climate emergency policies | In July 2020 a letter was sent to the Rt. Hon Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government by the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure setting out the case for these changes. | Underway |
| | | 1.27 | Lobby government to make energy efficiency in existing buildings a national infrastructure priority, targeting support at the fuel poor | In July 2020 a letter was sent to The Rt. Hon Alok Sharma MP by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Tudor Evans OBE in July 2020. The Green Home Grants launched in September 2020 address this issue to some extent. | Underway |
| | | 1.28 | Look at the requirement to submit a planning application for cooling devices | A review and consultation on the Local Validation List for planning applications has been completed to assess what is reasonable for applicants to submit. There are permitted development rights for domestic premises incorporating air source heat pumps, subject to a number of limits and conditions. Non-domestic premises will however require a planning application and domestic, where these limits and conditions are not met. | Underway |
| | | 1.29 | Lobby government to bring forward the commitment to a Future Housing Standard to ensure that all new homes and commercial buildings are net-zero carbon from 2025 | In July 2020 a letter was sent to the Rt. Hon Robert Jenrick MP by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Tudor Evans OBE. | Underway |
| | | 1.30 | Create an award for mortgage lenders and developers that do the most to support buyers who take into account the future costs of energy in a home prior to purchase | Contact has been made with UK Finance (which was formed by the merger of the Council of Mortgage Lenders and the British Bankers' Association) to explore whether similar activities are already being supported. And contact has been made with the LGA who may consider this as part of a new research programme. | Underway |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|---------------|-------------------|------|--|--|----------|
| Mobility | Immediate actions | 1.31 | Install up to 100 new electric vehicle charging points in work places across the City before April 2020 | 45 workplace EV charging points have been installed at businesses across Plymouth with a further 32 installed for the City Council's fleet. Two electric ferry charge points will be installed by November. In addition up to 19 vehicle to grid charge points will be installed for the City Council's electric fleet vehicles. | Underway |
| | | 1.32 | Install up to 6 new electric vehicle charging points in public car parks before April 2020 | Awaiting grid connection for 6 charge points that will be installed by November 2020. Delays were in part due to the Covid situation. | Underway |
| | | 1.33 | Create during 2020 up to 9 new public electric vehicle charging hubs including over 50 new innovative pop up charge points | The contract for the installation will be awarded in October 2020 with work to start in November across the 9 sites. This is supported by an Innovate UK grant to deliver on-street charging points while minimising street clutter. | Underway |
| | | 1.34 | Install new electric ferry charging infrastructure at the Barbican by April 2020 | Using the Transforming Cities Fund grant, a new 22kW charge point and provision for a further two charge points is being installed at the Barbican Landing Stage. Two of the local passenger ferries are set to be retrofitted to electric propulsion. | Underway |
| | | 1.35 | Bid for funding to develop 30 multi-modal transport hubs including an additional 300 public EV charge points, 400 electric bikes and the establishment of an electric car club between 2020-23 | The bid to the Transforming Cities Fund was successful in securing funding to develop 50 multi-modal mobility hubs across the city, including an additional 300 public electric vehicle charge points, 400 electric bikes and the establishment of an electric car club. | Complete |
| | | 1.36 | Commit to promoting a Car-Free Day across Plymouth during 2020 | On 8th October 2020 National Clean Air Day was held which included initiatives to encourage residents, businesses and schools to leave their car at home and travel by sustainable transport. The promotion was developed mindful of current capacity constraints on public transport due to the Covid-19 pandemic. | Complete |
| | | 1.37 | Deliver phase 1 of Transforming Cities Fund sustainable transport investments, this will include: improvements to the passenger concourse at Plymouth train station, 2 new and 5 refurbished bus shelters, 26 new real time passenger information displays, and 7 new web departure boards at locations across the city | The bus based improvements providing real time passenger information, web departure boards and shelters have progressed well. The final elements of the project, the remaining shelter and web departure boards are expected to be installed and invoiced in the coming months. The new Gateline for Plymouth Station is scheduled for installation from January 2021. | Underway |
| | | 1.38 | Deliver Eastern Corridor and Northern Corridor Strategic Cycle Network improvements, as part of the Sustainable Transport capital programme, this will include: 4.7 km of off-road cycle network to connect Southway to the Northern and Eastern Corridor growth areas; new off-road cycle lanes plus the use of quiet roads from Crownhill Road to the A38 and improved access to Shakespeare Primary School; improvement works between North Cross and The Hoe; improvements between the Barbican and Laira Bridge for pedestrians and cyclists along National Cycle Network (NCN) route 27. | The Northern Corridor Strategic Cycle Network improvement scheme on Tavistock Road is now complete. Construction on the Southway Drive walking and cycling improvement scheme is progressing well, with construction expected to be completed on this phase this financial year. Work on the Eastern Corridor Strategic Cycle Network from Laira Rail Bridge to Broxton Drive is complete. Work to improve the link from the Barbican to Laira Rail Bridge is finished. The Ride Improvements have been completed. Walking and cycling improvements along Plymbridge Road are expected to start construction in early 2021 with completion in late 2021. | Underway |
| | | 1.39 | Complete a review of all current transport programmes to ensure opportunities to support the net zero by 2030 target are maximised in all projects | Major transport schemes that have been assessed for their impact on greenhouse gases include Forder Valley Link Road, Forder Valley Interchange, Morlaix Drive and the Derriford Transport Scheme. For transport programmes that are still in development the impact upon carbon emissions will be assessed during the Business Case approval process. | Underway |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|---------------|---|---|--|---|----------|
| Mobility | Assessed for practicality, impact and cost | 1.40 | Create a network of mobility hubs that will offer a low carbon multi-modal network for travel throughout Plymouth and the surrounding area. To complement public transport, encourage low carbon transport and to reduce the number of people who own second cars. | In June 2020 the City Council was awarded £9.8 million from the Transforming Cities Fund for the creation of up to 50 mobility hubs within Plymouth. Work has begun in order to deliver the project by 2023. | Underway |
| | | 1.41 | Investigate options for the social prescription of a bike share scheme to allow GPs to prescribe free or heavily reduced bike share memberships to those in need, helping to promote health & wellbeing | The options for GPs being able to use social prescribing to a bike share scheme are being investigated as part of the Mobility Hubs initiative for Plymouth, funded through the Transforming Cities Fund. | Underway |
| | | 1.42 | Assess options to help less affluent neighbourhoods to access electric vehicles and investments that improve air quality will be prioritised | Options that would help less affluent neighbourhoods to access electric vehicles are being assessed by the City Council's Sustainable Transport Team and this will be used to inform how electric vehicles will be incorporated into the city's Mobility Hubs, funded by the Transforming Cities Fund. | Underway |
| | | 1.43 | Investigate the feasibility of replacing bus fleet with ultra-low or zero emission vehicles by 2025 | An investigation was undertaken and it was decided not to apply for funding from the all electric bus town scheme, as it required a commitment from all Plymouth bus operators to fund 25% of the difference in cost between a diesel and electric buses on top of also having to fund 100% of the cost of an equivalent diesel bus. Capital expenditure in new vehicles has ceased because of the 80% drop in patronage. | Complete |
| | | 1.44 | Complete feasibility and business case development for the establishment of an exemplar EV Car Club by 2023 | An electric vehicle car club for Plymouth is being funded through the Transforming Cities Fund. Work has begun as part of the Mobility Hubs for Plymouth to explore the most appropriate structure for the business and a trial is being planned to begin in 2021 funded through an Innovate UK grant. | Underway |
| | | 1.45 | Investigate options for delivering a bike hire scheme at a minimum of 10 key interchange hubs in the city by 2023 | With the success of the Transforming Cities Fund bid, work has begun to investigate the best way to deliver an electric bike scheme across the city. | Underway |
| | | 1.46 | Develop a city-wide Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan | The City Council is developing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), providing the evidence base for the investment in active travel infrastructure. Route audits for the plan have been completed and the draft LCWIP which is considering 11 routes (5 cycling and 6 walking) will be ready by December 2020. The ambition is to make cycling and walking the natural choice for shorter journeys. | Underway |
| | | 1.47 | Investigate the feasibility of all significant City Council and developer delivered highway improvement schemes to be subjected to non-motorised road user audits, as recommended by The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) | The Transport Planning Team is preparing a protocol for both developers and the City Council for the provision of a Non-Motorised User Audit. This will be applied to any scheme/project that proposes changes to the highway network and will assess the impact the changes may have on pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users. | Underway |
| | 1.48 | Investigate initiatives that make effective use of pricing to incentivise options that support zero carbon travel in line with the mobility hierarchy - encouraging walking, cycling and public transport, with individual car use at the bottom of the hierarchy | The City Council is exploring the opportunities that make effective use of pricing to incentivise options that support zero carbon travel through its Interreg programme <i>2050 Climate-Friendly Mobility in Cities</i> . In addition, the Plymotion 2020/21 behavioural change programme includes Travel Advisors offering personalised travel planning advice to residents and employees to encourage use of sustainable transport. | Underway | |
| | Requiring resources, new powers and/or change at a national level | 1.49 | Lobby government for changes to current transport scheme appraisal tools to ensure the criteria prioritise positive climate emergency outcomes, such as walking, cycling and bus priority measures | The City Council has signed up to Department for Transport's Transport Decarbonisation work programme and input to the Future Mobility consultation was made through the Local Transport Authority and Peninsula Transport. | Underway |
| | | 1.50 | Lobby government for initiatives that improve mechanisms and incentives for the rapid uptake of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles | The City Council has signed up to Department for Transport's Transport Decarbonisation work programme and input to the Future Mobility consultation was made through the Local Transport Authority and Peninsula Transport. | Underway |
| 1.51 | | Lobby government to review the impact of the UK's international aviation and shipping emissions | This is being undertaken through the Council's membership of ADEPT which has produced a Policy Challenge Paper on The Future of Aviation that challenges the Government is to consider whether its decisions on strategic national infrastructure and growth plans adequately reflect the need to tackle climate change. And it will also be undertaken through coordination via Peninsula Transport. | Underway | |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| Waste | Immediate actions | 1.52 | Launch campaign to reduce waste generation (especially food waste) by 25% by 2025 | The campaign to reduce food waste was launched, with home composting being encouraged. However, the City Council continues to await Government policy on food recycling before further work can commence to explore options for domestic food recycling. | Underway |
| | | 1.53 | Launch campaign to increase Plymouth's household and municipal recycling rates from 39% to 65% | Roll-out of recycling containers to high-rise dwellings is almost complete. Further engagement with residents has been curtailed due to Covid. The City Council will re-engage as soon as safe through campaign linked to the Preventing Plastic Pollutions EU funded project & other environmental initiatives. | Underway |
| | | 1.54 | Increase the number of recycling bins in high footfall areas | Mixed/joint recycling bins have been rolled out in high footfall areas across the city and will be followed up with a campaign to inform and educate over the next 6 months. This will again tie in with other high profile environmental projects. | Underway |
| | | 1.55 | Initiate review of all legacy and recent landfill sites and assess opportunities for additional methane capture and energy production | Methane is captured at the Chelson Meadow landfill site and used to generate electricity. The annual volume is reducing over time & a pumping trial to determine the level of leachate is on hold due to Covid restrictions. However, working with the Environment Agency, a review into how leachate can be pumped out has been initiated and this is expected to commence before the end of 2020. An assessment will be able to be made of whether increased levels of methane can be expected by removing the leachate. | Underway |
| | | 1.56 | Ensure that all recyclable material under Plymouth City Council's control is recycled in the UK | The City Council's principle recycling partner, Viridor, has confirmed that recyclable material is not being sent to landfill and where economical it is being processed within the UK. However, as a global commodity, it will always be subject to the global market and some recyclate (such as metal) may end up being exported. However, Viridor will always state a preference for UK destinations. Moreover, we have reviewed all other contracts for such items as glass, rubble, wood, garden waste - and are satisfied that these are recycled within the UK and, where possible, regionally. | Underway |
| | Assessed for practicality impact and cost | 1.57 | Review of waste management service provisions to ascertain a reduction in carbon emissions from the handling, transportation, treatment of waste and recycling | Work has commenced to reduce carbon emissions through the optimisation of collection routes (delivered through new Information Management Systems and In-Cab Technology) therefore reducing carbon linked to the transportation of waste. The City Council is also driving down carbon emissions through a fleet modernisation programme, purchasing fuel-efficient and where technology allows, electric vehicles. A study will be commissioned to benchmark levels of emissions from each of the functional areas of the waste system. This will enable further investigation into ways to reduce carbon and seek innovation in areas where emissions are high & the technology does not yet support a viable alternative. | Underway |
| | | 1.58 | Identify processing gaps in wider South West region waste recycling and treatment facilities and make appropriate provision for particular materials where gaps are identified | Work has begun with neighbouring local authorities and supported by APSE to map out gaps in provision. The gaps identified will be further investigated to determine if it is a SW regional or national issue. Steps will then be taken in partnership with others to identify and support new/enhanced recycling treatments and facilities. | Underway |
| | | 1.59 | Work with others to investigate how to achieve the required levels of reduction in CO ₂ , methane and N ₂ O emissions from waste operations by 2030 | This links to Action 1.57 and the work to benchmark levels of waste emissions. This will provide a better understanding of all the emissions which will enable a roadmap of achieving net zero by 2030 for waste emission to be created. This work will be completed with key partners and other stakeholder to ensure opportunities are maximised for carbon reduction at the earliest point in time. | Underway |
| | | Requiring resources, new powers and/or change at a national level | 1.60 | Lobby government to ensure its new Resource and Waste Strategy fully supports the need to address the climate emergency and provides local authorities with the powers and resources needed to increase recycling targets, food and garden waste management and additional measures to reduce the environmental impact of resource use and the creation of waste | A letter is being drafted for the Leader of the Council, Cllr Tudor Evans OBE to send to government by end of October 2020. |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------|---|---|----------|
| Engagement and responsibility | Immediate actions | 1.61 | Organise a programme of “climate conversations” to bring together key stakeholders from across Plymouth to review strategic options for delivering net zero by 2030 | A programme of bespoke meetings and conversations is being arranged as part of the review of the Plymouth Plan and work is being undertaken to link with events organised by other organisations across the city. | Underway |
| | | 1.62 | Undertake a rapid review of the city’s growth strategy to ensure it supports our aim to achieve net zero carbon by 2030 | This is being undertaken as part of the review of the Plymouth Plan which is underway. Overall coordination of the process is being managed by the cross-department Plymouth Plan Delivery Team and is expected to be completed by January 2021. | Underway |
| | | 1.63 | Organise community and school events to harness grassroots enthusiasm to take action to tackle climate change. Including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Plymouth Energy Community • Establish a community tree nursery at Poole Farm • Carry out an i-Tree Eco survey and report to understand the value of Plymouth’s Urban Forest • Initiate a Plymouth Tree Challenge for people across the city • Create a climate change resilient showcase arboretum in Central Park • Invest in tree planting and rewilding corridors | <p>Plymouth Energy Community is organising community arts events for COP26 around the theme of 'Moths to a Flame' in relation to our compulsion to consume.</p> <p>The community tree nursery is underway, though events have been put on hold due to the Covid situation.</p> <p>The iTree survey is complete.</p> <p>The Plymouth Tree Challenge, tree planting projects and media campaign is underway.</p> <p>The Green Minds project started delivering education activities.</p> <p>The 2019/20 Plymotion school programme is live.</p> | Underway |
| | | 1.64 | Complete a review by June 2020 of how City Change Fund could enable climate emergency focused community projects with a focus on the climate emergency | A revision has been completed of the City Change Fund to provide greater incentive and prioritisation for community led projects that respond to the climate emergency. | Complete |
| | | 1.65 | Promote a Car-Free Plymouth day during 2020 [Replicated in Mobility section] | On 8th October 2020 National Clean Air Day was held which included initiatives to encourage residents, businesses and schools to leave their car at home and travel by sustainable transport. The promotion was developed mindful of current capacity constraints on public transport due to the Covid-19 pandemic. | Complete |
| | | 1.66 | Support key stakeholders to develop ‘bottom up’ carbon foot prints for priority high emitting sectors, encourage sharing of best practice and support the accelerated delivery of actions to reduce emissions | Plymouth Net Zero Partnership has been established with key stakeholders across the city. The Group is sharing best practice and supporting the delivery of actions to reduce emissions within Plymouth. | Underway |
| | | 1.67 | Continue to work with other councils with similar ambitions, sharing best practice | Collaboration has continued through existing forums and networks, including APSE and ADEPT, as well as via direct contact with Officers in other councils (e.g. Blackpool City Council, Nottingham City Council). | Underway |
| | | 1.68 | Launch a city-wide climate emergency communications programme | A communications programme is being prepared. | Underway |
| | | 1.69 | Identify large emitters of greenhouse gases and encourage them in their carbon reduction activities | Plymouth’s high emitters have been identified. Action to work with these emitters to reduce emissions is currently focused through the Plymouth Net Zero Action Group. | Underway |

| Area of focus | Approach | Ref | Actions | Progress to-date | Status |
|-------------------------------|---|------|--|---|----------|
| Engagement and responsibility | Immediate actions | 1.70 | Develop a Flood Risk Improvement Programme by working with the Environment Agency to align capital investment to manage flood risks in communities across Plymouth | The City Council is currently working with both the Environment Agency (EA) and South West Water (SWW) to continue to deliver an aligned and coordinated Flood Defence Grant in Aid and Local Levy programme of flood risk management works for the period of 2015- 2021. A future programme of works for the next funding cycle from 2021 is currently being developed in conjunction with the EA and SWW, that aligns with the City Council's flood risk priority areas, set out in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. | Underway |
| | | 1.71 | Implement a biodiversity net gain approach that supports climate emergency actions and ensures high quality environmental outcomes in all developments | In response to the upcoming Environmental Bill, the Natural Infrastructure planning team is developing a Local Nature Recovery Network Strategy, incorporating a biodiversity net gain approach addressing climate change and other issues, to secure off-site net gain contributions. Initial conversations have been held on how to create an appropriate baseline. | Underway |
| | Assessed for practicality, impact and cost | 1.72 | Investigate and maximise opportunities to leverage funds for tree planting | A conditional offer requiring match funding has been received and accepted for £840k (total project cost) from the Urban Tree Challenge Fund as part of work to maximise funds for tree planting. An Expression of Interest and proposal for a new Community Forest has been developed with a stakeholder group and this will be submitted to the national Community Forest team to be considered as part of their bid to DEFRA's Nature for Climate Fund. | Underway |
| | | 1.73 | Investigate options for alternatives to fossil fuel-based products for the management of Plymouth's green spaces | As part of the Green Minds programme work is being undertaken with land management partners (National Trust, DWT and UoP) to complete options appraisal and cost benefit analysis for non fossil fuel based approaches to green estate management. | Underway |
| | Requiring resources, new powers and/or change at a national level | 1.74 | Liaise with other Councils across the South West to develop a peninsular approach (a South West Climate Change Peninsula Task Force) which sets out our asks to Government | A SW ADEPT regional climate change workshop was held with Place Directors and officers across the SW and three strategic asks identified. The outcomes from the workshop were fed back to ADEPT nationally and have helped to inform the Coalition Climate Change piece 'A blueprint for accelerating climate action and a green recovery at the local level'. The City Council will continue to use regional and national networks such as ADEPT to influence policy change. This is also being fed in through member representation on the LGA Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board. | Complete |
| | | 1.75 | Lobby government to encourage changes to laws, taxation, and investment in infrastructure, to make low carbon living easier | Measures to support a green economic recovery from the Covid-19 crisis have been called for by the City Council. | Underway |

Key Status

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Not yet progressing | No work has been done to progress the action |
| Underway | Work on the action has commenced |
| Complete | The action has been completed |