

Climate Local Initiative

Intended commitments and actions

Note: this appendix follows the format of a template provided by the LGA

Low carbon pathways

In order to create an 'energy smart' low carbon future we make the following commitments:

Commitment: we will reduce carbon emissions from council activities by 30% by 2015 from our 2005/6 baseline		
Justification: we have been taking action to tackle the causes of climate change for a number of years and by targeting our estate and operations we aim to significantly reduce our emissions		
Specific actions	Measure	Timescale
We will replace all the chandelier bulbs at our Town Hall and Pittville Pump Room with LED or lower energy bulbs	Bulbs replaced	March 2014
We will replace lighting in our swimming pool hall with an LED alternative	New lighting in place	March 2014
Through contract arrangements we will require commissioned and shared services to work on reducing carbon emissions	Issues included in contracts and monitoring mechanism adopted	2013

Appendix 3

Commitment: we will aim to reduce carbon emissions from council activities by 40% by 2020 from our 2005/6 baseline		
Justification: we have adopted this longer term aspiration to help us continue the journey to reducing our carbon emissions by 80% by 2050		
Specific actions	Measure	Timescale
We will explore the feasibility of replacing the (natural gas) CHP unit at our leisure centre with a biomass boiler in 2015	Feasibility study completed and decision made	March 2015
We will explore the opportunities for a large scale renewable energy scheme on council land	Feasibility study completed	March 2014

Commitment: we will encourage households to improve their energy efficiency		
Justification: in Cheltenham in 2010, 43% of carbon emissions was attributed to the domestic sector (DECC data)		
Specific action	Measure	Timescale
We will provide financial support to Severn Wye Energy Agency, in partnership with other local authorities, to help deliver the Green Deal in our area (subject to any necessary Cabinet or Council decisions about Green Deal arrangements)	Energy efficiency of 250 properties improved (including cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, solid wall treatment and heating measures) 100 vulnerable households supported in terms of energy efficiency improvements to their homes.	March 2014

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Commitment: We will use the planning system to promote energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions		
Justification: the council is committed to ensuring that the impact of future development on carbon emissions is minimised		
Specific action	Measure	Timescale
We will establish policies in the Joint Core Strategy/Cheltenham Plan to ensure developments and buildings are designed to use resources efficiently and minimise greenhouse gas emissions	Policies in place	Starting winter 2014/15

Climate resilience

In order to adapt to the risks and opportunities that our changing climate will present, we make the following commitments:

Commitment: we will implement actions contained in our service risk assessments on adapting to climate change		
Justification: we are committed to tackling climate risks related to assets and infrastructure; staff welfare and service delivery; open spaces, biodiversity and heritage; and people		
Specific action(s)	Measure	Timescale
We will explore ways in which we can protect our trees and plant new trees to help Cheltenham adapt to the impacts of climate change	Strategic tree strategy developed	2015
We will continue to review and manage existing wild flower areas and identify new sites for sustainable planting	Number of sites with sustainable planting increased	2014

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We will work towards <i>Bee Guardian Town</i> status	Bee Guardian Town status achieved	2014
We will identify new allotment sites and optimise use of existing sites	Number of allotments increased	2014
We will undertake 'state and condition' surveys for council buildings, which will consider the potential impact of climate change, so that we can address any possible issues	'State and condition' surveys completed	2014
We will extend our approach to flexible working to enable more staff to work remotely	Number of staff with ability to work remotely increased	March 2014
We will ensure adapting to climate change is specifically included in contracts with commissioned and shared services	Issues included in contracts and monitoring mechanism adopted	2013

Commitment: we will build climate resilience into our Joint Core Strategy/Cheltenham Plan		
Justification: the council is committed to setting high standards for developments which ensure that they are resilient to the effects of climate change		
Specific action	Measure	Timescale
We will establish policies in the Joint Core Strategy/Cheltenham Plan that support green infrastructure and sustainable drainage systems and promote green space and biodiversity	Policies/infrastructure delivery plan in place	Starting winter 2014/15