

NET ZERO ACTION PLAN 2024-27

Progress Report



1. INTRODUCTION

This report sets out the progress being made in the delivery of the Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP) 2024-2027 agreed by the City Council at its meeting on 18 March 2024.

This cover report is 'by exception' and highlights only key areas requiring further attention. A full account of all the actions in the NZAP 2024-2027 is also provided.

2. OVERVIEW

The Net Zero Action Plan outlines a total of 118 actions and brings together more than 50 colleagues from all directorates of the Council. This document presents status updates for each of their actions and a brief narrative.

As of January 2025, 107 of the 118 actions in the Net Zero Action Plan have been delivered or are progressing on track.

Status	No of actions	%
Complete	20	17%
On track	87	74%
Programmed	2	2%
At risk	7	5%
Unable to deliver	2	2%
Total	118	-

3. EXCEPTIONS

8% of the activities have not been delivered this year.

Budgetary constraints, and the effects of high interest rates, have impacted the delivery of capital projects intended to reduce our energy consumption, increase renewable electricity generation or to transition our fleet of vehicles to EV (BHP3, T3D).

Aspirations to encourage reuse initiatives (CW3A, C and E) have been impacted by capacity challenges but the recruitment of specialist recycling officers has been incorporated into next year's budget. Current capacity will be focused on the delivery of food waste collection and a campaign of engagement around recycling.

There is evidence of excellent practice in various departments of the Council and by partner organisations:

- Catered are developing an excellent offer for climate friendly meals for school children across the city (BC2I);
- DELT have begun the development of their own carbon reduction plan (GD5D). As an essential provider of services to the Council, this can significantly impact our own scope 3 emissions;

- Community connections is proactively reaching out to private sector contractors delivering adaptation works to encourage them to reduce their emissions (BHP9);
- Our successful bid to ZEBRA 2 will result in the delivery of 50 zero emissions electric buses in summer 2025 (T5D);
- Excellent progress is being made in the development of strategic heat networks for the city (BHP10 C).

4. CONCLUSION

Whilst the delivery of most of the plan has gone well, some initiatives have been scheduled to begin later than previously anticipated. Some of these activities will continue to be pursued over longer timeframes through the next Net Zero Action Plan.

Credit must be given to the proactive actions taken across the organisation to pursue creative solutions to the climate emergency. The commitments made in previous iterations of the Net Zero Action Plan are bearing fruit and our working practices are evolving. Many of these commitments are now embedded within the Council's usual business practices.

NET ZERO ACTION PLAN 2024/2027 – PROGRESS REPORT

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP1	Energy Management Portal in place by end of 2024/25, with a view to enhance our understanding of our energy consumption	BHPI B. Conduct a programme of business and operations energy audits for 75 properties to provide a detailed breakdown of energy use by building and use.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	Internal energy audits took place in 2024/25 to deal with the highest priorities (18 sites with large energy bills, sites that have been prioritised for retrofit funding, and those that are due for heat decarbonisation upgrades). This programme of work will accelerate in 2025/26.
		BHPI C. Continue a programme of estate rationalisation based on energy efficiency and sustainability.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	This is under constant review and relevant internal stakeholders are engaged in the City Council's plans for property disposals.
		BHPI D. Pursue funding opportunities to implement smart controls for heating across our remaining corporate estate and plan to increase the number of sites benefiting from smart heating controls.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	The Net Zero Delivery Team (NZDT) has secured Climate Emergency Investment Fund support to upgrade our Building Energy Management System in 2024/25 and improve the City Council's capabilities around the management of heating controls, energy consumption in buildings, which will help to reduce operation and maintenance costs. The team will be overseeing the delivery of this work in 2025/26.

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		BHPI E. Pursue funding opportunities to deliver fabric-first heat retention measures across our remaining corporate estate and plan to increase the number of sites benefiting from energy efficiency measures.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	The Net Zero Delivery Team (NZDT) is resourcing thermal imaging studies on City Council buildings from 2024/25 onwards to identify the need for fabric first measures across the estate. NZDT will also be creating business cases for the delivery of measures from 2025 onwards via an 'invest-to-save' programme.
		BHPI F. Plan to end the use of fossil fuels for heating in the period 2027/2030, through, for example, the installation of heat pumps across the estate or connection to low carbon heat networks.	2025/26	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	The programme of heating upgrades is progressing via grant funding (Climate Emergency Investment Fund and Salix). Failed plant and equipment will be replaced for high efficiency and zero fossil fuel alternatives as a matter of course as far as budgets will allow. Substantial investment is still required to eliminate fossil fuel heating. The current priorities are the sites that align with Salix funding.
		BHPI G. Conduct a review of EPC ratings for all our libraries and identify actions needed to improve energy efficiency of libraries.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries & Crematoria	Service Manager (Customer Services)	Complete	The energy efficiency of libraries was reviewed, as well as the eligibility of library buildings for Salix funding. After consideration, libraries did not make the current priority list for upgrades, as the buildings with the greatest energy consumption are prioritised.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP2	Complete inventory of power-consuming equipment and appliances in the City	BHP2 A. Pursue funding opportunities to implement electricity-saving measures across our remaining corporate estate, such as LED lighting, smart controls, pump and fan replacements. Replace equipment and appliances as	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	As per BHPI. Failed equipment is being replaced with high efficiency alternatives as far as budgets will allow, and Salix funding is being maximised to deliver electricity saving technologies alongside heating investments. The Net Zero Delivery team are also developing Business Cases for electricity-saving initiatives through its 'invest-to-save' programme.

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	Council's estate with quantified action plan to reduce use by 2026	part of renewal cycle or where cost-savings allow.					
		BHP2 B. Continue project to make further reductions to the carbon impact of our website, whilst maintaining a good level of customer service.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and Human Resources and Organisational Development	Transformation Architecture Manager	Complete	Through the website upgrade project new design principles and a style guide for plymouth.gov.uk have been introduced. This aims to make the website as easy to use as possible and contributes to reducing the carbon impact of the site. Less energy is used if people can find what they need and transact with the City Council quickly and easily. The website is hosted on a verified green hosting provider.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP3	Produce the equivalent of 70% of our 2023 electricity needs by 2025 using solar energy.	BHP3 A. Increase the proportion of renewable electricity we produce through the delivery of a solar farm at Chelson Meadow by 2025.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	At risk	Further due diligence is being undertaken on the Chelson Meadow solar farm project alongside a review of potential future funding opportunities from government for Councils and local community groups. The Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change has personally met with multiple ministers from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero in Westminster to discuss new funding mechanisms for this project.
		BHP3 B. Maximise the opportunities for installing solar panels on more of our own assets and pursue funding opportunities to do so wherever possible.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	As per BHP2. Opportunities are being built into the Net Zero Delivery Team's 'Invest to save' programme.
		BHP3 C. Purchase renewable electricity from the proposed Chelson Meadow solar farm for a proportion of our activities and explore the	2025 /26	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	Discussions are ongoing around a Virtual Power Purchase Agreement with the solar farm. Opportunities to source electricity through a third-party solar asset or buying group, are being monitored.

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		options to purchase renewable electricity for the remainder.		and Communities			
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP4	Achieve a 40% reduction in energy consumption for street lighting by 2026 (based on 2021 energy consumption figures)	BHP4 A. Implement a new system of improved control and management of street lighting to reduce its emissions only where safe to do so.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Circa 8000 street light units have been converted to the new Centralised Management System to date (end of January 2025). The project manager from Lighting Innovations & Network Connections has resolved the data conflicts that arose during the conversion. The profiling of the street lights started in January 2025.
		BHP4 B. Deliver a rolling programme of maintenance of our street lighting to upgrade to 4th generation LED.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	In future, the lantern conversion to LED will be incorporated into the Centralised Management System project (BHP4A). Citywide electrical inspection reports are produced regularly to increase the efficiency of the system.
		BHP4 C. Deliver a rolling programme of replacement of traffic signal heads to more economical alternatives.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	The initial phase of this work is now complete. Work on North Hill Junction is delayed as the contractor is still due to deliver site investigations.
		BHP4 D. Continue the programme of replacement of all illuminated traffic highland bollards to more economical alternatives.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	The retro-reflective replacement programme is ongoing and the LED unit replacement for illuminated units is now 60% complete.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP5	Working with Local Council Roads Innovation Group, continue trials of new surfacing	BHP5 A. Continue to work with our supplier to implement a new methodology to account for and reduce emissions from highways maintenance.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	TMC (South West Highways) are engaged with Causeway to embed carbon accounting into all activities in highway maintenance. This will include calculating a baseline. The trial is expected to commence in early 2025.

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	techniques to reduce carbon emissions, and seek to introduce new working practices when successful.	BHP5 B. Continue to trial more economical road surfacing processes for road maintenance and pothole repairs.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Velocity delivery is fully embedded in yearly cycle of maintenance and repairs. A further 6-month contract is now due to commence in April 2025. The 'patch seek n'repair' process funded by the Department for Transport continues to be delivered. Thermal plastic has been replaced with MMA cold plastic paint for street lining where applicable, a process leading to a 60% reduction in emissions.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP6	Policy to guide how our corporate construction activity is delivered in place by 2025	BHP6 A. Develop a policy to guide how all corporate construction activity (buildings and infrastructure) is commissioned and delivered, including prioritising refurbishment of existing buildings over new build where practicable, as well as aspiring to future net zero development.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	At risk	Due to budgetary constraints during 2024/2025, it was not possible to procure the expert support required for a policy to be developed. This action has therefore been reprogrammed into the Net Zero Action Plan for the period 2025-2028.
		BHP6 B. Continue to deliver the Eco-homes Programme and then showcase the resulting low carbon housing.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Kings Tamerton site - The land transfer to Livewest under the Plan for Homes programme was completed in March 2024. £600k from the Brownfield Land Release Fund was secured for this site. Livewest is working in partnership with the City Council to deliver the scheme aiming for up to 70 low carbon homes. Revisions to the existing outline planning permission still need to be secured and a pre-application process is currently underway. The Plan for Homes 4 earmarks £1.5M of capital funds to deliver the Eco-Homes Programme. It is anticipated that a proportion of this fund will need to be allocated

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							to deliver this scheme. North Prospect Library (under construction) - 8 affordable housing units. £80k from Eco-Homes Programme were allocated towards this project. Completion is due in Summer 2025. Healy Place site - Planning consent for a regeneration scheme was secured in March 2024; residents are currently being re-housed prior to demolition, and it is expected that this will take until around June/July 2025. An additional £450K funding from Plan for Homes has been allocated to the scheme to achieve a lower carbon build standard. The developer, Livewest, aim to make a start on site in Quarter 3 of 2025/26 with completions expected in the summer of 2027.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP7	Planning policy framework for Net Zero embedded into next local plan by 2027.	BHP7 B. Ensure that the next iteration of the Joint-Local Plan puts at its heart the ambition to become a net zero location that is resilient to climate change, maximising opportunities within the context of any revised National Planning Policy Framework and planning reforms.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The programme for the review of the local plan is not yet set; however, it is anticipated that it will commence during the current NZAP period.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP8	Significant progress towards ensuring that all the City Council's commercial	BHP8 B. Work positively with our commercial tenants to support and where possible facilitate improvements to energy efficiency of buildings, including signposting them to	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Finance	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	A dedicated post to work on commercial estate Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) statutory requirements has been recruited and plans are progressing to engage tenants and introduce projects over the coming years. Retrofit projects are likely to commence in quarter 1 and 2 of the 2025/26 financial year, and prioritised based on

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	properties have an Energy Performance Certificate of C or above by 2026, in support of national target to achieve this outcome by April 2027.	any grant funding opportunities.					the City Council's commitments around the new EPC rules which are yet to be introduced. £2m of funding has been ringfenced to make early progress with this work.
		BHP8 C. Collate a review of Energy Performance Certificates across the estate. Commission feasibility work to reach a minimum C rating by 2027 and exploring funding opportunities for required works and include annual updates on progress.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Finance	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	The Energy Performance Certificates are currently in review and feasibility work is underway (e.g., sourcing appropriate technologies and contractors). Business cases are likely to be submitted for priority sites in the first quarter of 2025/26.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP9	1293 households supported by 2026	BHP9 A. Develop and deliver programmes to improve energy efficiency of fuel poor homes and to support the increase of retrofit measures across all the city's housing stock, in partnership with the Plymouth Energy Community and other partners.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Total number of homes delivered under all the programmes to March 2025: 229 HUG2 - 65 homes treated SHDFwI - 125 homes treated ECO4 - 39 homes treated to date LEAD - 148 energy efficiency home visits
		BHP9 B. Work with specialist Disabled Facilities Grant contractors to reduce the carbon impact of adaptations.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Service Director for Community Connections	Progressing on track	In August 2024, surveys were instigated with contractors used in the delivery of major home adaptations to understand their approach to achieving net zero. Information is now coming in and will be considered in the sector's annual event in October, where advice, guidance and support will be offered in achieving more. Sector suppliers were also contact in September and

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							information surrounding their approaches are pending. As of November 2024, a new Energy Efficient Dynamic Purchasing System is being introduced. This system will be the sister system used for contractors delivering major adaptations (Disabled Facilities Grant) and as such contractors already approved will be encouraged to expand their business operations to deliver retrofitting measures across the city.
		BHP9 C. Build a greater understanding of the condition of city’s housing stock and its energy performance, so that targeted interventions can be identified and coordinated.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Service Director for Community Connections	Progressing on track	Property conditional data has now been combined with wider data sets such as construction type and Energy Performance Certificates to provide an understanding into issues presenting city-wide. Whilst this information is in its infancy, engagement between Community Connections, Plymouth Energy Community and the Net Zero Delivery Team has been instigated to explore how funding could be applied to enhance the city's housing stock.
Buildings, Heat and Power BHP10	7,500 MWh/a of heat supplied by new low carbon heat networks in Plymouth by end 2025/26	BHP10 B. Work with National Grid on increasing the capacity of the energy grid to shift to an economy that will be more reliant on electricity generation.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Complete	Regular liaison meetings are held with National Grid through their Strategic Liaison Officer. In particular, the city Council contributes to their requests for information towards the development of 'Distribution Future Energy Scenarios' analysis.
		BHP10 C. Develop a strategic delivery programme for the city, including the city centre/waterfront and Derriford areas, including the procurement of a delivery partner, aided through participation in the	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero is providing support to enable the City Council to procure a project partner that will develop the heat network in the city centre.

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		Government's Advanced Zoning Programme.					
		BHPI0 D. Deliver heat network clusters at the Guildhall and Civic Centre, supplying the Theatre Royal, Combined Courts and Civic Centre Redevelopment with low carbon heat.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The first phase of work will involve the connection of the heat network to the Theatre Royal.
		BHPI0 E. Work with our partners in the Devon Climate Emergency to develop a Local Area Energy Plan.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The City Council are actively working with Devon Energy Planning Group which comprises Devon County Council, Torbay and other Devon-based partners to progress the delivery of Energy Catapult Local Area Energy Plan stages 1-3. The procurement for a consultant to support this on behalf of the group with the support of South West Net Zero hub is underway.
		BHPI0 F. Using UK Shared Prosperity funding, create electricity access points for ice cream vans on the Hoe, to remove the need for diesel generators.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries & Crematoria	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	There have been some delays in the works due to unforeseen circumstances when starting excavation works. Installation is due to begin in February 2025.
		BHPI0 G. Support the delivery of a 10MW Green Hydrogen Generation plant at Langage.	2026/27	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	Langage Green Hydrogen is an industry leading project, that will use renewable energy to produce green hydrogen fuel which will help decarbonise industry. The development will have an initial capacity of 10 MW. The project is being delivered by Carlton Power.

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Transport T1	Work towards a reduction of 7% in our business travel by 2030.	T1 A. Review the impact on business travel of the Go Green Travel Plan and consider new options where appropriate to minimise our business travel.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HROD	Service Director for Human Resources and Organisational Development	Progressing on track	The use of Microsoft Teams for some meetings keeps business mileage lower than historically. There are some roles in the council where there is a continued need for business travel to ensure service delivery. Regular reminders on different options for travel are planned.
		T1 C. Deliver schemes to support Council staff and Councillors in adopting low carbon business travel and travel to work. To include Electric Vehicle staff, purchase scheme, cycle to work scheme, facilities and infrastructure for cyclists and EV at our main corporate locations, as well as providing staff access to an electric car club and Beryl bikes for business travel.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HROD	Service Director for Human Resources and Organisational Development	Progressing on track	Employees are aware of how they can claim mileage expenses when using Beryl bikes. Plans are in place for the launch of an electric vehicle leasing scheme.
		T1 D. Ensure contracts for health and care providers include a transport reduction clause where relevant for procuring services across Plymouth.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care	Service Director for Integrated Commissioning	Progressing on track	This continues to be a consideration when new social care services are procured, where relevant, including as part of our approach to social value.
Transport T2	10% reduction in overall mileage for waste	T2 B. Continue to implement smart ways of programming domestic waste collection activities to minimise vehicle mileage.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	The initial modelling of the new scheme is complete. Routes optimisation options are being investigated. A project to resolve blocked access in selected rear lanes in Keyham has successfully completed which has led to reduced missed bins.

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	collection vehicles by end 2024/25 (from 2022/23 baseline).	T2 C. Continue to implement smart ways of programming (Alloy system) for litter bins collection activities to minimise vehicle mileage.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Intelligence on bin fill levels is regularly captured by crews to help optimise collections.
Transport T3	Replace 5 more of our small vans and cars by electric alternatives in 2024/25 Replace 30% of our fleet by electric vehicles by end of 2026 (70 out of 220 vehicles), including 100% of our small fleet.	T3 A. Continue the replacement programme for our small vans and cars fleet.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	70 vehicles have now been changed from diesel to electric with additional vehicles being identified as suitable for change. £380k were set aside in the capital programme for 2025/26 to fund 9 additional electric vehicles.
		T3 B. Seek opportunities to deliver trials of zero emission specialist vehicles within the Council fleet, such as refuse vehicles or road sweepers.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Market testing is ongoing, looking for alternative fuel vehicles to trial in our operation. Technology is improving and more vehicles are becoming available.
		T3 C. Pursue funding opportunities to create charging substations to meet the increasing energy needs of the Council fleet.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Climate Emergency Investment Fund funding of £15k has been secured for an assessment of the requirements for decarbonisation of the fleet, including replacement of the existing internal combustion engine vehicles with electric vehicles, the charging infrastructure needed to support this, the space requirements for the updated fleet and infrastructure, the updated electrical capacity needed and the associated costs with each of these elements.

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		T3 D. Start phasing out the purchasing of new diesel vehicles and plan the replacement of the rest of the Council fleet to zero emission vehicles in the next period (between 2027 and 2030)	2025 /26	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Street Services	At risk	This action will require additional financial support. Costs for alternative fuel are more than double. Infrastructure is currently under review to understand requirements for new models of vehicles.
		T3 E. Replace existing library van for a low carbon alternative (subject to availability of EV charging capacity in library premises and grant funding for EV charging point).	2025 /26	Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries & Crematoria	Service Manager (Customer Services)	Complete	A charging point is now installed at Library headquarters in Burrington Way. A new electric van was delivered in September 2024.
Transport T4	New Local Transport Plan prepared by 2027.	T4 A. Implement the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy for the City, including establishing charging hubs at key destinations, on-street provision, and considering electric vehicle users in parking policy and infrastructure projects.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Plymouth City Council has published an Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for the city. The implementation of actions has started, to provide opportunities for people to charge an electric vehicle whether or not they have off-street parking.
Transport T5	Delivery of the final 1.3 miles of improved cycling and	T5 A. Deliver the mobility hubs to enable an increase in the number of journeys undertaken by ebikes and electric cars.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Complete	E-bikes are now available at 115 locations across Plymouth, supporting 550 e-bikes for public hire. And 45 sites across the city have been installed with rapid electric vehicle charge points.

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	walking routes by 2026. 10 new or improved road crossing points by 2026 500 EV chargers by 2026 Support the expansion of the electric vehicle car club operating in Plymouth by 2026.	T5 B. Pursue funding opportunities to implement our Local Cycling and Walking Plan and to provide accessible, secure cycle storage options at key destinations and transport hubs.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	£189k of external funding was secured to develop walking and cycling schemes and deliver behaviour change measures in the financial year of 2024/25. In terms of the cycle training scheme for school children, the city council are again ranked in the top 10 Local Authorities nationally for delivering 'Bikeability' training to school children, an excellent achievement. The target to deliver 1.3 miles of new/improved cycle paths by 2026 is on track to be met with 1.2 miles of new/improved cycle paths funded for delivery. The target to deliver 10 new/improved crossings by 2026 is also on target with 7 out of 10 crossings funded. The final designs for the next stage of the Eastern Corridor Strategic Cycle Network under Colesdown Road are being worked on.
		T5 D. Support initiatives for investment in infrastructure for alternative fuels including hydrogen and biofuel to increase wider access and availability for the city's difficult to decarbonise transport.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	This City Council is practically supporting investment in infrastructure for alternative fuels as well as developing enabling strategies to increase access and availability. Through the Plymouth Zero Emission Bus Regional Area 2 (ZEBRA2) project 50 Zero Emission Buses and the associated charging infrastructure will be provided in 2025. This infrastructure will also be available for minibuss fleets (school transport and community transport) at such times these fleets are electrified. The Council are also part of the Peninsula Transport Sub-National Transport Body, and the Peninsula Transport strategy includes a 'Going Electric' objective which includes (1) EV Charging

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							(2) Alternative fuel provision for commercial and business users including freight and (3) Ultra-low emission infrastructure to support all bus and rail services across the peninsula.
		T5 E. Support delivery of port infrastructure improvements to promote decarbonisation across Plymouth's four ports.	2024 /25	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	Plymouth and South Devon Freeport's seed capital funding has delivered port sustainability improvements at Millbay and Cattedwater. The freeport team and advisory board members are working with innovators and stakeholders in decarbonisation technologies for port infrastructure at South Yard and the across the city. Additional investment and policy collaboration between public (national and local) and private sector is required to deliver full decarbonisation.
		T5 F. Establish a new Electric Vehicle Car Club for Plymouth	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Complete	A new all electric vehicle car club has been established in Plymouth, operated by Co Wheels.
		T5 G. Continue to pursue all funding opportunities for the introduction of Zero Emission Buses (including minibuses) in accordance with the ambition set out within the Bus Service Improvement Plan.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The Plymouth City Council led bid to the Department for Transport's Zero Emission Bus Regional Area 2 (ZEBRA 2) Fund was successful. Fifty electric double-decker buses will be coming to Plymouth in 2025 as part of a major £31.87 million joint investment in the city's public transport by Plymouth City Council, Plymouth Citybus (part of the Go-Ahead Group), Cornwall Council and the Department for Transport. The majority of the funding (£19.6 million) is being provided by Plymouth Citybus, supported by a £10.34 million grant from the Government's

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							Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) 2 Fund and contributions from Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council totalling £1.94 million. The buses will start arriving in Plymouth in late spring, with the first 25 entering service in the summer and all 50 being out on the road by the end of the year.
Transport T6	Deliver the Bus Service Improvement Plan + (BSIP+) programme by September 2025.	T6 A. Pursue all funding opportunities to allow the delivery of the initiatives set out in the Plymouth Bus Service Improvement Plan.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Complete	Plymouth's third Bus Service Improvement Plan was published in Summer 2024 with funding being secured from the Department for Transport's Bus Service Improvement Plan 2 revenue fund - (previously referred to as BSIP+ funding) - for its implementation allowing the delivering of a comprehensive programme of measures, over and above the core public transport functions and services provided by the Council, which are designed to respond to Plymouth's nine identified passenger priorities.
	Support the development of the strategic implementation plan for Peninsula Transport by end of 2024/25.	T6 B. Continue to engage with the Peninsula Transport shadow Sub-national Transport Body to ensure alignment with the emerging regional transport strategy and the tools available, regionally, to support the decarbonisation of transport.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Continued engagement with Peninsula Transport.
Consumption and waste	Annual monitoring of	CWI B. Roll out the contract management toolkit to support the Council's contract	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-	Head of Legal	Progressing on track	A new social value monitor template has been published and is being issued. Further roll out will be linked to wider contract management

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
CWI	consumption-related Scope 3 emissions. Contract managers to monitor the carbon impact of the services and goods they purchase.	managers in monitoring the effectiveness of our contracts in terms of carbon emissions commitments made by contractors.		operative Development and Communities			framework work due to commence in February 2025.
		CWI C. Roll out improvements to the Council's procurement approach so that it fully aligns with the Council's Net Zero ambition and embeds a contract award weighing for climate change.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Head of Legal	Progressing on track	The proposed process has now been fully endorsed by the City Council's corporate management team and cabinet members. It has been agreed that the new process will be launched in February 2025 to align with the launch of the new procurement regime and an announcement will be made at Full Council in March 2025.
		CWI D. Engage with the Council's family of companies to support their plans for Net Zero.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Finance	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	A review of the family of companies has been carried out, with many already included in our carbon emission reporting and action plans. Follow up conversations held with several companies to understand their carbon monitoring and action plans in more detail. As a result, several specific climate actions have been agreed for individual companies, with the Net Zero Delivery Team offering expertise and support to progress them.
		CWI E. Source recycled and refurbished equipment for our corporate operations needs where possible.	2024 -26	Cabinet Member for Finance	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	Work has been undertaken to support recycling/repurposing during the clearance and disposal of council assets.
Consumption and waste CW2	The Council has policies and facilities in place to cut down its	CW2 A. Continue to encourage waste minimisation, reuse and recycling at all our premises, ensuring all waste streams are	2024 -26	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	Waste is still being managed and work has been undertaken to support recycling/repurposing during the clearance and disposal of council assets.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
	waste to a strict minimum by end 2026	separated to maximise recycling opportunities.					
Consumption and waste CW3	Reuse partnership established in 2024/25	CW3 A. Establish a 'Reuse Partnership' by working with partners in retailing, housing associations, charities, education providers, and existing re-use businesses thereby stimulating the green economy, creating skilled jobs and affordable reusable items for householders.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	At risk	Whilst progress has been limited during the last reporting period – further in-roads are expected to be made during the next few months. There has been some progress in respect of identifying a range of partners, but this has yet to crystallise into a fully formed and meaningful Partnership. Resources remain an issue – following the retirement of the head of service leading this work – but the City Council still expects to make steady progress over the coming months. As businesses/charities etc. continue to evolve and some fall by the wayside, the need to identify resource to manage this Partnership will be an area of focus.
		CW3 B. Complete an evaluation of reuse initiatives in the city.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Linked to above - list to follow.
		CW3 C. Develop a business case to implement a reuse shop in Plymouth.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	At risk	Whilst our ambition to develop a reuse shop – adjacent or close to Chelson Household Waste Recycling Centre - current financial challenges may preclude the initial capital outlay this year. Nevertheless, the City Council continue to explore potential solutions and have identified a potential site. Whilst dialogue with Plymouth Community Homes continues, the different scope of each initiative may preclude a cost-effective partnership. Any future commercial

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
							undertaking needs to be mindful of our current reuse commercial contracts.
		CW3 E. Identify funding to support communities to increase the number of operating repair and reuse initiatives.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	At risk	The City Council now supports several local re-use initiatives. Little Camden Market have staff situated on site at Chelson Meadow to recover items suitable for re-sale in their shop in Plymouth. Cathco recover electrical items for repair and resale at their depot at Faraday Mill. Devon and Cornwall Furniture Re-Use Project are based in Stonehouse and collect unwanted items from residents for repair and re-sale at their shop. The City Council provides financial support by paying Re-use Credits for items that they have diverted from disposal.
Consumption and waste CW4	Work towards the Plymouth Plan target of 65% recycling rate by 2034, with a goal to achieve 53% by 2030.	CW4 A. Engage with communities to maximise opportunities for increasing recycling levels and compliance with our waste collection scheme.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Over the last year the City Council has ran an extensive recycling campaign with the aim of encouraging the volume of recycling and the quality of materials presented as recycling by clarifying our requirements. The 'Right Stuff. Right Bin' campaign was run across a range of targeted social media postings, a leaflet distributed to all Plymouth households and on newly installed public litter bins. The team worked closely with Biffa who run the Materials Recycling Facility at Chelson to understand the most common forms of contamination to ensure clarity could be given to target these items, such as batteries, nappies and food waste.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		CW4 C. Deliver a weekly kerbside food waste collection service to Plymouth households in line with Government legislation and guidance.	2026 /27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Extensive work is underway on the business case including modelling collection rounds, vehicle and container requirements and procurement. A standalone Executive Decision is to be made to progress procurement ahead of Business Case approval to avoid any delay to securing vehicles and containers.
		CW4 D. As a member of the Southwest Devon Waste Partnership, explore feasibility of developing carbon capture and storage at the Energy from Waste plant.	2025 /26	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Complete	The government's proposal to include Energy from Waste (EfW) in the Energy Trading Scheme (ETS) is likely to change the focus on carbon emission reduction away from carbon capture towards removing carbon rich waste from the residual waste stream. Progress on the ETS is being monitored closely by South West Devon Waste Partnership members and MVV Environment Devonport Ltd. However, discussions on carbon capture implementation at Devonport EfW are unlikely to be progressed until the details of how the ETS will be implemented and the type of EfW plants in scope are known.
		CW4 E. Work with Reuse partners to develop a wider culture of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Measuring performance around cultural change will often require sophisticated metrics and can be subjective. Nevertheless, there is some evidence of a clear shift in attitudes where reduce and reuse is seen as preferable to recycle, whether driven by commercial considerations/ incentives or by ethical considerations.
		CW4 F. New Councillor Champion on waste to organise a round table on waste	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Cllr Gilmour has been appointed as waste champion. The date of round table is to be agreed before end of February 2025.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		<p>CW4 G. Provide offer for residents to encourage domestic composting.</p>	<p>2024 /25</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change</p>	<p>Service Director for Street Services</p>	<p>Unable to deliver in this NZAP period</p>	<p>The case for using public money to subsidise private composting bins, as originally committed in the NZAP, has since been re-considered following the confirmation that Local Authority Food Waste collections will be mandatory from April 2026. Whilst organic matter originating from gardens will not be collected as part of food waste collections, all household food waste, including cuttings and peelings, will be collected once the service commences. Promoting and signposting to home composting can be an element of the communication and behaviour change programme that will accompany the roll out of food waste collections. Green Communities have been working in partnership with Generous Earth to trial community composting techniques in 3 neighbourhoods across the city. Focused around creating compost from food waste using a 'Rydan' system, volunteers and community members are setting up stations in Central Park, Devonport Park and at the Kintsugi project in Keyham. At each site there will be co-designed activities and events for local people to come and get involved, with opportunities to bring food waste and take away compost.</p>
		<p>CW4 H. Update Plymouth City Council's Municipal Waste Strategy 2007-2030 to ensure consistency with Government Environment Act 2021</p>	<p>2024 -27</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change</p>	<p>Service Director for Street Services</p>	<p>Programme d to begin later</p>	<p>We await clarification on government policy to begin to undertake this major piece of work.</p>

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
Behaviour Change BC1	Provide a tailored programme of climate change training to 25% of our staff by end of 2026, including offering training to all members and senior managers.	BCI C. Deliver a comprehensive employee engagement programme on Climate Change, mitigation and adaptation, including Carbon Literacy training, supporting employees on energy saving behaviours, business travel and IT use, and on reducing consumption and waste.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and Human Resources and Organisational Development	Service Director for Human Resources and Organisational Development	Progressing on track	A climate change elearning course for staff was released in September 2024 and has been taken up by 80 colleagues. Carbon literacy training was offered to Councillors in September 2024 and October 2024. Three training events were organised at the Box in November 2024, resulting in an additional 18 members of staff achieving carbon literacy accredited status. An introduction to Net Zero is given to all new members of staff during monthly staff induction.
		BCI D. Run engagement pilot with staff in Children Services and Commissioning to understand their transport needs and trial different transport methods.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care	Service Director for integrated Commissioning Director of Children's services	Progressing on track	Work has begun on engaging staff with the idea of changing habits away from car use. Exploration has been started with different transport methods however, uptake is low due to the additional time demands different methods of transport add to social workers' day. A further complication is that social workers often must travel many miles in a day out of Plymouth which limits the current green options available.
Behaviour Change BC2	Achieve at least 50 members in the Who's Who section of Climate Connections by 2025. Deliver year on year increase in the number of users	BC2 A. Deliver a Plymouth Net Zero engagement plan in collaboration with the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	A wide range of activities have been delivered as part of this engagement plan agreed by the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership, including the delivery of 9 events with 2408 total attendees, campaigns reaching 31,659 through social channels and a new members section of Climate Connections. The website recorded approximately 6,000 unique users in 2024.
		BC2 D. Deliver behavioural change programmes and energy advice services for individuals, communities and	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	A door-knocking campaign by ward councillors took place in October 2024. The Net Zero Delivery Team are working with Plymouth Energy Community to support their energy

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
	engaging with the Climate Connections website. Plymotion Team to visit 12,000 households across the city by September 2025 and engage 3,720 residents by 2025.	businesses in partnership with PEC.					advice campaign for Local Energy Advice Demonstrator, to improve energy advice across the region.
		BC2 E. Keep the Climate Connections website up-to-date and well managed, as its custodian for the city, and deliver the next phase of improvements.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	New phases of development have included a new menu to reflect growing content and resources, landing pages for different audience groups, refreshed home page, new events section. 111 organisations and 161 members are now signed up to Climate Connections, sharing their profiles, climate journey and action plans. Additional updates are planned.
		BC2 F. Continue to grow the network of Climate Ambassadors, community-based volunteers promoting the net zero agenda at a local level.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The Climate Ambassador network continued to meet regularly until September 2024. A review of the scheme took place in summer 2024, as recruitment, participation and retention of climate ambassadors was lower than hoped. As part of the review of the Net Zero Action Plan for 2025/28, our engagement strategy is under review and this initiative is on pause while we consider what approaches are more effective. In 2024, we involved 2,786 individuals through our programme of net zero events and reached over 31,000 through our social channels
		BC2 G. Work with the National Marine Park to raise awareness and explain the role of blue carbon in supporting the city’s journey to net zero, including the development of the blue green economy.	2024-27	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	This is now embedded with the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park ‘Sea in our School’ programme, which target Key Stage 2 classes for the next 4 years.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		<p>BC2 H. Raise awareness of the Climate Emergency through the Planet Ocean Exhibition at The Box.</p>	<p>2024 /25</p>	<p>Cabinet member for Children's Social Care, Culture, Events and Communications</p>	<p>Service Director for Economic Development</p>	<p>Progressing on track</p>	<p>The exhibition has been extended to April 2025. It has received extremely good feedback from visitors, with an average conversion rate of 50% to the gallery. A programme of public events has been delivered alongside the exhibition including, expert talks, artist workshops and family activities to increase engagement in topics covered by installation.</p>
		<p>BC2 I. CATERED to pilot new approaches to promoting sustainable food choices.</p>	<p>2024 /25</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships</p>	<p>Managing Director CATERED</p>	<p>Progressing on track</p>	<p>CATERED have been actively working with Pro Veg and their 'School Plates' accreditation scheme which recognises a school food providers commitment to developing and extending the offer. The Board have asked that some further work is undertaken with schools and pupils to gauge the impact of the proposed changes. This is planned to be undertaken in early 2025. The new menu, launched on 04 November 2024, contains <i>Climate Friendly</i> logos being added to the menu to identify those meals and one entirely meat-free day per week. All our potatoes are now grown on Cornish Farms and, as the crow flies, the journey from farm to Ballard House is just 4 miles!</p>
		<p>BC2 J. Use provider forums and newsletter to engage with the domiciliary care and adult social care sector on Net Zero, to share good practice and invite contribution from providers to Climate Connection's Net Zero organisation pages.</p>	<p>2024 /25</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care</p>	<p>Service Director for integrated Commissioning</p>	<p>Progressing on track</p>	<p>The City Council's Market Sustainability Plan for Older People Care Homes refers to the Council's commitment to net zero. The process of refreshing the specification for care homes is underway and the same for domiciliary care later in the year, where the reference will be added also.</p>

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		<p>BC2 K. Utilise family and wellbeing hubs to promote Net Zero, reaching out to our clients with energy efficiency help and advice (in partnership with PEC).</p>	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care	Service Director for Integrated Commissioning	Progressing on track	<p>Action for Children (AFC) and LARK are now registered on Climate Connections Plymouth. AFC workers regularly provide basic energy efficiency advice to service users, when completing home safety assessments in the home and refer into Plymouth Energy Community for further support. LARK Outreach workers engage regularly with PEC updates and events, who offer advice and tips on how to support. LARK support families with high energy bills in understanding how to reduce their energy use, and to encourage their children to do the same. Barnardo's support families with their energy efficiency by referring families to PEC for advice and tips on energy efficiency and money saving. Barnardo's apply for grants to support families in making their home more energy efficient.</p>

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		BC2 L. Encourage all schools in Plymouth to seek eco-school accreditation, or to participate in the Let's Go Zero Campaign.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships	Interim Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills	Progressing on track	Monthly communication with schools promoting the Let's Go Zero Campaign and Eco Schools programme (52 plymouth settings have registered with eco-schools). There are currently 17 schools actively involved in the scheme and 5 schools having achieved their Green Flag status. The Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships and Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change jointly wrote a letter to promote these schemes to all headteachers on 16th September.
		BC2 M. Promote Climate Ambassador schemes in schools and work towards organising a celebratory event to recognise good practice.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships	Interim Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills	Progressing on track	Considering a National Climate Ambassadors Scheme for the education sector being launched by the Department for Education, we are reviewing this approach. One school and one young person were recognised as Climate Legends during the Big Green Trail in June 2024. We are working with the Young Climate Ambassadors on activities to engage schools.
		BC2 N. Engage young people on Climate Change through the Youth Parliament and other forms of youth engagement, and the appointment of a voluntary youth advisor.	2024/25	Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Children's Social Care, Culture, Events and Communications	Director of Children's services	Progressing on track	A small group of young people aged 11 to 17 has been meeting monthly to learn about climate change, Net Zero, but more importantly, to take concrete action to improve our city. New initiatives will be promoted more widely to expand the group and a programme of exciting activities in collaboration with the Oceans Conservation Trust, the Box and Poole Farm continues each month.
		BC2 O. Pilot neighbourhood-level climate action plans and community-led action.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Environment	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	A Climate Change engagement event took place in Compton ward on 18th May 2024. The event was led by ward councillors and the cabinet member for the Environment and Climate

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
				and Climate Change			Change. The initiative, whilst valuable, would require further resources to lead to meaningful plans being enacted and expanded to other wards.
		<p>BC2 P. Create a 'cities of service' approach to engaging with residents to create a 'social movement' of people who participate in practical activities to reduce emissions.</p>	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Community Empowerment Lead	Progressing on track	A team of 13 Community Builders embedded within communities took part in a Climate Appreciative Enquiry in the spring 2024. Making Sense session took place in July 24 with Climate team and partners to further understand emerging themes, how communities are feeling and what actions people feel they can contribute. Community Builder Climate Champions in place to offer more carbon literacy training.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		<p>BC2 Q. Collaborate, as part of the Food Plymouth Partnership and Network, on improving access to low carbon food choices and work towards achieving the Sustainable Food Places Gold award.</p>	<p>2024-27</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities</p>	<p>Community Empowerment Lead</p>	<p>Progressing on track</p>	<p>Ongoing delivery of Growing with Nature: knowledge and exchange around environmental initiatives through a community network of 236 members. Funding from Hubbub / Starbucks was secured to deliver a community-led Nature Hub at Zoo Field Central Park with the City Council's Green Communities Team. This includes community led composting trials to enable the delivery of closed loop system (park business food waste and materials waste from Grounds Maintenance). Collaboration with key council staff and elected members to progress Food Strategy work following Plymouth Food Action Plan 2023-2026 - including the Sustainable Food Places (SFP) 'Food for the Planet' strand. Best Food Forwards awards scheme roll-out supporting caterers to provide healthy food that is good for people, place and planet at https://foodplymouth.org/best-food-forward-awards-for-caterers/</p> <p>We hosted the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission Food Conversation workshop, exploring public perceptions of the food system. Support to develop the 'Plymouth Fish Finger' innovation via the Foods Equal project. Food Plymouth's Tess Wilmot recognised and awarded by Climate Connections as one of Plymouth's 'Climate Legends' (in the 'Community' category).</p>

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		<p>BC2 R. Develop a programme with the taxi trade to support the transition to Electric Vehicles including investigation of alternative funding mechanisms and collaborating on funding bids.</p>	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries & Crematoria	Director of Public Health	Progressing on track	Discussions have commenced with the intention of writing to the Taxi trade to advise them of government grants towards the cost of a new electric vehicles. Information will also be provided about the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) opportunities for home charging. Planned activities include having a LEVC vehicle for view for taxi drivers with information provided about the charging infrastructure at the start of 2025. Information is provided to the taxi trade via licensing e-mail updates to keep them abreast of any new funding opportunities available for small businesses or taxi trade.
		<p>BC2 S. Encourage social enterprises and voluntary organisations in Plymouth to make energy efficiency improvements on their buildings through the Government's VCSE Energy Efficiency Scheme.</p>	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Service Director for Community Connections	Complete	This initiative was promoted to local social enterprises. The window of time to promote this initiative to the Voluntary and Community and Social Enterprise sector closed in June 2024.
		<p>BC2 T. Offer advice and incentives to households within the Active Travel Social Prescribing pilot project area to encourage sustainable travel choices via our Plymotion initiative.</p>	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The Active Travel Social Prescribing programme (funded by Active Travel England) is now in its third and final year of delivery; the Plymotion team continue to engage with households within the project area and have already engaged with more than 4944 households to encourage sustainable travel choices.
		<p>BC2 U. Continue to organise an annual engagement event on environmental issues with the library service.</p>	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries,	Interim Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills	Complete	The Library Service hosted a 'Big Green Day' at Plympton Library on Thursday 31 st October. Several local organisations and other departments of the City Council came along and met with customers.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
				Cemeteries & Crematoria			
Behaviour Change BC3	<p>Net Zero action plan identified for top 50 business relationships and supported businesses by 2026</p> <p>Recommendations from the Green Skills Action Plan are implemented by 2026</p>	BC3 B. Deliver the plan for the city's economic transition to a low carbon economy as part of the overall economic development plan, with the Growth Board taking ownership of the agenda.	2024-27	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	An update was given at the Growth Board in November 2024. The City Council have responded to the industrial strategy and have organised another Floating Offshore Wind event. Two new net zero inward investors are being supported and their account managed. The City's Growth Strategy has 'Sustainable Growth' as one of its four top priorities. The Economic Strategy 3-year Delivery Plan was presented to the growth Board on Friday 23 rd January. The final version is planned to go to Cabinet on 10 th March.
		BC3 D. Continue to identify funding to establish further net zero support for the City's businesses.	2024-27	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	There has been poor uptake from Plymouth business community thus far for the Shared Prosperity Funding for Net Zero Business advice. Changes will be made to the scheme to increase participation.
		BC3 E. Deliver the Net Zero Business Support programme funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund.	2024/25	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Complete	Delivery of the scheme is underway but there has been slow uptake.
		BC3 F. Promote the environment toolkit on the Plymouth Charter website and related events for businesses on Net Zero.	2024/25	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Complete	This has been delivered.
		BC3 G. Deliver a marine innovation centre at Oceansgate to provide usable space for businesses to	2025/26	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	The planning application process is underway with decision expected in February 2025. Contractor selection is also due in March 2025.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		innovate in marine, defence, and net zero.					
		BC3 H. Provide energy efficiency advice to private landlords.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Service Director for Community Connections	Progressing on track	Joint working with South West Landlords Association, Community Connections, Plymouth Energy Community and Net Zero Delivery Team, considerations have been given in respect of the access provided to landlords for retrofit programs. In addition, information has been shared with them to discuss with their members.
		BC3 I. Stimulate the demand for jobs within the green economy through allocation of levelling up funding to low carbon initiatives.	2024/25	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	At risk	Whilst levelling up has been announced in the budget, the City Council is still awaiting an offer letter to allocate funding.
		BC3 J. Explore the future of green jobs in the Sustainable Growth chapter of Plymouth's new Economic Strategy.	2024/25	Leader	Service Director for Economic Development	Progressing on track	Two innovative recycling businesses are now in the inward investment pipeline and proactively working with the City Council around expansion. On 12 th September we hosted the second Floating Offshore Wind (FLOW) event in the city for local businesses to find out about supply chain opportunities.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
Governance and Delivery GDI	Annual corporate greenhouse gas monitoring reports published, demonstrating progress towards net zero and providing evidence of the effectiveness of the Net Zero Action Plan.	GDI A. Develop a Council-wide emissions offsetting plan setting out the overall approach to addressing residual emissions from Council activities.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	An approach to offsetting is now agreed which sets out the context, various definitions, and assumptions for net zero. Key points progressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent verification may be sought at a later stage but not at this point. • The 2018/2019 baseline should be retained, with updates on any data to reflect the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. • Departmental targets are considered as part of service business planning. • Scope 1 and 2 should be the focus of emissions reductions. • Carbon accounting should relate to financial years. • Offsetting should be focussed on local offsets.
		GDI B. Develop a performance framework for the Net Zero Action Plan, providing quantified measures where possible to track progress to net zero.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Complete	As members of the South West Energy and Environment Group (SWEEG), the City Council have worked with the Centre for Energy and the Environment at the University of Exeter to provide an annual assessment of the council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions. Whilst this data cannot be immediately correlated to each individual action, it is useful to identify where areas of progress and where new opportunities for decarbonisation lie.
		GDI C. Collect performance data relating to the Council's greenhouse gas emissions and report this annually through the Climate Connections website and on our corporate website.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Complete	Annual reports on the City Council's corporate emissions are published alongside the Net Zero Action Plan each year in March. Citywide greenhouse gas emissions reports are published on the Climate Connections website and updated annually.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		GD1 D. Continue to provide strategic leadership of the climate emergency through the Council's Climate Emergency Board, which will maintain a strategic focus on the commitment to be a net zero organisation by 2030 by meeting at least 3 times a year.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Strategic Director for Growth	Progressing on track	The board meets four times a year. Recent meetings of the board took place on 15 th October 2024 and 14 th January 2025.
		GD1 E. As part of the review of the Council's performance framework, add 1 Climate Emergency-related performance measure for each Council department.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Unable to deliver in this NZAP period	There is no capacity in 2024/25 in the policy team to complete this task. Consideration will be given to developing a climate-related performance measure for each council department business plan.
Governance and Delivery GD2	Deliver year-on-year increase in externally funded climate emergency investment.	GD2 B. Deliver the Climate Emergency Investment Fund to accelerate investment in corporate carbon reduction projects and climate emergency initiatives, secure external grant funding and reduce corporate energy costs.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Finance	Service Director for Finance	Complete	The 2024/25 revenue budget includes provision to fund £2m capital investment financed by corporate borrowing. A further £2m corporate borrowing financing has been included in the Medium Term Financial Forecast for 2025/26.
		GD2 C. Keeping under active review all opportunities for external funding to support the Council's and City's net zero aspirations, including for example grants and developer contributions.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The Net Zero Delivery Team continually reviews funding opportunities, and this year has been successful in securing funding for electric vehicle charge points for people without off-street parking, energy efficiency improvements for homes across Plymouth and for retrofitting the

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
							Council's own estate to improve their energy performance.
		GD2 E. Continue to seek financial and in-kind contributions from partners and other external funding sources to enable the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership to deliver effective strategic leadership of the Plymouth's net zero emissions.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Ongoing and hinges on the delivery plan/task forces and the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership members feeling they are getting something out of the partnership. This is directly linked to the creation of task forces (and other work in the delivery plan) focusing on different aspects of the decarbonisation of the city.
		GD 2 F. Review our treasury practices, principles and schedules to determine what criteria to apply to our own investment, developing our Environmental, Social and Governance section to reflect our ambition to achieve Net Zero.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Finance	Service Director for Finance	Complete	When investing in banks and funds, the City Council will prioritise banks that are signatories to the UN Principles for Responsible Banking and funds operated by managers that are signatories to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment, the Net Zero Asset Managers Alliance and/or the UK Stewardship Code.
		GD2 G. Evaluate the financial risks and benefits of implementing Climate Municipal Bonds, including identifying a suitable renewable project with community interest.	2025 /26	Cabinet Member for Finance	Service Director for Finance	Complete	The cost of financing a project with Climate Municipal Bonds is likely to be more expensive than other forms of borrowing available to the City Council whilst borrowing rates are high (Bank of England 5%). Use of Public Works Loan Board/ Other Local Authority borrowing are secured based on cashflow needs, making it a cheaper form of financing.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
Governance and Delivery GD3	2 local carbon offset projects fully developed and receiving investment by 2026	GD3 A. Utilise Ocean City Nature as the delivery mechanism for local offsetting, in collaboration with Plymouth Net Zero Partnership.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF) 3 bid successful providing funding for partnership project with South Hams Farming Cluster group to explore financial modelling and governance options for providing biodiversity rich carbon credits for Plymouth offsetting market. Plymouth Net Zero Partnership is collaborating as demand-side advisors. A Memorandum of Understanding is signed with Rebalance Earth and Seagrass token project is underway with partners.
		GD3 B. Continue to investigate potential for retrofit carbon code and deliver local housing retrofit carbon offsetting project.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Complete	This investigation concluded that a housing retrofit carbon offsetting project for privately owned properties in Plymouth would not be feasible for reasons of financial risk and contractual complexity, alongside concerns regarding the additionality of the carbon saving.
		GD3 C. Deliver Plymouth and South Devon Community Forest Woodland Carbon Credits project.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund 3 bid successful providing funding for partnership project with South Hams Farming Cluster group to explore financial modelling and governance options for providing biodiversity rich carbon credits for Plymouth offsetting market.
		GD3 D. Develop a carbon code for seagrass and deliver a local seagrass blue carbon offsetting project.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	The 'Seagrass Token' project is underway working with Finance Earth, Ocean Conservation Trust and University of Plymouth. The project outcomes are expected during the second quarter of 2025.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
Governance and Delivery GD4	Corporate adaptation plan completed and rolled out into service business planning by end of 2024/25	GD4 A. Undertake an organisational review of potential corporate impacts of climate change and prepare and implement an Adaptation Plan and Climate Change risk assessment to help the Council prepare for and manage the impacts of climate change on the services it provides.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Programmed	Work is ongoing with Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Impact Group. However, internal capacity issues and lack of funding mean work at the local level is yet to begin.
		GD4 C. Use natural infrastructure and the 'healthy streets' process proactively to deliver climate-friendly projects, resilient spaces, healthy places and capture carbon.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The framework was applied to the Civic Centre, New George Street and Armada Way. Three members of the strategic planning team are trained in delivering the scheme.
		GD4 D. Deliver the Council's Plan for Trees to improve the city's resilience to the effects of climate change, including cooling our streets in the summer, providing shelter from winds, reducing energy costs, slowing down water runoff, reducing flooding, filtering and absorbing pollution, improving air quality and tackling climate change through carbon sequestration.	2024-26	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Street Services	Progressing on track	Planting for winter 2024/25 is underway across the city. We are currently aiming for 15 hectares of planting this season.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
Governance and Delivery GD5	Establish a Net Zero Partnership Board delivery plan by 2025	GD5 A. Support the effective operation and growth of the Plymouth Net Zero Partnership in its city leadership role for the City's net zero agenda.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	The City Council continues to provide governance and management of the partnership itself. Similarly related to the delivery plan and working on the actions and deliverables within it. There are built in review and monitoring actions with the delivery plan as well as actions to review membership.
		GD5 B. Work with regional partners on the Devon Carbon Plan and the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Adaptation Plan.	2024-27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Progressing on track	Regular attendance at Devon Carbon Plan meetings for both mitigation and adaptation. Collaboration on several net zero areas.
		GD5 C. Incorporate climate emergency-related questions into the City Survey in 2024.	2024/25	Cabinet Member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	The city survey will take place in 2025 with fieldwork completed by mid-January 2025. The final report will be ready and results available to use by end of March 2025.
		GD5 D. Encourage and support DELT in achieving a 'B Corporation' status, to certify its sustainability and low carbon credentials.	2026/27	Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and Human Resources and Organisational Development	Transformation Architecture Manager	Complete	B Lab (UK) informed DELT that B-Corp will not accept them for certification because of their public ownership. However, DELT are engaged with a sustainability consultant to help them develop a Carbon Reduction Plan. This includes establishing a historic baseline that will enable them to demonstrate progress against a net zero objective. Whilst DELT are unable to get certified, improvement in all areas of their sustainability programme can be led by using the B-Corp assessment criteria. They are investigating other certifications they could achieve to demonstrate their achievements in this area.

Theme	Goals for the period 2024/27	Actions	Year	Portfolio holder	Director	Status update	Monitoring Notes
		GD5 E. Create a cross-party 'Sustainability Advisory Group' to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, to inform future actions.	2024 /25	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	Complete	The Sustainability Advisory Group is now set up. The first meeting took place on 23 rd October 2024 and another on 23 rd January 2025.
Governance and Delivery GD6	Public affairs activity is reviewed proactively to support the delivery of the actions set out in the Net Zero Action Plan where appropriate.	GD6 A. Keep under review national policy and legislation relating to net zero, including identifying opportunities for influencing the Government through relevant public affairs activity as and when appropriate.	2024 -27	Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change	Interim Chief Operating Officer	Progressing on track	5 th August 2024 - Letter to Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero regarding delivering warm homes and local power. 21 st February 2024 - Joint letter/co-signatories for a letter from the Town and Country Planning Association regarding energy performance standards. 22 nd November 2023 - Letter to local MPs following a Motion on Notice regarding the reversal of the government's climate commitments - COP 28 Climate and Ecology. 24 th July 2023 - Letter to the then Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (Grant Shapps) regarding government support for climate change in Plymouth.