

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 1: What else could we be doing to reduce emissions from our own activities to achieve our 2040 target?

Encourage staff to walk, cycle, use public transport or car-share when possible, or work from home.

Audit the energy-efficiency of council buildings and processes and make improvements where necessary.

Consider the most effective use of council-owned land or land for which the council has management responsibility. I am disappointed that a motion put forward at a council meeting in November 2019 asking the Council to develop a tree strategy with the commitment of planting 10,000 extra trees over the next three years was rejected. The motion also called for the establishment of tree wardens who can map existing mature trees and report on their condition. Publish an ambitious tree strategy as part of the Local Plan, increase the amount of tree-planting in the borough, protect existing trees and monitor their health and condition, and ensure that all current Tree Preservation Orders are retained.

Where feasible, consider not mowing roadside verges, but instead encouraging the growth of pollinator-friendly flowers (see <https://plantlife.love-wildflowers.org.uk/roadvergecampaign>). This would save both money and fuel and benefit biodiversity.

Ensure that there is a joined-up approach in all areas of the council's work and that climate change is considered at all stages of the Local Plan and in all Neighbourhood Plans. I welcome your statement that you will include the implications of climate change through new developments and policies in the Local Plan. The declaration of an "emergency" suggests that climate change and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are issues of paramount importance and must be treated as such. There is no point in declaring an emergency and then continuing with business as usual. Climate change considerations should underpin all aspects of the council's work and policies. The focus of the strategy should be on practical steps that can be taken and policies that can be implemented in Stafford borough, with reference to the wider national and global context. You may wish to follow the work of the recent Citizens' Assembly on climate change held in Birmingham. Another useful reference source is the Zero Carbon Britain report by the Centre for Alternative Technology, which has produced a number of reports looking at practical measures that can be taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

<https://www.cat.org.uk/info-resources/zero-carbon-britain/>

Carbon Commentary by Chris Goodall (<https://www.carboncommentary.com/>) also has useful information.

Don't reinvent the wheel. Study examples of best practice from other councils, such as Oxford City Council

(https://www.oxford.gov.uk/news/article/1275/city_council_responds_to_oxford_citizens_assembly_on_climate_change_and_outlines_19m_climate_emergency_budget)

Consider setting up a Citizens' Assembly on climate change.

Eliminate single-use plastics in council offices and catering services. At the council meeting at which the climate emergency motion was passed, many councillors were drinking from

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single-use plastic cups.

Work with local farmers to encourage initiatives such as tree-planting and hedgerow retention. Adhere to your stated commitment to work with other organisations to preserve and enhance SSSIs and other designated sites.

Issue fines for engine idling, especially OUTSIDE schools. It is becoming a huge problem in the area. 'The Act enforces rule 123 of the Highway Code, which states: \\\"You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road.\\\" Doing this can incur a £20 fixed-penalty fine under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2002'. Reduce business rates to support local businesses...see comment below re shopping locally..

When the BC goes out to tender we should proactively be asking our supply chain what they are doing to positively impact the environment?

Adopting a 'Cloud' first approach - I would also like to see IT strive to hold their said supplier to provide statistics around the energy consumed / savings made. It should also proactively encourage the use of technologies such as Teams etc. to reduce the need to travel into the offices for work or meetings.

Take full advantage of publicised initiatives from Central Gov to get ahead of our rival towns and cities such as <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-trees-to-be-planted-in-englands-towns-and-cities>

We also need to ensure we are actively encouraging best practice in terms of developments

The United Nations International Panel on Climate Change warned in 2018 that we have only a dozen years for global warming to be kept to a maximum of 1.5C. Beyond that even half a degree will significantly worsen the risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people.

In view of this I feel Stafford Borough Council's target date of 2040 to work towards carbon neutrality is too distant and call for this to be revised to 2030 at the latest.

This would be quite a long list and what is the most shocking is you barely mention anything indicating that precisely zero thought has gone into this at even the most basic level. eg Reducing energy consumption but no commitment to zero carbon sources is your best effort? You should immediately transfer responsibility for your policy to a citizens assembly that can come up with real policies.

Plan for neutrality by 2030 to ensure it's achieved by 2040

Ensuring all properties are fully insulated

Only electric vehicles

Travel by public transport promoted, and parking only for electric vehicles

No use of plastics in Council

Planning permission for only houses which are fully insulated and built with either solar panels or ground heat pump systems.

Deter building housing on green belt and in rural locations.

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Incentivise redevelopment of industrial and commercial sites that are no longer in use. Increase size of sites for re-wilding and conservation. Encourage residents to make better use of their green spaces.

Highlight the need for households to reduce their general consumption and energy use in the home.

Composting waste food via a public service facility for those without a compost bin/garden subsidise bus travel

Make people aware of the Co2 emissions and climate heat from BBQs

Discourage flying for holidays - the emissions from air travel, not just CO₂, are emitted via this transport eg (nitrous oxide) and are implicated in global heating/greenhouse effect pollution

Encourage fast food outlets to offer financial incentives for customers to bring their own take away cups/bottles/take away carriers (this will ALSO the terrible litter pollution in town and along the roadsides

Encourage parents to facilitate children's walking to school

Introduce a park and ride into town

More education in schools around damage of plastic in the environment and how litter gets into our waterways and this goes into the sea and is killing sea animals though ingested plastic.

More education around litter - unsightly but also killing wildlife

The Borough Council should be considering every programme and activity that it undertakes from the perspective of environmental impact. All public buildings and BC offices should be assessed for energy and water use and waste mitigation. Further development of alternative energy sources should be undertaken, such as more solar PV installations. There are now 100% green energy suppliers (such as Good Energy) and the BC should examine feasibility of adopting such a supplier. Green travel and transport for staff relies, as for everyone else, on availability of alternatives to car use (see below); the BC should also seek to ensure that, where car use is unavoidable, employees have ready access to charging points at work for electric vehicles.

On the matter of recycling, the proposed introduction of charges for green waste recycling is a very regrettable retrograde step: it will discourage households from maintaining high-density garden habitats which act as carbon sinks; encourage mixing green waste with landfill rubbish, increasing CH₄ emissions from landfill sites; encourage creation of yet more hard-surface drives and gardens, increasing flood risk, and limit the value of gardens as wildlife habitats.

Given the huge amount of new housing being built around Stafford Borough, probably the

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single biggest contribution to reducing emissions would be enforcement of stricter environmental regulation in this area. I realise that this is dictated to a large degree by central government, but all LAs should be campaigning to raise the bar in this aspect.

Stop wasting public funds on your fake climate change emergency nonsense.

How can you promote green travel without committing to significant investment in cycling? Every new road and all existing arterial routes need a dedicated and separate cycle path suitable for all to use, even the youngest. If it impinges on car users then so be it. Your constant focus on a strategy that encourages car use because there is no suitable alternative belongs in the 1990s. Also a decent forward thinking council would ensure the bus service was fit for purpose which you have spectacularly failed to do by continually cutting subsidies and allowing bus passengers to be treated like second class citizens. Bus stops with no weather protection (open fronted), no bus station etc. A proper joined up non car travel plan is needed, preferably by someone who has to walk and cycle everywhere and uses the bus so who has a clue!

Trees. I understand that this council has a cut them all down policy, but this has to change. There are hundreds and hundreds of places in this Borough that could support trees yet all you do is cut them down. You know we need them to keep us alive? I can't think of a single place where you have planted proper varieties of trees that will grow in to large environment protecting specimens. I can think of plenty of places you have destroyed and vandalised wonder full old trees for absolutely no legitimate reason. So, plant trees, lots of trees, everywhere. Be nice for this council to leave a positive legacy for a change

Finally ensure you protect our green spaces. The constant chipping away and infill combined with the massive number of new houses is saddening. Where in the plans is a new Rowley Park type space to provide recreation for all these new residents?

Stafford has become a car based anti-environmental place to live. Please focus on quality of life rather than costs. Does it occur to you that reduced car usage would actually save you money on road repairs? And believe me our roads need repairing!

Overall this strategy isn't fit for purpose and appears to be just a tick box exercise.

Go paperless wherever possible

Plant decorative planters around town with perennial plants

Utilise solar panels for energy on your buildings

Plan to supply only EV cars via the council lease scheme by 2024. Require taxis within Stafford District to be either EV or hybrid.

When services are put out to tender indicate that providers must be able to demonstrate that they are actively engaged in transitioning to green alternatives.

Please greatly reduce the pollarding of street trees. On John Avery Drive trees that were pollarded last year have just been done again! If they don't have leaves they take in as much co2 or produce oxygen. They look dreadful and distorted. They are not providing wellbeing as fully mature trees should. This needs a major rethink. Why should we have to

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put up with the borough council etc taking our trees and increasing air pollution. Why are communities and individuals being ignored when they object? SBC are too quick to give permission to fell and pollard are mature trees. XX. XX will be severely damaged environmentally by HS2. Trees and hedges will be ripped out without a second thought for anyone here, let alone the poor wildlife. We have bats, owls and great crested newts.

Banning single use plastics
Providing bus passes for staff

Point 2:10 on your plan you have written engage with partners to discuss tree planning and also carbon offsetting but have failed to include the Forestry Commission who are the governments experts in Forestry and Tree planting - not Natural England.

10% green energy is not enough. You should target 75% carbon-free fuel by 2025, with only the clearest most obvious needs (eg heavy trucks, near-end-of-life equipment) continuing longer. Unless you take the lead and encourage the economics locally, how can you expect others?

Use more technology to catch fly-tippers. Remove the charges at recycling centres, so that people are less inclined to dump waste elsewhere. Produce a recycling life-cycle document which shows what is recycled and where it goes (hopefully not just to the huge dumps in third world countries).

Offer ability to opt-out of the paperwork sent each year with the council tax bill (electronic delivery).

Look into ways of more efficient lighting and heating for council owned buildings. Work with the county council, town council and parish councils to offer support to communities who want to invest in micro-generation schemes.

Offer Improve rural public transport.

Ensure that ALL refuse lorries have the compartments to accept small electrical items for recycling (oddly the recycling lorry does not have them!).

Encourage car sharing for example - lower charges on long-stay car parks where more than one person in the vehicle!

Collecting food waste!! We need to be ready for the up and coming legislation in 2023. There is no talk of food waste implementing in the near future. Why? Optimising routes for refuse rounds to minimise carbon footprint. Looking at alternatives such as biodiesel for your fleet - it can be done! Looking at more sustainable ways of heating your offices, biomass boilers, encouraging local businesses to do the same and offering guidance on how they can be more sustainable. Doing the same for local residents too.

Improve public transport to make it reliable, regular & affordable for all living within Stone & surrounding villages - especially for school children. This will alleviate rush hour traffic. Sort the roads out eg car share lanes on the A34?? I'd encourage school children to cycle if there were safe cycle routes too but it is not safe on the Stone oneway system!

Fund schools so they can promote sustainable methods like lights, water supplies, drainage & waste both food & general. Recycle this!!

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Do more to help households recycle and fund and provide electric car charging points in town. Car parking should be free or at a lower cost - you want people in the town, right?? Help local businesses to reduce the use of plastic & use totally locally products from staffordshire. Promote Totally Locally just as Leek, Ludlow & Bridgenorth do. Encourage local produce to be in supermarkets too. Clean up streams & rivers - The Fillybrook behind Miller's Reach/Stone industrial estate runs bright red/purple at times due to chemicals. Do not build on green spaces such as Tillkng Drive!! This us a devastating loss to those living in the town & the local ecosystems!!!! Instead, renovate the Care Home by the River - there's one in place already empty - why remove precious land!??

Not just 'educate young people' but 'educate older generations'!! The latter seem to be the slowest to respond but have more power to make changes to help!

You've not said how you're going to reduce/promote the things above.

Look at Scandinavia's example <https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/sweden.se/nature/the-swedish-recycling-revolution/amp/>

Transport now accounts for 26 per cent of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions, compared to 25 per cent coming from energy supplies. The main sources were petrol and diesel cars. An integrated transport system is required to revolutionise the way we travel especially to and from work. This includes introducing car clubs to towns and villages, more direct buses, more frequent trains to and from stone station, pedestrianizing town centres, considering electric tram systems in town centres. People should be able to use stone train station to travel to work in Stafford and stoke and further afield but they only run once an hour.

2 key causes of climate change exist globally:

1 - continued rainforest deforestation particularly in Indonesia, to cater for illegal palm-olive plantations and conglomerate farming.

2 - China continuing to promote coal fired power stations.

How does the council propose managing their consumption of services/products from China or large scale conglomerates?

More travel share schemes to reduce cars

Revise the feeble 'work towards' 2040 target to a more robust 2030 target for net zero emissions. This is an emergency after all, and many other councils have adopted this target!! Do you need the entire town of Stafford to be inundated before you acknowledge the gravity of the situation? The Action Plan should be in place by autumn 2020, not delayed until end of 2021.

Instate interim targets to be met every 2 years.

Appoint a named senior leader or a sustainability officer with the power to coordinate and lead all actions in the strategy.

Commit sufficient resources and personnel, including extra Tree Officers and Planning Officers. The current team are already overwhelmed with housing and other existing development proposals. Lobby central government for more resources.

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Provide all council officers and members with 'carbon literacy' and sustainability training; this is now common in many organisations, e.g. Keele University.

Strengthen Council procurement policies to make carbon costing and sustainability criteria paramount in tendering by suppliers.

Divest any Council pension funds and investments in fossil fuel industries.

Prioritize electric or hydrogen-powered vehicles when replacing Council fleet vehicles. Change the Mayoral car for an EV. Install more EV charge points on Council property.

Incentivise car sharing and use of public transport or bikes for Council employees, with incentives financed by workplace parking charges.

Reduce emphasis on economic growth in Local Plan, which fuels climate change. Promote tree planting and wilding of Council-managed land where appropriate.

Facilitate large-scale installation of solar PV on commercial buildings for charging electric vehicles, e.g. by joining forces with Big Solar Co-op (<https://bigsolar.coop/>)

Provide more resources for the Eco Schools network to encourage young people to be part of the strategy

Stafford Borough Council Climate Change Strategy Consultation: February 2020
Response of XX

CC2 In response to the climate emergency resolution of the council we would like the council

- a) to develop a Climate Change Action Plan to be signed by all parties involved (XX).
- b) to work to a 2030 reference date rather than 2040, especially in reference to the Council's own carbon footprint.
- c) to allocate adequate resources and staffing for implementing the Action Plan
- d) to name a cabinet member and lead officer for implementation.
- e) to invite local parish councils to draw up local climate change strategies. (2.1)
- f) to shrink all timescales for action
- g) to reduce emphasis on economic growth which fuels climate change.

2.9 - 10 Our proposals are:

Council land for carbon offsetting: double tree cover by 2030.

(Note that this is not a one off – we might need to repeat the planting programme every decade.

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Enhance the Green Network

Lobby the County Council for major tree replanting alongside the M6 to replace felling.

Lobby Network Rail to plant 4 trees for every one felled alongside rail routes and HS2.

Promote treeplanting by landowners; lobby County Co for roadside trees.

Replace every council tree and trees felled on development sites by 4 saplings somewhere in the Borough.

2.10.4 Planning approvals should contribute to carbon neutral community

- a) by insisting on affordable housing being 30% (affordable housing is usually smaller and therefore less carbon intensive.
- b) use compulsory purchase powers where developers claim non viability to reduce land costs to enable developers to deliver this viably.

2.12 Reintroduce XX.

CC3.1 Reduce timescale of developing procurement policy to 6 months.

3.2 Reintroduce XX and work alongside XX to promote environmental sustainability.

Support XX financially as in the past – (getting over 200,000 hits a year but folding due to lack of funds and willing partners)

Generate extra low carbon Communities in the Borough.

Have serious anti flooding policy involving planting, land management and no permissions in the flood plain.

3.3 Mitigate rather than adapt to climate change.

Action Plan by Autumn 2020. Much more urgency needed.

General: encourage solar gain and high insulation standards for new housing.

Study Friends of the Earth National Action Plan and adopt as many of the proposals as possible.

Eg

- 1 Rate all council decisions on how they support climate neutrality, clean air, nature conservation
- 2 Bi annual reports on progress in meeting targets
- 4 Set interim and measurable targets re greenhouse gases and nature restoration.
- 7 Workplace carparking levy
- 11 Flooding issues: prioritize
- 12 Vulnerable communities and elderly: ensure non computer people are heard.
- 13 Insulate all council owned properties well.
- 14 lobby for energy companies to have insulation policies for vulnerable customers
- 16/18 require near Passiv haus energy standards for new properties.
- 20 Lots of electric vehicle charging points
- 21 Lobby County for protected cycling routes

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- 22 Move council fleet to electric and lobby county similarly
- 23 cheaper parking for electric cars
- 28 Manage developments to reduce need for car. (ie reintroduce and enforce all developments (ie new dwellings) to be within 5 minutes walk of a potential bus route. This was SBC policy in the past but not enforced and would require through routes. All developments should be within walking distances of services where possible – doctors, shops, pharmacies, public meeting room – could be from church social club etc.)
- 29 All areas are suitable for PV, solar thermal and air source heat pumps and favourable solar orientation used where feasible.
- 30 LED street lights should be warm white rather than daylight spectrum to help wildlife and daylight lighting not permitted for private floodlighting.
- 33 If it becomes financially feasible, require/subsidize storage of surplus renewable energy.
- 34 Divest pension funds and other investments from fossil fuels.
- 39 Promote community sharing, repair and reuse.
- 43 Support SMEs to access funds and expertise to reduce carbon pollution
- 47 Reduce pesticide and herbicide use on verges.
- 49 In partnership with the XX, protect hedgerows for birdlife and verges for rarer species.

With a little imagination, there are immediate things that you can do as a start, for instance:

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- 2.1 All reports to officers, committees and council to include a climate change impact assessment;
- 2.2 Paperless reports between officers and to committees and council;
- 2.3 Increase your use of green energy. 10% is very low;
- 2.4 Change the means of heating your offices from gas to a carbon neutral source for instance air source heat pumps;
- 2.5 Look at the use of electricity in your buildings – increase the use of low energy lighting, movement sensors so that lights are not on continuously, turn off all lighting out of office hours. Make sure all but essential equipment is turned off outside of business hours and nothing is left on standby;
- 2.6 Insulate your offices and replace the single glazing;
- 2.7 Ban all single use plastic with immediate effect;
- 2.8 Ensure that your offices are recycling all your own recyclable waste;
- 2.9 Commit to all electric vehicle fleet by 2025 latest;
- 2.10 Source locally to cut down on transport

The Council's other Activities

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3.1 1000 acres of park and open space – establish planting to encourage insects and wildlife; rewild areas and exclude humans and dogs so that they become a sanctuary; use land as tree/shrub nurseries to provide native saplings for planting. Friends of the Earth state that Stafford has 10 – 20% tree cover which seems very low given the rural nature of the borough. Investigate whether there is land owned or controlled by the council which can be planted with trees or shrubs which support insect and bird life;

3.2 You state that 50% of household waste is reused, recycled or composted. Friends of the Earth state that you should aim for 70% by 2025. Consider a separate collection of food waste;

3.3 Encourage local supermarkets and shops to cut down on plastic packaging, run a league table, name and shame;

3.4 Litter collection – encourage local communities by providing the equipment and operating a collection service. Finance a publicity campaign particularly aimed at drivers (by posters in your car parks) to stop the littering of our roads and communities particularly in the countryside. All dropped litter, cigarette butts and plastic potentially ends up in our oceans;

3.5 Provide more electricity charging points for vehicles; provide secure parking for bikes;

3.6 Motion sensors on lighting in car parks and similar public areas.

4. Other areas to Consider

4.1 Use existing powers and if they do not allow, petition Government for additional powers to: -

4.2 Require all taxi vehicles to be electric by 2022 or they will not be licenced;

4.3 Require bus companies to use electric buses within the borough;

4.4 Give incentives (through planning control, Council Tax) to enterprises developing carbon capture; energy storage and battery technology; building heat capture and renewable energy equipment to locate to Stafford Borough. (Added benefit of additional employment);

4.5 Similarly, give support to local renewable power projects, wind and solar farms and local community renewable power initiatives;

4.6 Build into the Local Plan and enforce through planning control, a requirement for all new development whether residential or otherwise to be carbon neutral by 2022. Give fair warning immediately.

4.7 Require developers to bring forward for development, land which has been banked in the urban areas before extending new development into the countryside. New build in the countryside means more vehicle use and less land available for carbon capture; food production, and crop production of plastic substitutes e.g. hemp;

4.8 Friends of the Earth state that only 38% of Stafford homes are properly insulated. Encourage projects to improve this by campaigning, funding and advertising.

•Improve how the council involves the public in it's decision making processes. •

Retrofit all council owned properties with high levels of insulation.

•Help energy companies to target the support around home insulation which they are required to give to the people in the borough who need it most. This could be done through

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information sharing with housing benefit recipients. •

Deliver a rapid transition to an all electric fleet of council vehicles.

•Include climate impact in all procurement decisions over a specific cost –provision for deliveries via electric vehicles and embedded carbon in the production process to be considered in comparing tenders.

•Food options –plant based, local, sustainably sourced –a clear road map for both literacy, and rolling out of more sustainable food choices

•Divest council investments from any fossil fuel based investments and move them into ecologically sound investments.

•The plan includes reducing the carbon impact of staff travel –this is something which may well be best delivered through some sort of “carbon literacy training” if the local council can work to get the this type of training to market as soon as possible then it is something which could not only deliver CO2 savings but develop an income stream for the council.challenges which the climate emergency presents us.

"Include a column in the CC plan to indicate if the milestone /target has been met and identify what will happen if target is not met.

Explain how we are working with local patrnrs and what the BC is taking the lead on and set transparent targets so that success is measurable.

Explain how the BC will work with the CC to increase bus routes/service to rural areas, extend cycle ways, reduce car use near around our schools, establish a net work of electric charge points for cars. I know these are CC responsibilities but within local planning how will BC and CC be seen to work collaboratively.

Support where possible"

"XX welcomes the draft climate change strategy/action plan. We would encourage the Borough Council to maximise opportunities to utilise nature-based solutions as far as possible in tackling the climate crisis and to realise the multiple benefits these solutions provide, including reversing the decline of biodiversity and improving health and wellbeing of local communities.

XX welcomes the importance the strategy places on engaging with other stakeholders to embed climate change, especially working with the LEP. Therefore, we would encourage the Council to fully recognise nature-based solutions within their own climate change strategy and to use every opportunity to influence other strategies and plans to do the same, to promote the delivery of nature-based solutions across Staffordshire.

The Local Plan needs to fully address the role of sustainable urban drainage, in addition to green infrastructure and habitat management already identified.

XX welcomes the reintroduction of the XX as we believe we need many more people to care about nature. As XX, we want to ensure that more children and young people in XX wildlife and wild places and understand how the natural environment contributes to their well-being and want to help protect and restore it. It is important that Council continues to support this network and provides resources for environmental initiatives to be realised as part of a comprehensive climate change strategy.

We welcome the recognition in the strategy for the important role green infrastructure and diverse ecological assets play to adapt and mitigate climate change. We would encourage

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the strategy to fully recognise the creation of new habitats is also critical but we must stress the importance of using nature recovery network evidence in the development of these plans, to ensure we get comprehensive natural solutions, to tackle multiple challenges simultaneously i.e. We need the right trees, in the right places.

Installation of renewable energy infrastructure and the electrification of transport networks, are incredibly important but the strategy must also fully recognise the important role green and blue infrastructure also plays, as it provides a vital opportunity to tackle other urban challenges like air quality, flood water management, overheating in urban areas and climate change adaptation. Along with it a vital contribution to improving health and wellbeing, quality of life and inward investment.

The Council in seeking to refresh the climate change adaption strategy must include nature-based solutions, including natural flood management opportunities and make full reference to the evidence provided in the nature recovery network map.

In undertaking a future comprehensive risk-based assessment account must be taken to cascades that are likely to arise in an ever-changing climate, ie. multiple impacts arising, in quick succession, these occurring with an increased frequency over time and increasing severity. Many previous risk assessments have taken individual climate change impacts, occurring individually to assess risk. But as recent flooding events have highlighted, increasingly multiple serve events, in quick succession, are becoming increasingly frequent. In reporting progress more emphasis should be given to action the Council will take if it becomes apparent that actions are not being progressed before scheduled reporting is due, delivery is not adequate or climate risk assessments show a greater need for action in specific areas more rapidly.

Provisions for electric vehicles: investment in charging infrastructure within the and around the town, current offering is laughable. Incentivise electric car ownership eg. Free parking in municipal car park.

PV- installation of PV on municipal buildings to assist in powering said buildings as well as returning to grid surplus energy generated over the weekend. Offer local grants or assistance to commercial properties to do likewise and utilise the huge amount of factory roofing available in Stafford.

Weekly recycling collections: the bi-weekly collection simply does not assist a large family in reaching potential in recycling. XX throw some recycling into my green bin as I'm usually at blue bin capacity after 9-10 days. Locally I know of households larger X that simply fill their blue bin in a week then dump everything else into green. A waste.

Forestry- plant more trees and stop cutting down what we have! The decision to remove substantial trees on the A518 is moronic. XX see no evidence around Stafford of investment in planting which not only could offset carbon but massively increase time of water permeation through the soil and into the watercourse

Initiating a tree-planting initiative.

The plan is welcome, however, it lacks a level of urgency which is needed. There are a lot of suggestions and possibilities, but very few firm commitments to take action. The target date of 2040 is, by the terms set out in the consultation document, too late, and should be set to a much earlier date of 2030.

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There is no indication that any funding is to be allocated for implementing this programme. Adequate funding and staffing are essential.

The borough council is tasked in a number of duties with supporting and protecting the most vulnerable people in our community. Action on climate change cannot be used as an opportunity to cut funding to support those who need it. There should be no detriment to the most vulnerable people in our borough from any action taken to mitigate climate change. The borough council taking action on the climate cannot be used as a reason for making cuts in other essential services which people rely on.

The plan sets out the need to establish a baseline of carbon usage in order to work towards reduction and mitigation over time. This is an important part of the process and is welcome. However, the plan doesn't set out the pace at which this needs to happen. The action to deliver cuts in emissions must be front loaded in these timescales. The most significant use areas being reduced first so that the more complex changes required can be given time in the later parts.

The measurement and milestone setting process is an absolutely essential part of the overall process, and the council should be looking to get support from external agencies on this.

The plans do not discuss the overall political ownership of action on climate change. It is important that there is a member of the Borough Council Cabinet who will act as a climate champion and publish a twice yearly independently audited report on the progress in meeting the climate change targets, and if they are not met, outline why not.

Addressing the climate emergency should become an intrinsic part of the council decision making process. Where there are decisions being made, the papers which outline the proposals should include the overall climate impact of the proposed activity, and where this potentially increases the carbon emissions what action will be taken to offset this.

Beyond these broad principle-based approaches which need embedding in the overall plan, there are a number of specific areas where the plan can be expanded to greater address the challenges which the climate emergency presents us.

Bring the target date forward to 2030

Ensure all new builds are ecologically viable and carbon neutral

We appreciate the previous work you have done over the years regarding climate change and other environmental issues, such as installing a comprehensive solar photo-voltaic (PV) scheme on the civic centre roof, implementing a pollinator strategy and supporting parish councils to consider flood risk and sustainable energy in their Neighbourhood Plans.

The countryside, X XX X protect, has a role in tackling climate change. Whilst wider agricultural policy is mostly subject to national and international policy, the borough council could aim to work with local farmers to encourage initiatives such as tree-planting and hedgerow retention.

We welcome the borough council's stated commitment to work with other organisations to preserve and enhance SSSIs and other designated sites.

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Question 1: What else could we be doing to reduce emissions from our own activities to achieve our 2040 target?

We reiterate XX of protecting the green belt and greenfield land, and prioritising suitable brownfield land, such as the former Alstom factory on Lichfield Road, for development. The Empty Homes Strategy should continue to work to bring such properties back into residential use. The brownfield register should be kept up-to-date to ensure that all potential sites are listed.

Consider the most effective use of council-owned land or land for which the council has management responsibility. XX is disappointed that a motion put forward at a council meeting in November 2019 asking the Council to develop a tree strategy with the commitment of planting 10,000 extra trees over the next three years was rejected. The motion also called for the establishment of tree wardens who can map existing mature trees and report on their condition. We urge you to publish an ambitious tree strategy as part of the Local Plan, increase the amount of tree-planting in the borough, protect existing trees and monitor their health and condition, and ensure that all current Tree Preservation Orders are retained.

Where feasible, consider not mowing roadside verges, but instead encouraging the growth of pollinator-friendly flowers (see <https://plantlife.love-wildflowers.org.uk/roadvergecampaign>). This would save both money and fuel and benefit biodiversity.

Ensure that there is a joined-up approach in all areas of the council's work and that climate change is considered at all stages of the Local Plan and in all Neighbourhood Plans. We welcome your statement that you will include the implications of climate change through new developments and policies in the Local Plan. The declaration of an "emergency" suggests that climate change and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are issues of paramount importance and must be treated as such. There is no point in declaring an emergency and then continuing with business as usual. Climate change considerations should underpin all aspects of the council's work and policies. The focus of the strategy should be on practical steps that can be taken and policies that can be implemented in Stafford borough, with reference to the wider national and global context.

Consider appointing a paid member of staff to oversee climate-related initiatives. Encourage staff to walk, cycle, use public transport or car-share when possible, or work from home.

Consider setting up a Citizens' Assembly on climate change.

A rethink of how we use our high streets may be needed as the growth of online shopping looks set to continue. We would support further residential development in and around the high street, which could ease pressure on the countryside.

Eliminate single-use plastics in council offices and catering services.

Use less paper and stop duplication of documents.

The target for zero emissions should be 2032 not 2040. See CC3: Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 1: What else could we be doing to reduce emissions from our own activities to achieve our 2040 target?

To this end all SBC policy levers available should be used as a priority, and then quantify the magnitude of the emissions reduction opportunity. Then consider more approaches and incentives for local authorities to act, and how national government can support local action.

Plans should include a high level ambition for emissions reduction (e.g. 40% reduction across buildings, surface transport and waste by 2025 relative to 2020 levels).

The Climate Change Act requires that SBC report annually to Parliament on progress meeting carbon budgets. This report must be made public annually through local media and on the SBC website so that the public are kept informed of progress

Establish a citizens assembly to monitor progress on reducing carbon emissions and advise how the SBC can speed up reductions with a target of 2032 and to inform action that leads up to the annual to Parliament.

Provide speakers and workshops in all local primary and secondary schools. Survey young people in schools for their ideas on how to achieve carbon neutrality.

Encourage a reduction in traffic and carbon emissions on roads adjoining schools.

SBC must be a role model in its own estate emissions and operations

Provide grants for installation of solar panels on existing buildings

The SBC Gypsy Caravan site in Glover street has been shamefully neglected for many years and needs to be refurbished and re-opened so that GRT families and individuals have a place to stay for medium and long term. Also open a transit site. Provide flood protection if necessary and solar panels on the sites to provide clean energy. Do this instead of moving GRT families on to other boroughs and renege on SBC's responsibilities to our GRT citizens.

Establish benchmark levels for the scale of ambition that SBC have set themselves, and the possible approaches to deliver that ambition and how this would contribute to the national carbon budgets.

There is currently a significant risk that SBC will not develop and implement a sufficiently ambitious low-carbon plan, given the highly constrained fiscal situation. In order to mitigate this, and the associated risk for meeting national carbon budgets, SBC should demand that the Government provide additional funding (e.g. for local authorities to be Green Deal providers/ partners, and to roll out sustainable travel programmes) and/or introducing a statutory duty for local authorities to develop and implement low-carbon plans.

For a start scrap the 2040 target and make it 2025. 2040 is much too late.

Review your policy on trees there have been lots cut down in Stafford including the ancient oak on the 518 near Haughton.

A strongly enforced speed limit

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

The climate-friendly option needs to be feasible if behavioural change is to occur. For example, people are unlikely to make a modal shift to public transport if buses are unreliable, infrequent and/or expensive.

Providing free car-parking on selected dates encourages driving and feeds into the perception that the high street will not thrive without high levels of car use. Why not work with the county council to have free bus travel on selected dates as well? Whilst bus services may be the remit of the county rather than borough council, any measures to improve transport in rural areas would be welcome.

The National Travel Attitudes Study found that 74% of those surveyed agreed that "everyone should reduce how much they use their motor vehicles in urban areas like cities or towns, for the sake of public health". However much they may wish to use them, buses will not be a viable option for many if the service is unreliable, infrequent or expensive. Furthermore, according to the 2011 census, 17.5% of households in Stafford Borough do not have access to a car. Looking ahead to the future, an increasing number of UK cities are banning cars from the city centre to reduce pollution and congestion, or are considering doing so.

The ONS reports that in 2014, more than 40% of people surveyed used cars for journeys of less than two miles, a distance that could be easily walked or cycled by most people (the growth in the sale of e-bikes means that hills and age are not necessarily the impediments they once were). However, cycling is often not an attractive proposition because of safety concerns. With some exceptions, the cycle lanes in Stafford Borough are stop-start in nature and often not segregated from traffic; in many places there are no cycle lanes at all. The cycle lane on Tixall Road is particularly bad, as cars are allowed to park in it. This makes it more dangerous as cyclists need to pull out into traffic when the lane is blocked by cars. On the other side of the road, the lane is marked by an unbroken white line on the pavement, but is frequently obstructed by parked cars. In Seville, cycling rates increased 11-fold when the city built a network of connected, segregated cycle lanes (see <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2015/jan/28/seville-cycling-capital-southern-europe-bike-lanes>).

Many pupils are driven to school despite living within easy walking distance. Could the borough council provide additional funding for schools to encourage active travel, such as covered shelters for bicycles and scooters?

Consider starting a scheme to provide training and support to encourage more people to cycle, along the lines of Bike Belles in York. <https://yorkbikebelles.community/>

Many new housing developments are either planned or underway in Stafford Borough. Pressure needs to be put on developers to ensure that the new dwellings are constructed to the highest possible standards of energy efficiency, ideally incorporating solar panels or PV cells. XX pleased to note that the council has updated its associated action plan in

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

accordance with guidance issued under HECA (the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995). X welcome the commitment to work in partnership with a specialist energy agency to tackle a number of issues including cold homes, fuel poverty and carbon emissions. Could an audit of all council-owned housing stock be carried out to assess its energy efficiency and to make necessary improvements, such as adding extra insulation?

There will also need to be a massive increase in the number of charging points for electric vehicles.

Could you launch a Citizens' Assembly on climate change?

Encourage parents to WALK to school with their children. Make it clear that fines will be issued for engine idling.

XX encourage the council to focus on improving public spaces and advocate homes to encourage more planting of perennials etc. to have a greener and more environmentally favoured

Also encourage the use of public transport and walking to work etc.

Encourage more cycling and cycling infrastructure. Build more wind turbines. Encourage a move away from animal agriculture.

Localisation. Basic Income for all. End the vile right of the rich to pollute and exploit the world at the expense of people and planet.

Increasing charges for parking. Subsidising use of buses instead of free parking on some Saturdays.

Using their green spaces more effectively. Encouraging cultivation of larger plant life or, domestically, growing own fruit and veg.

Orchestrate forums to share initiatives that are working at parish level.

Share transport

Walk/cycle to school or work or to the shops

Encourage the cultivation of green spaces, especially wildflowers and bee food flowers instead of concreting their outside spaces.

Have fewer children

Don't fly

The key to enabling and supporting almost all these activities is, I believe, a co-ordinated response that depends on thinking across the community – involving elected representatives (Borough, County, Parish councils, for example), schools, volunteer groups, LA agencies (e.g. Streetscene), businesses of all sizes etc. - and individuals. Many of the most pressing issues (e.g. transport systems) are not addressed effectively because a multiplicity of agencies is involved. Local communities need to see that the threat of climate change and its consequences is being addressed in a coherent and co-ordinated way, and the Borough Council should be well placed to facilitate this. More consultation – not merely through online forms that will probably come to the attention of an already-engaged few – is essential: perhaps councillors could convene groups of residents in their wards to highlight problems and discuss opportunities and solutions – i.e. actively promote

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

community action.
What about work to support people NOT in fuel poverty, in the "able to pay" category who want to get involved in improving the energy efficiency of their homes?
They can't because the majority of them understand that carbon emission has been made out to be a boogie man and that carbon levels in the atmosphere are nowhere near dangerous levels.
Make businesses recycle everything, most of them don't because of the cost. Levy a tax on fast food outlets and use it to clean up the constant flow of detritus they spew on to our streets Sponsor a tree if they plant one/some?
By being given access to free or subsidised resources to help achieve this like your compost bin initiative Stafford is late in adopting the domestic food waste recycling system that other councils use Better advertising
Provision of better footpaths and safe cycleways that make travel by foot or cycle, or maybe EV scooter, both inviting and safe for people of all ages.
They need to be listened to. Not just have a box ticking paper exercise.
Encourage businesses to encourage workers to use public transport
By providing adequate accessibility to Waste management and recycling, offering partnerships with businesses who use brown field land for house building, or regenerating brown field. Encourage landscaping and adequate mitigation of loss of habitat in new house building schemes etc.
Financially support social housing groups to replace all fuel-based heating schemes in homes with carbon-neutral schemes, with a date fr when that can practically start (based on technology) and by replacing the older units first. Couple this with your appendix item 2.5 - add an item to ensure hose least able to make the change can benefit from the latest carbon-free technology.
Offer rebate on business rates for businesses who implement solar panels, wind turbines and other forms of renewable energy. Look to work with companies such as Ripple and Radbot to help home owners and social tenants to get access to wind farms and simple forms of automated heating controls to help reduce their impact on the environment. Promote green spaces more - introduce impact on the green environment and green infrastructure as part of the key planning application tests; including asking developers to provide a waste and recycling plan for their own materials and the completed development going forward. Encourage micro-generation - small wind turbines, solar panels etc - make it easier to install within conservation areas. Continue to support Best Kept Village Improve tree surveys to celebrate and protect our older trees and hedgerows.
Guidance, support, advice. Knowledge is power. Helping with local high streets so it encourages people to shop locally. Supporting with recycling services.going a step further

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

and reducing general waste further!! Champions to help guide and help promote sustainable living. .supporting local infrastructure to discourage use of cars where possible. Encouraging communities to try and grow their own vegetables. .

X reduce plastic consumption, use local produce, sustainable energy sources in their buildings etc.

plastic bottle recycling scheme with deposits

People need to be educated. Leaving lights on, cars running when people are sat in them, driving 2 minutes when they could walk, leaving windows open at home with the heating on, recycling at home, knowing what they can and can't recycle, more options with recycling, supermarkets offering fruit and veg without plastic bags or prewrapped, solar panel incentives

make the facilities available e.g. car clubs.

The definition of “carbon neutrality” is unclear - the focus seems to be on carbon produced by combustion engines - with that in mind, financial incentives for electric vehicles not financial penalties for non electric vehicle owners.

However XX about palm-olive products and the profits of conglomerates are more detrimental to climate change than cars.

More information and groups to help support communities to be more green

Lead by example. Educate and inform people about what the Council is doing and why. The Local Plan should have sustainability at its heart, to build in resilience to climate change and help in mitigation and adaptation.

Require new houses to be built to near-Passivhaus standards.

New estates must be designed to maximize passive solar gain, and not profits of house builders. Heat pumps, solar PV, and local energy storage should be incorporated at the design stage.

Houses should have easy connectivity via walking, cycling or bus routes to amenities and services.

Work with parish councils to produce local climate change action plans.

How can communities be supported to achieve carbon neutrality?

Support Repair Cafes (XX).

Support XX Website.

Encourage fill your own container retail outlets.

Lobby for heavy taxation of plastic packaging.

Extend the remit to “Climate Change and Biodiversity Crisis Action Plan”

Raise the bar on building efficiency standards to ‘+19%’ as it being pursued by many authorities in their Local Plan Reviews

- Use ‘Transport for New Homes guidelines’ for new policies on making developments less car dependant and encouraging to walking, cycling and outdoor play.

- Insist on a level of on-site renewable energy generation (‘the Merton Rule’) which would ensure building orientation and ground conditions are used optimally for electricity and possibly heat generation.

- Develop a heating and energy efficiency strategy

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

support where possible, by reducing council tax, improved insulation, installation of solar panels. support measures to reduce food waste
meter water consumption and charge accordingly
Encourage inclusion of plant based menu choices

Ensure all new housing developments (including Burleyfields) have solar panels or similar, as well as nesting bricks installed as part of the spec. and the gardens have hedgehog pathways rather than solid fencing. Public green spaces to have wild flower areas, protected shrub and tree areas and hedges for bird nesting,
XX is calling for all businesses, organisations and local plans and strategies to have far greater ambition in tackling the climate crisis and biodiversity decline by recognising that nature-based solutions, green infrastructure and effective stewardship of natural capital are fundamental to achieving long term social and economic goals. XX participating Local Authorities to develop the mapped evidence base that will support the development and delivery of Climate and Green Infrastructure strategies across the county, influencing and informing decision making and directing the investment opportunity which arises from stewardship of natural capital creation.

As XX, X forging strong links between people and wildlife in their neighbourhoods. Specifically, XX ensure that more people in Staffordshire enjoy wildlife and wild places and understand how the natural environment contributes to their well-being and want to help protect and restore it.

X with educational professionals and other partner organisations to offer opportunities to experience, enjoy and learn about nature while at school. Through XX of nature reserves we also provide extensive volunteering opportunities, which are vitality important to mental health and wellbeing, whilst also achieving conservation outcomes.

It is important that Council fully utilises nature recovery evidence when formulating plans and strategies. The Council must also support environmental education and community engagement activities through resource provision and lobbying for funding for all environmental initiatives to be fully realised as part of a comprehensive climate change strategy.

Stop it with the climate hysteria. Like with Covid 19 the absolute furore kicked up switches everyone off. No, it's not unusual for it to be windy in February. Yes, it has been warm in January before. All this Thunbergism does is drive people away. Add in the communist extremists of XR and the majority won't want anything to do with improving our environment. Completely the opposite!

Link in with organisations such as the woodland trust, English heritage or national trust or Cannock chase forestry. Teach (not preach) people the importance of biomass and bio-diversity. Encourage attitudes to be anti-litter, organise litter picks in areas, take seriously complaints about shoddy bin collection and the spilling of rubbish

Plant trees. We have open grassy areas on the Wildwood Estate on which trees could and should be planted. XX.

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

The involvement of the wider community should be done in the most meaningful way possible. The Borough Council should be using representative citizens assemblies, citizens juries and participatory budgeting as a method for addressing the more contentious issues. These should have clear criteria to ensure that they are not just an echo chamber for

the involved and well off, the most vulnerable residents of the borough must be actively involved.

There needs to be a clear partnership approach with the local the universities, the NHS, the LEP and Sustainability West Midlands (which the council should join) are all local partners who will prove valuable allies. In addition to this, there should be contact with other councils through the LGA to establish what approaches are being taken across the country, and where Stafford can adopt what has worked elsewhere.

There is no provision in any of the proposals for how it will be resourced. There should be a clear indication that climate change will get some funding, and some staffing in order to effectively progress it.

In order to meet the levels of home insulation needed across the country there needs to be 3200 homes every year having their insulation upgraded. In order for home heating to switch away from reliance on fossil fuels, there needs to be 1900 new low carbon heating systems fitted every year in the Stafford Borough area (there are currently only 171 government funded systems in the area.)

Require any housing built on council land to be built to the Passivhaus standard.

A landlord registration scheme would enable improved advice and inspection as well as minimum energy efficiency standards for the private rented sector.

Ensure that building standards have the funding and staffing to properly enforce the rules which exist.

Transport is an area ripe for close cooperation with the County Council, and the planning should identify them as a key partner in delivering this.

Increase the number of EV charging points from 22 to 75 in order to reach 1 charger per 1000 EV's locally. Develop roadmap for increasing this further as EV usage increases.

Develop a roadmap for all taxis licensed in the borough to be electric vehicles.

The Stafford Borough Area currently only produces 17MW of renewable power – bring our area in line with comparable councils, and increase to around 220MW – driven by the borough council through the local plan, as well as facilitating communities to develop energy cooperatives to support this increase in local capacity.

An increase in the tree cover of the local area should be a distinct feature in the local plan which should translate to requirements on planned development in the local area. In addition, the council should be taking a proactive stance in protecting trees, only removing as an absolute last resort. There should be a target of around 25% coverage from the current levels of somewhere between 9% and 15%.

The borough council should aim for the local area to recycle 70% of household waste

use public transport

communal gardens for growing food

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

work from home
cut out single use plastic
encourage employees to car share
have awareness of local wildlife and environment

Commit to working in partnership with organisations such as XX and the XX.

The climate-friendly option needs to be feasible if behavioural change is to occur. For example, people are unlikely to make a modal shift to public transport if buses are unreliable, infrequent and/or expensive.

CPRE and the Campaign for Better Transport have recently published a report into 'transport deserts' and is calling for a dedicated rural transport fund to meet the needs of rural communities. (A transport desert is defined as a town which is inappropriately served by transport in a way that is likely to limit choices and opportunities for the people who live there). <https://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/transport-deserts-report/>

Meanwhile, the National Travel Attitudes Study found that 74% of those surveyed agreed that "everyone should reduce how much they use their motor vehicles in urban areas like cities or towns, for the sake of public health". According to the 2011 census, 17.5% of households in Stafford Borough do not have access to a car. Looking ahead to the future, an increasing number of UK cities are banning cars from the city centre to reduce pollution and congestion, or are considering doing so.

The Office for National Statistics reports that in 2014, more than 40% of people surveyed used cars for journeys of less than two miles, a distance that could be easily walked or cycled by most people (the growth in the sale of e-bikes means that hills and age are not necessarily the impediments they once were). However, cycling is often not an attractive proposition because of safety concerns. With some exceptions, the cycle lanes in Stafford Borough are stop-start in nature and often not segregated from traffic; in many places there are no cycle lanes at all. The cycle lane on Tixall Road is particularly bad, as cars are allowed to park in it. This makes it more dangerous as cyclists need to pull out into traffic when the lane is blocked by cars. On the other side of the road, the lane is marked by an unbroken white line on the pavement, but is frequently obstructed by parked cars. In Seville, cycling rates increased 11-fold when the city built a network of connected, segregated cycle lanes (see <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2015/jan/28/seville-cycling-capital-southern-europe-bike-lanes>).

Consider starting a scheme to provide training and support to encourage more people to cycle, along the lines of Bike Belles in York. <https://yorkbikebelles.community/>

Many new housing developments are either planned or underway in Stafford Borough. Pressure needs to be put on developers to ensure that the new dwellings are constructed to the highest possible standards of energy efficiency, ideally incorporating solar panels or PV cells. XX pleased to note that the council has updated its associated action plan in accordance with guidance issued under HECA (the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995).

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

XX the commitment to work in partnership with a specialist energy agency to tackle a number of issues including cold homes, fuel poverty and carbon emissions. Could an audit of all council-owned housing stock be carried out to assess its energy efficiency and to make necessary improvements, such as adding extra insulation?

There will also need to be a massive increase in the number of charging points for electric vehicles.

Could more land be provided for allotments and community gardens? This would enable more people to grow their own food, thus reducing food miles and packaging, not to mention the associated benefits for physical and mental health.

Nuclear power is the only safe and reliable low carbon energy source. The local plan must make note of this as all other action is meaningless without a green energy grid backing it up.

It would take around 300 sq miles of solar panels to produce the equivalent energy of a 1 sq mile Nuclear site (when it's sunny).

New Local plan have at its centre the climate emergency, achieving carbon neutrality and becoming more sustainable. They should inform how it is communicated to the community. Educate the public with regular reports, public meetings etc on how action on climate change has many local benefits. Remind public that, as well as contributing to national carbon budgets, carbon reduction programmes can bring a range of benefits such as lower energy bills, economic regeneration and creation of local jobs, and improved health. Increasing resilience to climate change risks can result in avoided costs from flood damage to buildings, infrastructure and services, enhanced green spaces and improved health. Actively engage with the Chamber of Commerce to promote sustainable practices in local companies. By engaging with local organisations and businesses Increase SBC's influence on emissions reduction in buildings, surface transport, and waste. Aim to reduce emissions in these sectors by at least 40% in by 2025

Have a role in the residential buildings sector and encourage the implementation of home insulation measures in the context of national energy efficiency programmes. All new homes are required to be zero carbon. The Green Deal and ECO are the key programmes for local authorities to engage with as providers or partners.

Work with developers to make renewable energy projects acceptable to local communities; and plan for infrastructure such as low-carbon district heating networks, green infrastructure and sustainable drainage systems. An extension of flood defences is needed as a matter of urgency.

Encourage the development of a district heating scheme commercially viable, with low-carbon district heating (e.g. supplied by waste-to-energy plants or low-carbon power stations)

Adopt a role in reducing transport emissions through encouraging and promoting sustainable travel programmes (e.g. encouraging 'Smarter Choices' through car clubs, travel plans, cycling infrastructure etc. Also help toward better public transport and promote low-carbon vehicles by encouraging the development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and providing incentives for drivers of low-carbon vehicles.

Parking charges can have an impact on consumer behaviour (e.g. resulting in the

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Question 2: How can communities (including local residents, businesses, and organisations) be encouraged and supported to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

rationalisation of car journeys, car sharing and the purchase of low emission vehicles). Aim for new residential and office developments to be designed to encourage the uptake of sustainable transport options.

Roll out awareness raising programmes to promote waste prevention and sustainable waste management and proper use of separate collection for recycling and food waste, and implementing waste-to-energy schemes.

Encourage XX to XX for further low-carbon retrofit such as loft, cavity, and solid wall insulation and solar panels, boiler replacement. Target households that would most benefit.

As a XX SBC help drive local regeneration plans. SBC can and should set energy efficiency standards for new homes that exceed current building regulations.

SBC has a duty to enforce building regulations. Where standards are not met, SBC has powers to undertake enforcement action.

Become a direct provider or partner to Green Deal providers.

Ensure that energy companies comply with their legal obligation on energy suppliers to deliver emissions reductions to vulnerable and low income groups, and through implementation of solid wall insulation.

Require energy efficiency improvement in return for granting planning permission.

Under Localism Act strengthen financial incentives through introducing differential business rates depending on energy efficiency performance.

A good regular bus service would encourage people not to use cars and use public transport – this must be subsidized by National Government.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 3: If there are any projects that you are aware of in your local community that already contribute to this, please list them here.
Regular Repair Cafés help people fix items they already own, rather than replacing them. XX: reducing food waste by selling surplus food at low prices.
No
None
The community group 'There is no planet B' seek to highlight the environmental issues facing us locally and globally.
yty
Social Supermarket, Stafford Ecological Housing Co-Operative, etc.
Roots Larder. Sustainability matters. Litter Heroes
Eccleshall power supply.
Cycle paths XX the use of Doxey Marshes for the Rugby Club has taken up some valuable flood plain which would otherwise act as a sponge for the water going downstream to the town centre. It seems that the river levels in town keep reaching record highs and XX that we should be valuing the role of Doxey Marshes in preventing flooding in the town centre.
Numerous tree planting initiatives and maintenance and establishment of local nature reserves, such as work undertaken by Staffs Wildlife Trust, Stafford and Stone Green Party and others; community store on Mill Street, which reduces food waste and consequent waste of production resources and mitigates contribution of wasted food to landfill and methane emissions; awareness raising by many groups such as Sustainability Matters; litter collection and disposal by groups (Stafford Litter Heroes) and individuals, with support of Streetscene.
Little or nothing going on on any scale
XX area has people who pick up litter and plant trees, this will have a far greater positive impact on the environment than anything in your silly emergency plan.
None. Stafford is a community project free zone in regard to environmental projects. XX
Na
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust engaged in developing use of canal footpaths. Weston Parish Council would like to investigate possibility of providing walkway and cycle route from, say, Sandon to Shugborough and beyond. A link from Stone to Rugeley could be an important and well used safe route.
None that I know of. Too busy ripping things out!
No
No
Once you embark on a major programme of household heating replacement, this will become a viable option to private households too. Once you have a programme to achieve 75% neutrality in your own premises, business will see how they can do the same.
Best Kept Village and Stone Ramblers - working on improving and maintaining the environment. Local village walks on a monthly basis. Community car service (as there is no public transport in the area).
There is a community group in stone that activity tries to help with the reduction of single

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Question 3: If there are any projects that you are aware of in your local community that already contribute to this, please list them here.
use plastics.
No.
n/a
Na
x
None
Not aware of anything
The Council should work in partnership with other groups and organisations, e.g. Staffordshire Climate Matters network Sustainability Matters X CPRE Wildlife Trust Parish Councils Derrington Way Ahead Plastic-Free Stafford Schools and colleges Universities Chamber of Commerce LEP Other local authorities
The most important thing we can do to mitigate climate change is to operate on the kind of timescales which will allow us to achieve the outcomes outlined in the IPCC report. In light of this the most important change needs to be changing the target date from 2040 to 2030 in the borough councils planning. A change in the target date is important for the activities of the borough council, and for showing leadership to residents in the borough on climate action. If the borough are acting as though there are ten years more than the IPCC have already said we have, then this sends absolutely the wrong message to residents and business.
House of Bread and reduction of food waste. Staffordshire Wildlife Turst educating and sustaining bio-diversity Repair Cafe
None, unfortunately.
XX works extensively across Stafford, XX with a great number of other stakeholders and communities, delivering a wide range of initiatives, XX contribute to the climate change strategy. XX is XX development of XX working with participating XX to XX the mapped evidence base that will support the development and delivery of Climate and Green Infrastructure strategies across the county, influencing and informing decision making and directing the investment opportunity which arise from stewardship of natural capital creation. XX identify the impact of climate change on key indicator species across Staffordshire to inform the creation of appropriate ecological corridors to safeguard biodiversity for the future. XX XXXXXXXXXXXXX to facilitate landscape and conservation land management projects

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Question 3: If there are any projects that you are aware of in your local community that already contribute to this, please list them here.

across Stafford Borough that will contribute to climate change mitigation or adaptation, XXXX. All of which provide ecosystems services, carbon storage and flood management opportunities.

We XX facility in the borough, which works with the XX network we have actively supported for over X years and we are developing a XX hub with the main purpose of education. Through our XX X provide volunteering opportunities which promote mental health and wellbeing, whilst also achieving conservation and climate change outcomes.

The draft strategy acknowledges the partnership work already established between XX. We would welcome further detailed discussion about all our initiatives and those of the community groups we engage with that would be relevant to the Stafford Climate Change Strategy.

N/a

No, but there should be - see above.

Sustainability Matters is running regular repair cafes
 A group in XX is having regular discussions on ways to become more sustainable and facilitating the distribution of non-plastic goods XX parish council has distributed a leaflet on using less plastic designed by Sustainability Matters to all households in the parish
 The Zero Waste Eco Shop runs a recycling scheme for hard to recycle products

no

X Green Arts Festival organised by There is No Planet B! XX awards scheme for local schools in recognition of their environmental and conservation work each year.

XX planted a large number of native trees over the years, often in conjunction with local schools. We are always on the lookout for suitable land where we could plant more trees.

XX organised Green Clean litter-picking events as part of the XX campaign to introduce a Deposit Return Scheme for bottles and cans.

XX Star Count (a citizen science project) to highlight the impact of light pollution, which should be a consideration in planning applications.

Regular Repair Cafés help people fix items they already own, rather than replacing them.

County Food Stores – surplus food is sold at low prices.

Back2Bikes refurbishes bicycles.

Green Drinks in Colwich

Sustainability Matters
 Warmer Holmcroft
 There is No Planet B 's Green Arts Festival
 Stafford Welcomes Refugees
 Churches and Schools of Sanctuary
 Chamber of Commerce Business courses

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 4: As a resident and/or volunteer how can you support your community to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

Involvement in community walking and cycling schemes, promoting active travel to school, tree-planting, growing vegetables, ensuring that all suitable brownfield land is put on the brownfield register to reduce pressure on the countryside. Promoting awareness of climate change and education for children and young people.
By walking. But it would help if you enforced the law on obstructing pavements.
Be planting more, growing own produce, recycling more.
Use bicycle for short journeys. Use a compost bin. Vegan diet. Buy local food where possible. Limit the buying of short term use clothing.
ty
Civil disobedience to defend people and planet from ecocide.
Already have solar panels. Car use nearly zero. Bus use leverely limited by no buses in evenings or on Sundays.
Make informed choices when purchasing food or services. Avoid single use items and make better use of ingredients to avoid waste. Look at installing green energy options at home to negate gas supply for hot water.
Put the above into practice
Resident: reducing household CO2 emissions by: installation of solar PV generation (done); loft insulation (done); use of genuine 100% green energy supplier (done); investigate further alternative energy sources (e.g. heat pump); minimisation of household waste and reduction/reuse/recycling of plastics and other materials; maintaining well-planted garden with healthy soil for carbon absorption and wildlife habitat (ongoing); keep an allotment to provide locally grown and environmentally friendly food source (done). Volunteer: assisting environmental groups with relevant projects (tree planting, wildflower planting), litter collection (encouraging others to be more responsible in avoiding waste and recycling/disposing of waste responsibly); engaging through relevant political and pressure group involvement.
Skills training etc
I won't because it is a nonsense scam.
You should be supporting the community, not me. That's why I pay you so much council tax. Provide the green infrastructure and people will use it. See Manchester and Chris Boardman for further details of how a well-run council provides green transport and prioritises bikes over cars
Recycling where possible
Through engagement with the Parish Council: by purchasing an EV; by making full use of recycling opportunities.
X vegan for over ten years. I buy locally if possible and secondhand furniture etc. X could show others how to reduce their meat intake with good nutritious plant-based food. X upcycle unwanted furniture.
Don't use single use plastics Use public transport not car when possible
X already do what X can and contribute. This survey is about the action plan for the council not myself

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 4: As a resident and/or volunteer how can you support your community to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

You need to start a campaign for 1% for 1° - get a referendum if you have to, or permission from the government - to raise the funds year-on-year for 5 years, to protect them for this project, and to make this really happen, then maintain that budget flat for the following five years to ensure by 2030/31 Stafford can show progress towards your 2040 goal. The results for the borough, its reputation, and the long-term cost savings having done it will be plain for everyone to see.

X already do this - through practical conservation work, and instigating the monthly local village walk.

By using local butchers, recycling but also actively trying to cut down on the amount of packing at source. .again buying locally where possible. Using all available recycling facilities and ensuring good quality material. .

Buying local, walking or using public transport. Reducing plastic & energy consumption.

spread ideas via our community FB page

Na

x

Happy to support in any way I can, what proposals does the council have?

More walking, more car share, more reusing of no longer wanted items - happy to help run an information/ support group

Boycott supermarkets, refuse to work for corporations that trash the planet. Live in an off grid self sufficient eco-community

walk/cycle where possible,
reduce meat consumption
reduce water/food waste
recycle, reuse, repair

Through helping to establish the natural areas outlined above.

As Staffordshire's XX X, our XX X forging strong links between people and wildlife in their neighbourhoods. Specifically, XX enjoy wildlife and wild places and understand how the natural environment contributes to their well-being and want to help protect and restore it, making a vital contribution to tackling climate change.

XX educational professionals and other partner organisations to XX experience, enjoy and learn about nature while at school. XX extensive opportunities for volunteering across Stafford's network of Local Nature Reserves.

XX invested in pv, ultra low energy light bulbs, in the throes of buying an electric car and reducing the amount of air miles X clock up. XX willing to help out with tree and vegetation planting or litter picking

XX solar panels fitted to the roof XX. This is something that everyone could be encouraged to do.

Hopefully by example but also through the Residents Association

encourage use of sustainable products
raise awareness of dangers to climate change
work from home

Please see the responses to earlier questions with regard to promoting walking and cycling.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 4: As a resident and/or volunteer how can you support your community to achieve carbon neutrality and become more sustainable?

Many people, particularly women, do not cycle because they perceive it to be too dangerous.

Ensuring that facilities such as shops, sports facilities, community centres, open spaces and play areas, are located close to communities and new developments, would help reduce car use. A recent report from Matthew Carmona at University College London, which was partly funded by CPRE, concluded that nearly 75% of 142 developments surveyed should not have been given planning permission due to 'mediocre' or 'poor' design, which includes poor provision for walking and cycling.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-51179688>

Climate change may result in increased flooding and hotter summers. People will need support to ensure that their homes are protected from flooding, and elderly people may be particularly vulnerable to heat stress in the summer. Flooding must be a key consideration in any planning application; some of the land allocated for housing in the Local Plan recently experienced a substantial amount of flooding.

If we had Nuclear power, residents wouldn't need to do anything.

As a XX in a number of organisations and XX encourage people to participate in environmentally healthier lifestyles and activities.

I am XX for XX) . SBC has an important in preparing for and adapting to a range of potential climate change impacts across the country. One of the impacts will be an increase in XX. SBC needs to fully support XX and Churches and XX and set an example by becoming a XX.

As a volunteer with XX X workshops supporting XX in Stafford Borough and in schools XX leading workshops to raise awareness of the impact of the climate emergency on mass displacement of people,

As a member of XX for the last XX I have been XX in schools to raise awareness and produce art for the XX.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 5: How could communities be encouraged to participate in environmentally healthier lifestyles?

Please see the responses to earlier questions with regard to promoting walking and cycling. Many people, particularly women, do not cycle because they perceive it to be too dangerous.

Ensuring that facilities such as shops, sports facilities, community centres, open spaces and play areas, are located close to communities and new developments, would help reduce car use. A recent report from Matthew Carmona at University College London concluded that nearly 75% of 142 developments surveyed should not have been given planning permission due to 'mediocre' or 'poor' design, which includes poor provision for walking and cycling. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-51179688>

Climate change may result in increased flooding and hotter summers. People will need support to ensure that their homes are protected from flooding, and elderly people may be particularly vulnerable to heat stress in the summer and so befriending schemes in which people check on their neighbours will need further support and promotion. Flooding must be a key consideration in any planning application; some of the land allocated for housing in the Local Plan recently experienced a substantial amount of flooding. See above responses re. promoting walking and cycling.

Encourage resident to shop locally and buy seasonal produce, rather than driving to Supermarkets and buying food that has been flown half way around the world!

Development of more allotments

Investment in better public transport, investment in cycle routes and infrastructure.

Yt

Stop using your powers to prevent them from doing so!!!!

Charging more for parking. Park and ride schemes. No council parking for employees.

Make alternative/public transport more attractive than car travel. There is some stigma around bus services that they will mean encounters with ASB or that they are unreliable. If operators ran smaller buses on less demanding routes ASB opportunities would be disrupted and it would appeal to older demographics who might be intimidated.

Consider some provision of bus hubs and services away from the west side of town. A hub at the old Uni site or at the Beacon Business Park would be attractive to Police, NHS and industrial workers in the area.

Outside community projects like communal gardens which have fruit and nut trees etc as in the XX project

Cycling to work or school

Encouraging more use of sustainable transport by: proper maintenance of existing cycle routes and ability to enforce provision by penalising car parking on such routes (Example: XX); making road surfaces cycle friendly (Example: XX); proper maintenance of pedestrian routes (Example: XX); ensuring footpaths are available for their intended purpose by: a) preventing car parking across pavements (Example: XX; b) ensuring footpath obstruction caused by blocked drains and consequent flooding is addressed promptly (Examples: XX); encouraging school pupils and parents to walk to school where possible through maintaining footpaths in good condition and through awareness programmes in schools

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 5: How could communities be encouraged to participate in environmentally healthier lifestyles?
<p>(thus also limiting traffic congestion e.g. XX). (I realise that much of the responsibility here lies with the County Council – which is why there is a need for much closer co-operation by all stakeholders in any environmental improvement programmes); integration of transport systems (Example: XX). Perhaps the Borough Council could encourage more direct participation in climate/environment policies by forming a citizens' assembly/consultation group, either on specific issues or to address the whole Strategy and its implementation.</p>
<p>This requires a long term plan with accompanying investment to maintain it. XX does this in the business environment but residents & communities suffer from a lack of attention to this area</p>
<p>Define environmentally healthier please, you are clearly just making up woke buzzwords but have no idea of what you are doing.</p>
<p>If the council stopped allowing building on all our green spaces and football pitches the community might stand a chance. Provide free sports facilities incl swimming. Massive change in cycling and walking provision. Currently it's disjointed and clueless. Would you let your kids cycle to school on the roads in Stafford. I doubt it!</p>
<p>By reinstating funding for smoking cessation services. By providing an area where children can learn to cycle safely in Stafford</p>
<p>This can only happen if the Local Authority leads by example. Employers will not be persuaded to install EV charge points if the Council does not give a clear lead. Recycling will only be encouraged if the Local Authority is completely transparent about what happens to materials collected in the blue bins - many people are sceptical about how their recycling is actually disposed of/ used. If a Local Authority awards contracts to transport schoolchildren on dirty diesel powered buses then why would any resident think that it might be a good idea to consider an alternative to diesel for their own personal transport? When approving plans for new housing development, the council should require that the design must show that it "actively promotes a healthy lifestyle" for the residents who will live there. This will mean that designs will show consideration for the emotional, mental and physical health of residents.</p>
<p>By authorities really taking an interest in them and listening to their views. Advertise the local vegan fairs and any other fairs in sustainability. Help out in monetary or hall space ways.</p>
<p>Separate bike lanes Stop cars using lanes as a car park Encourage support school children being walked to school Stop ALL car parking with in a half mile radius of schools (disabled obviously exempt)</p>
<p>See above</p>
<p>Far better public transport - buses from villages that connect to rail service timetables in Stone and Stafford. A cycling quadrangle XX, from which we can hang spurs to villages in the following ten years. Work with land owners in the countryside to enhance footpaths, even create new permissive paths to create interesting loops with rural pubs. Connect isolated business estates to their nearest towns, to promote walking and cycling at</p>

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 5: How could communities be encouraged to participate in environmentally healthier lifestyles?

lunchtimes. Larger businesses to be encouraged to install showers for employees, especially if on the new cycling quadrangle suggested above. School cycling days, where the whole school spends the day on a long-distance cycle journey exploring their local area (with safety volunteers, parents?).

Provide a means of sharing community initiatives and best practice through the parish councils and parish newsletters.
Improve rural public transport

Grass roots, working with large employers in the area to get them engaged. Schools, colleges, universities..through committees groups, scouts guides etc. But also for the older people in our community who may need assistance giving them help ..

Things need to be simple to follow and normalised! Taxes should be raised for items not sustainable and reduced for those that are, but these need to be accessible like public transport, local produce & plastic.

n/a

Na

has to be linked to income e.g. single use car users charged to enter towns so forced to find alternative ie train.

Full disclosure of food producing organisations that mass-farm or and/or involved with deforestation.

Promotion of local produce.

More walking, more information on what impact their activities have on the environment
More locally sourced food

Promote co-operative and compassionate living instead of ruthless competition.

Hard to do this with limited/poor cycle ways
Reinstate the 'walking bus' for school children
reinstate free bus travel for under 18 to encourage cycling, walking and bus use

Through volunteering to establish the natural areas outlined above, which requires some input from the BC in order to coordinate activities with Streetscene (e.g. reducing grass and shrub cutting, litter picking walks.

Our XX between people and wildlife in their neighbourhoods.
Through XX XX X provide volunteering opportunities which promote mental health and wellbeing, whilst also achieving conservation and climate change outcomes. XX more children and young people in Staffordshire X wildlife and wild places and X how the natural environment contributes to their well-being and want to help protect and restore it.
It is important that Council continues to provide resources for environmental initiatives to be fully realised as part of a comprehensive climate change strategy. The use of planning contributions (S106 income) must be fully utilised to provide natural wellbeing facilities - natural playgrounds, wild areas with good access, performing both biodiversity/carbon resources but also facilities for communities and people.
Investment in good quality, well connected green infrastructure will be vital to ensure people are not only well connected to nature but can maximise the use of sustainable modes of transport and undertake recreational exercise in safe and good quality

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 5: How could communities be encouraged to participate in environmentally healthier lifestyles?

environmental conditions.
<p>Roads- X gave up commuting by cycle partly because staffords roads are so dangerous on two wheels. Crooked bridge road and corporation steet are a joke and the pot hole on tenterbanks XX has never been fixed. XX</p> <p>Allotments surround a lot of housing in Stafford but most plots lay unused. Encourage that 'dig for victory' mentality, promote the exercise allotment work can give. Get people out there.</p> <p>Create rambling trails and create walks in the surrounding countryside. Promote areas like Doxey Marshes as places to visit</p>
By improving public transport, which is very poor in Stafford, and also by giving more encouragement to cycling.
More schemes such as 'I love Littleworth' and the many other schemes run in XX which have had many successes in the past
<p>community gardens</p> <p>shop locally</p> <p>become vegan</p> <p>use sustainable products</p> <p>ensure home is well insulated</p> <p>use green electric</p> <p>install solar panels</p> <p>re use grey water</p>
Please see answer to previous question.
At the moment they could use public transport more.
<p>SBC needs to embark on a very proactive public programme of awareness raising. Communities need to be informed about how SBC policies and their own actions to reduce carbon emissions such as turning down thermostat levels, switching to renewable heat and buying more efficient domestic appliances. Walking to school and work campaigns can improve physical activity in adults and children. Such schemes can , involve children and young people in their local area, and increase levels of independence.</p> <p>All of this can result in the public becoming more aware of the benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in fuel poverty and improved energy affordability through energy efficiency improvements in the residential sector. • Cost savings through energy efficiency improvement in the non-residential sector. • Infrastructure improvements (e.g. sustainable transport options to reduce congestion and improve access to jobs and services). • Development of local skills and job creation (e.g. through insulation programmes). <p>Providing incentives for drivers of low-carbon vehicles. There are opportunities to encourage take-up of electric vehicles and other low-emission conventional vehicles through providing priority parking spaces or free/reduced charge parking,</p> <p>Public buses. SBC to support the purchase of low-carbon buses.</p> <p>SBC lead by example, through the use and purchase of electric and other low-carbon vehicles and by requiring external contractors to use low-carbon vehicles.</p>

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 6: How could you support this?
Participation in voluntary or council-run schemes.
By shopping locally
Work with community groups and local parish councils to take advantage of 106 money available in our areas.
By walking and cycling myself and being an advocate of these modes of transport.
Civil disobedience to defend people and planet from ecocide.
getting Council to pain for 2030 implementation instead of fudging the issue nwith vague language
X occasionally check for revised transport routes and if such services were to become available XX give consideration to leaving the car at home.
Get involved
Through personal choices about energy use, food (cutting down on meat consumption, for example), consumption generally (clothing, electronic goods, plastics), transport (walking and cycling whenever possible; using trains/buses for distance travel, and not flying); through volunteer work and participation in raising awareness; by contacting relevant authorities to resolve matters that prevent or discourage people from making environmentally-sound choices.
Skills, workshops, training
By making sure XX everything possible to get local politicians who promote this kind of wasteful rubbish voted out of their position, as they clearly cannot be trusted to make these decisions.
X already do everything X.
Na
X would be happy to chat with local planning officers!!
XX happy in showing how to shop and cook for plant based food. In reducing meat intake or going vegetarian or vegan.
XX grandchildren to school
See above
It takes planning - you need to start surveying routes and getting plans and costs, and feasibility reports, done now.XX help share that, encourage people to support it, but it must be more than the vague aims for 20 years time XX in this proposal. Get definite, be brave, do it.
Working with my neighbours (XX) to help devise initiatives.
No idea!
Mentioned above.
n/a
Na
trial using the car clubs.
XX advocate of locally sourced food
Help run a group
X repair and reuse of stuff, XX/)
X Plastic-Free XX to reduce single-use plastic

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 6: How could you support this?
X support XX.
Support resistance to destroying the planet.
X already volunteer
By talking to the BC about it, as well as what XX picking up litter and asking Streetscene not to reduce cutting.
XX works extensively across Stafford, working in partnership with a great number of other stakeholders and communities, delivering a wide range of initiatives, which directly contribute to XX
I have no ability to affect the above
X participate in a tree-planting programme.
X as a member of XX
XX is always willing to organise tree-planting and litter-picking events, walks, or other activities that promote people's enjoyment and appreciation of the countryside,
There aren't many bus routes at the moment so the options are limited.
XX have XX, window and loft insulation, XX some of our food. XX local and organic produce as much as possible. XX buy less clothes or recycled clothes. XX hybrid car. walk and cycle as much as possible.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 7: What activities could you support in your local community to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

Tree-planting - if suitable land is provided (plus aftercare for the trees).
XX local groups which are within WALKING distance.
Showcase best practices
Cycling, walking, buying local produce
ty
Civil disobedience to defend people and planet from ecocide.
Voting for parties which will do things to reduce emissions at a an earlier date.Ensure all new housing is fully insulated and has either solar panels or heat pumps.
XX a fair size garden and take a number of cuttings for infant plants. These could happily be donated to initiatives to establish new green spaces, either in public or at other residents addresses where they are willing.
Limit travel by car. XX bicycle sometimes but X avoid the use of the roads because the cars don't notice you. It is very dangerous. Cultivate wild spaces. Protect wild spaces and trees.
Much of this is already covered above; mitigation depends on choices from the individual (personal choices and community engagement of the kind already mentioned) through to the enabling role of elected representatives, businesses and volunteer groups. Adaptation – which will sadly be a necessity – is, XX, largely beyond the scope of the individual, except insofar as the difficult choices it may entail need to be explained by those in a position to take the necessary measures (for example, responses to increased flooding risk) – but it is important that local communities be informed so they can understand and support adaptation measures as they become necessary.
Skills, workshops, training
There are non, man made climate change has never been proven and in terms of pollution the UK is already among the lowest polluters in the world. The council should be ashamed they have wasted time and expense on this.
The community should not be picking up responsibility for this. Cycle paths, walking strategy, changing road priority to cyclists and walkers, free sports facilities, tree planting, that's YOUR job
Na
Encourage and take part in tree planting, - and campaign to ensure existing flood plains are not encroached on by new urban development
Cooking plant based meals. Showing educational films in the village hall.
?
See above
walking, cycling, even jogging are all dangerous with our rural roads, so not much there. But get a list of practical carbon-neutral boilers and heaters, share names of suppliers who are carbon-neutral, negotiate deals in our area in return for promotion XX. Also, create an easy-to-understand poster of what can be recycled (using the same labels as shopproducts use) and I'll get the Co-op to put it up, so people know where to recycle what they buy. Also, install a crisp packet recycler station (terracycle) in every village by the

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 7: What activities could you support in your local community to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

village shop, I'll help.
Micro-generation schemes
XX really know what's happening in the local community to assist!
All as mentioned above. It needs to be a effort for all, but these opportunities need to be readily available and affordable so they can be easily accesed/easy to achieve for all of any age in Stone.
n/a
Na
x
Refer back to the first question - XX see the council not solely focussing on fossil fuels but promoting the awareness of holistic climate change.
More walking, more car share, more information on reducing waste
General Comments
<p>XX of a Climate Emergency Plan but have several reservations as to its proposed effectiveness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The timescale is too long * The whole document lacks urgency * There is no financial or staffing provision * The language used contains very few firm commitments <p>The timescale of 2040 is far too long . The Borough Council needs to lead on the urgency of getting actions in place. We do not have the extra 10 years that the Draft plan sets out ie. we need a target date of 2030, in line with the IPCC. The people of Stafford deserve strong leadership. For every year of delay there will be a bigger impact on everyone on this planet. Only when the people of Stafford see our council taking this emergency seriously will they follow by making their own lifestyle changes.</p> <p>(However, retrograde steps like introducing payment for Brown Garden Waste bins will only result in more waste going in the green household waste and ultimately to landfill; chopping down trees on an extensive basis along the Isobel Trail and the Balancing Lakes whilst putting a tree strategy in the plans gives a rather muddled message).a</p> <p>With reference to a few subsections:</p> <p>Reducing our Energy and Water Consumption</p> <p>1.2 what exactly is achieved after the 18 months?</p> <p>1.5 a 30% journey reduction is very unambitious- should be 50% at least.</p> <p>1.8 surely a 12 month timescale for reducing plastics is very excessive - this should be one of the simplest areas to make an immediate difference.</p> <p>3.3 producing a a Climate Action plan by Autumn 2021 is wholly unacceptable when numerous other authorities are well into their plans already.</p> <p>Financially there is no provision for how all this will be resourced. These vital changes will need to be adequately financed, this cannot be done on a shoe string. Neither must spending be diverted from essential services especially from the most vulnerable in our</p>

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 7: What activities could you support in your local community to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

communities. Financial accountability must be set from the very beginning. The Borough Council will need to work with businesses and firms locally and nationally to find funding streams. The Council will need to use external agencies, and work with local Universities, the NHS, the LEP and Sustainability West Midlands and other local authorities who are in advance of Staffordshire in their plans to move the process along.

There is no mention of a staff member to have the overall responsibility for the leading of this immense change in the way the Borough Council works. The Council is still XX environmental initiatives from the time XX Many other authorities are well into their action plans, (some put out their draft plans for consultation as long ago as 8 years). The person appointed would need to be passionate and knowledgeable about the task in hand so as to drive it ahead speedily, not just someone reluctantly plucked from any department. Ideally they will have a team to work across the board with all departments and staff to ensure sustainable policies are embedded at every level. In other words to get everyone on board by educating staff on the grave necessity of getting an action plan up and running quickly. No mention is made of who will oversee this in the political sphere. A member of the Borough Council cabinet needs to act as a Climate Champion and be accountable to the electorate by publishing a twice yearly, independent audit report on progress.

To further include the public, the setting up of Citizens Assemblies would help oversee progress. These must involve a true cross section of the community including the most vulnerable not just the involved and well off.

The language of the report is very worrying as no sense of urgency comes across. There are lots of suggestions and possibilities but very few firm commitments to take action. Too many words like establish, explore, compare, investigate, monitor, identify, devise, promote, look at, gauge, encourage. One would have hoped the Council was already aware of all that needed to be done on this issue and that this was an action plan based on the ground work already having been covered. It's not as if this has all come as a surprise - the warnings have been clearly out there for a long time.

No one is denying what a huge task moving to a net zero world will be, but we have no choice. We need to move sooner than later.

Off grid low impact living.

allotment volunteer

XX Volunteer

XX gardening group

Reviving or reforming a XX in XX with a particular environmental focus. Adopting areas like the XX Pond as a wildlife and environmental protection area. Writing to XX to ask for wildlife protection measures in XX, including more tree planting and early establishment of separate walk and cycle paths for leisure use.

XX

See above.

XX tree planting in one area and helping with a project to create a local nature reserve.

All

Walks, tree-planting, possibly arranging training in, for example, hedge-laying, community gardens. Public participation in events such as the Green Clean and Star Count.

Tree planting.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

Question 7: What activities could you support in your local community to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

See XX community XX in a number of organisations. As XX at a XX would encourage teachers and students to participate in environmentally sustainable and healthy school activities. XX and XX. XX has several awareness raising activities on the affect of the climate emergency XX. XX Stafford becoming XX.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

General Comments

CONSULTATION ON STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

XX which leads us to action. XX understand the climate crisis to be a symptom of a greater challenge: how to live sustainably and justly on this earth. XX Britain made a corporate commitment to become a low-carbon, sustainable community and we support each other in trying to live out this commitment. We campaign for climate and energy justice, and to build a fairer economy which is not powered by fossil fuels.

We welcome your commitment to working on this issue with groups in the community like ours. As it stands, however, your climate change strategy does not take account of the urgency or scale of the problem. We urge you to heed the science and bring forward your target date for achieving climate neutrality to 2030 if not before, and to appoint specialists committed to making sure that this happens.

The document gives the impression of not realising time is short and that it is acceptable to adapt for 2040, whereas we should be mitigating for 2030. 'Zero Carbon Britain, Rising to the Climate Emergency' mitigates for 2030.

page 22 para 2 penultimate sentence, add
'release of CO2 from soils due to current farming practises'

p23 para 4 last sentence

Better not to state a low sea level rise. A rise is time dependent on, expansion of warming seas, melt of land ice and glaciers, melt of arctic and antarctic sea ice, and GHG emissions from both man sourced and feedback mechanisms. An accumulation of these can be a high sea level rise.

para 5 first sentence

Dr Piers Sellers, a NASA scientist running through computer simulations of heat distribution models has predicted that north flowing warmer ocean currents are increasing in the west atlantic, and that Europe will become cooler in a few decades*. Does the Borough have evidence that UK will become warmer? If it does not and it does not want to accept evidence that is otherwise, it is better not to forsee UK temperature at all and refer to global warming instead, for which there can be no doubt.

* from DiCaprio's (holds UN appointment to be 'United Nations Messenger of Peace on Climate Change') 'Beyond the Flood' web video from 1hr 15 mins – 1hr 22mins, where Dr Piers Sellers (an astronaut who marvels at the turning earth he watched from space) Director of the Earth Sciences Div. of NASA/GFSC shows computed model simulations of the earth as now from data supplied by 20 satellites looking at the earth each day (includes cloud cover, sea temperature, CO2 in the atmosphere etc.) and displaying compilations of whole world surface temperatures on an evolving wall sized image throughout our time, where the ocean currents flows from the dumping of melting ice from Greenland travelling south has its biggest effect by slowing down the gulf steam and Europe will have cooling, all predicted to happen over a few decades but actually is happening earlier then thought. Dr Piers Sellers says he is an optimistic type of person, and there is hope that man's responsive decisions will bring about the needed changes for the better.

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

General Comments

last para first sentence

an inadequate example

replace 'well insulated, affordable homes' with 'new housing to be aligned to face south to achieve optimum passive solar heating design, and insulation to passivhaus standards with active PVE and Pth panels on the roofs, '

p30 para last

Does not recognise the feedback mechanisms underway now, such as (1) the release of methane (CH4) from the hydrates below shallow previously frozen seas and below melting permafrosted land, which has been happening for several years and badly worsens every year and (2) the absorption of heat from the sun's rays in the arctic seas previously covered with ice.

p31 para last penultimate bullet

change adaptation to mitigation

XX. XX are going to make a meaningful contribution to addressing global warming if you do not have staff who not only have the expertise but also are personally deeply committed to doing something about the biggest problem of the last 10,000 years.

Response to the consultation on the

DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 20120-2040

X strategy needs rewriting completely:

- **It lacks coherence.** The title is vague, but it does imply that the document is supposed to be about the Climate Emergency declared in July. The text however constantly makes confusing references to sustainable development in general. Indeed, it goes even beyond that at times, with references to such (worthy) issues as 'facilitating' the development of healthy communities. It should have exclusive focus on the climate emergency if it is to make sense and have impact.
- **It lacks understanding** of the issues on the part of at least some of those who shaped it. The officers constructing it have been completely hamstrung by the contradictions built into last July's declaration. The aim of reducing emissions from the Council's own activities 'to work towards carbon neutrality by 2040' makes nonsense of the very declaration of a 'climate emergency' in the first place. The work of the IPCC is admittedly mentioned in the strategy, but officers are compelled to skate over the fact that in 2018 the IPCC said that we have just 12 years left to stop a catastrophic rise of over 1.5° in average global temperatures. That means 2030. The climate emergency is now. Many other local authorities which have declared a climate emergency have made 2030 the target for achieving zero carbon, or at least carbon neutrality, and certainly not 2040 and beyond. Over several years the Sustainability Matters in Stafford Borough group has presented the Council with the successive 'Zero Carbon Britain 2030' reports sponsored by the Centre for Alternative Technology. One of the key demands of the Extinction Rebellion movement is that we should even be aiming for zero carbon by 2025. Stafford Borough Council's proposal is completely off the scale.
- **It is often vague.** Phrases like 'protect and enhance our environment' and 'provide leadership and influence social responsibility in responding to a (the?) climate emergency' abound.

It is at times hypocritical. The claim for example that the Council has 'a good

Climate Change Consultation 2020 – Results

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reputation for being proactive in respect of climate change' XX

Generally Unimaginative and lacking in vision and urgency. We are at 1 minute to midnight to do what is necessary to reverse catastrophic climate change and SBC are giving themselves until 2040 to become carbon neutral. In fact, there is built in delay to any action pending further reports not due until 01/04/2021. Most young people are well aware of what climate change means and what needs to be done. We owe them a duty of care, as the ones most likely to be affected by the climate catastrophe that awaits us all, to take urgent action to reverse the harm we have already done and continue to do. You are our elected representatives. You have access to resources, information and the Government. It is you who should be taking the lead on this. There is only a limited amount individuals can do. By all means, use your unique access to the residents of the borough to promote awareness and suggest changes for the individual to do to help make a difference, but unless the necessary borough wide and strategic decisions and action are taken by you and others in government, little will be achieved. Your strategy is a cop out.

Take ownership of this within our borough and encourage the Government and other authorities to do likewise. There is no time to lose. Get on with it!

CC1: Reducing emissions from our own activities

“What else could we be doing to reduce emissions from our own activities to achieve our 2040 target?”

The plan is welcome and the timescale on which it has been created demonstrates a level of action which needs to be replicated right across the action on Climate Change. The plan itself, however, lacks a level of urgency which is needed, there are a lot of suggestions and possibilities, but very few firm commitments to take action. The target date of 2040 is, by the terms set out in the consultation document, too late, and should be set to a much earlier date of 2030.

The borough council is tasked in a number of duties with supporting and protecting the most vulnerable people in our community. Action on climate change cannot be used as an opportunity to cut funding to support those who need it. There should be no detriment to the most vulnerable people in our borough from any action taken to mitigate climate change. The borough council taking action on the climate cannot be used as a reason for making cuts in other essential services which people rely on.

The plan sets out there need to establish a baseline of carbon usage in order to work towards reduction and mitigation over time. This is an important part of the process and is welcome. However, the plan doesn't set out the pace at which this needs to happen. The action to deliver cuts in emissions must be front loaded in these timescales. The most significant use areas being reduced first so that the more complex changes required can be given time in the later parts.

The measurement and milestone setting process is an absolutely essential part of the overall process, and the council should be looking to get support from external agencies on this.

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The plans do not discuss the overall political ownership of action on climate change. It is important that there is a member of the borough council cabinet who will act as a climate champion and publish a twice yearly independently audited report on the progress in meeting the climate change targets, and if they are not met, outline why not.

Addressing the climate emergency should become an intrinsic part of the council decision making process. Where there are decisions being made, the papers which outline the proposals should include the overall climate impact of the proposed activity, and where this potentially increases the carbon emissions what action will be taken to offset this.

Beyond these broad principle-based approaches which need embedding in the overall plan, there are a number of specific areas where the plan can be expanded to greater address the challenges which the climate emergency presents us.

- Improve how the council involves the public in it's decision making processes.
- Retrofit all council owned properties with high levels of insulation.
- Help energy companies to target the support around home insulation which they are required to give to the people in the borough who need it most. This could be done through information sharing with housing benefit recipients.
- Deliver a rapid transition to an all electric fleet of council vehicles.
- Include climate impact in all procurement decisions over a specific cost – provision for deliveries via electric vehicles and embedded carbon in the production process to be considered in comparing tenders.
- Food options – plant based, local, sustainably sourced – a clear road map for both literacy, and rolling out of more sustainable food choices.
- Divest council investments from any fossil fuel based investments and move them into ecologically sound investments.
- The plan includes reducing the carbon impact of staff travel – this is something which may well be best delivered through some sort of “carbon literacy training” if the local council can work to get the this type of training to market as soon as possible then it is something which could not only deliver CO2 savings but develop an income stream for the council

The involvement of the wider community should be done in the most meaningful way possible, the Borough Council should be looking towards representative citizens assemblies, citizens juries and participatory budgeting as a method for addressing the more contentious issues. These should have clear criteria to ensure that they are not just an echo chamber for the involved and well off, the most vulnerable residents of the borough must be actively involved. There needs to be a clear partnership approach with the local the universities, the NHS, the LEP and Sustainability West Midlands (which the council should join) are all local partners who will prove valuable allies. In addition to this, there should be contact with other councils through the LGA to establish what approaches are being taken across the country, and where Stafford can adopt what has worked elsewhere.

There is no provision in any of the proposals for how it will be resourced. There should be a clear indication that climate change will get some funding, and some staffing in order to effectively progress it. The refresh of the local plan should include either new policies or a

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climate emergency supplementary planning document (SPD) which could:

- Raise the bar on building efficiency standards to '+19%' as it being pursued by many authorities in their Local Plan Reviews

- Use 'Transport for New Homes guidelines' for new policies on making developments less car dependant and encouraging to walking, cycling and outdoor play.
- Insist on a level of on-site renewable energy generation ('the Merton Rule') which would ensure building orientation and ground conditions are used optimally for electricity and possibly heat generation.
- Develop a heating and energy efficiency strategy.

In order to meet the levels of home insulation needed across the country there needs to be 3200 homes every year having their insulation upgraded. In order for home heating to switch away from reliance on fossil fuels, there needs to be 1900 new low carbon heating systems fitted every year in the Stafford Borough area (there are currently only 171 government funded systems in the area.)

Require any housing built on council land to be built to the Passivhaus standard.

A landlord registration scheme would enable improved advice and inspection as well as minimum energy efficiency standards for the private rented sector.

Ensure that building standards have the funding and staffing to properly enforce the rules which exist.

Transport is an area ripe for close cooperation with the County Council, and the planning should identify them as a key partner in delivering this. Increase the number of EV charging points from 22 to 75 in order to reach 1 charger per 1000 EV's locally. Develop roadmap for increasing this further as EV usage increases.

Develop a roadmap for all taxis licensed in the borough to be electric vehicles.

The Stafford Borough Area currently only produces 17MW of renewable power – bring our area in line with comparable councils, and increase to around 220MW – driven by the borough council through the local plan, as well as facilitating communities to develop energy cooperatives to support this increase in local capacity.

An increase in the tree cover of the local area should be a distinct feature in the local plan which should translate to requirements on planned development in the local area. In addition, the council should be taking a proactive stance in protecting trees, only removing as an absolute last resort. There should be a target of around 25% coverage from the current levels of somewhere between 9% and 15%.

The borough council should aim for the local area to recycle 70% of household waste by 2025, with a view to a net zero waste target in the following 5 years to 2030.

CC3: Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change

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“How could communities be encouraged to participate in environmentally healthier lifestyles?”

The most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report states that humankind has 12 years to ensure global warming is limited to a maximum of 1.5°C. Surpassing this threshold would significantly worsen the risks posed to humans and wildlife on a global scale.

The most important thing we can do to mitigate climate change is to operate on the kind of timescales which will allow us to achieve the outcomes outlined in the IPCC report. In light of this the most important change needs to be changing the target date from 2040 to 2030 in the borough councils planning.

A change in the target date is important for the activities of the borough council, and for showing leadership to residents in the borough on climate action. If the borough are acting as though there are ten years more than the IPCC have already said we have, then this sends absolutely the wrong message to residents and business.

In discussing adaptation, the consultation talks principally about adapting to the problems which will be caused by climate change, rather than the adaptation which will be required to operate in a net zero carbon world. The important thing that needs to be grasped very early on, is that notwithstanding the discussion above about timescales, we will need to move to a net zero carbon society sooner or later, the longer it takes, the bigger the impacts are, but even if it takes till 2060, then we, as a society, will still have to do it, and every year we fail to do so will make the impact on our planet that much greater.

So – we need to talk about adapting to a zero carbon future as much as we do the serious impacts of climate change (many of which we are already experiencing – see the most recent storms). A net zero carbon world is very different to the status quo, and shifting to that will take some getting used to, and that is something which we need to plan for.

The most significant areas which impact on climate change that residents can have an impact on are food, transport and energy usage – within the energy usage, heating being the single biggest area of change needed. In light of this, the most significant ways in which communities can be encouraged to live lives which have the impact on the planet which it can sustain, then we need to be working with them to address these issues.

Things which will aid adaptation include a number of areas which are not directly related to the Borough Councils responsibilities, but if the council is serious about taking this issue on, then it needs to be using its position to influence those who do make decisions on these issues to work in this direction.

A public transport system which is easier to use than a private car – joined up and economical. Designed to get people where they need, rather than to generate revenue.
This

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would include things like bus passes for younger people, an easy to use and understand pricing structure which facilitates moving from one bus to another, or to a local train easily.

A step change in the attitude towards renewable energy production from both decision makers and, with education and encouragement from the Borough Council, residents. There are suggestions elsewhere around planning decisions and the local area plan, but there is more to the process than a permissive nature towards it, residents need to be brought along with this necessary change.

Plant based food choices need to become something which is normal and central in the diets of people locally, this is an adaptation people will need to make. Whilst there is nothing directly the council can do about people's personal choices, this is an educational issue which will need to be addressed sooner or later in our society in order to minimise the impact of climate change.

CC1 Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our own activities to work towards carbon neutrality by 2040

Not 2040 but 2030 consistent with other council objectives

Set interim targets as this is too vague

5 year target reporting required.

1.1 Audit the carbon Balance

Requires a designated coordinator to be appointed to champion the activity

Need to commit resources to this.

Timeframe too long Summer 2021 before even start to do anything other than data analysis.

1.2 – 1.4 Reduce energy consumption...

Requires a designated coordinator to be appointed to champion the activity

18 month timeframe before any action is too long

No environmental benefit of ISO 14001 and resources could be used elsewhere. Or consider EMAS which is more aligned with council activities.

Join and promote activities such as the big energy co-op

1.5 Promote Green travel ...

Requires a designated coordinator to be appointed to champion the activity

This is very familiar text with commitments that have been made over several years, not new

Consider Stafford Clean Air Zone

Incentivise car sharing & using bikes

Promote use of Electric Vehicles

Provide EV charging points

1.6 Reduce emissions from fleet vehicles

Time period too long to take action

Prioritise electric or hydrogen fuel vehicles

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Electric vehicle for mayor
Mileage allowances to favour low emission travel.

1.7 Work with communities

Requires a designated coordinator to be appointed to champion the activity
Review the adequacy of resource regarding communications team
Agree consensus on shared activities and cooperate
How does this objective align with brown bin charges
Promote and support the Repair cafes
Participate in local litter picks
Provide low carbon/sustainability training for staff.

1.8 - 1.9 Reduce amount of plastic

Requires a designated coordinator to be appointed to champion the activity
Timeframe is excessive for action
Apply existing green procurement guidelines
Refer to Environment Bill as this will provide financial support to councils reducing SUPs (Single Use Plastic)
Introduce terracycle collection points
Set target for 50% reduction SUP within 12 months
Prioritise green/sustainability value over simple price in selection criteria
Consider local initiatives such as Plastic free Stafford (Roots Larder)
Include activity XX
Include activity of XX.