



- Meeting: Environment and Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Date/Time: Friday, 3 September 2021 at 2.00 pm
- Location: Sparkenhoe Committee Room, County Hall, Glenfield
- Contact: Ms. C. Tuohy (cat.tuohy@leics.gov.uk)
  - Email: 0116 305 5483

#### Membership

Mr. G. A. Boulter CC Mr. B. Harrison-Rushton CC Mr. N. Chapman CC Mrs. R. Page CC Mr. M. Frsiby CC Mr. T. J. Pendleton CC Mrs. A. J. Hack CC

<u>Please note</u>: this meeting will be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's web site at <u>http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk</u> – Notices will be on display at the meeting explaining the arrangements.

#### <u>AGENDA</u>

#### Item

Report by

1. Appointment of Chairman.

Mr T. Pendleton CC was nominated Chairman elect at the meeting of the County Council held on 7 July 2021.

- 2. Election of Deputy Chairman.
- 3. Question Time.
- 4. Questions asked by members under Standing Order 7(3) and 7(5).
- 5. To advise of any other items which the Chairman has decided to take as urgent elsewhere on the agenda.

Democratic Services ° Chief Executive's Department ° Leicestershire County Council ° County Hall Glenfield ° Leicestershire ° LE3 8RA ° Tel: 0116 232 3232 ° Email: democracy@leics.gov.uk





6.	Declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.		
7.	Declarations of the Party Whip in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16.		
8.	Presentation of Petitions under Standing Order 35.		
9.	Briefing on the Environment Strategy and Carbon Commitments.	Director of Environment and Transport	(Pages 5 - 34)
10.	Briefing on the Resources and Waste Strategy.	Director of Environment and Transport	(Pages 35 - 70)
11.	Environment and Waste Performance Report to June 2021.	Director of Environment and Transport and Chief Executive	(Pages 71 - 84)

12. Dates of Future Meetings.

Future meetings of the Committee are scheduled to take place on the following dates at 2.00pm:

Tuesday 9 November 2021 Wednesday 26 January 2022 Tuesday 1 March 2022 Tuesday 14 June 2022 Friday 2 September 2022 Tuesday 1 November 2022

13. To advise of any other items which the Chairman has decided to take as urgent elsewhere on the agenda.

#### QUESTIONING BY MEMBERS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

The ability to ask good, pertinent questions lies at the heart of successful and effective scrutiny. To support members with this, a range of resources, including guides to questioning, are available via the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny website <a href="https://www.cfgs.org.uk/">https://www.cfgs.org.uk/</a>

The following questions have been agreed by Scrutiny members as a good starting point for developing questions:-

- Who was consulted and what were they consulted on? What is the process for and quality of the consultation?
- How have the voices of local people and frontline staff been heard?
- What does success look like?
- What is the history of the service and what will be different this time?
- What happens once the money is spent?
- If the service model is changing, has the previous service model been evaluated?
- What evaluation arrangements are in place will there be an annual review?

This page is intentionally left blank



## Environment & Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee

# Briefing on Environment Strategy and Carbon Commitments

ОЛ

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

Ann Carruthers,

**Director of Environment & Transport** 

#### Contents



တ

- Background
- Why Take Action on Environmental Issues
- Links to Strategic Plan
- Environment Strategy
- Main Areas of Activity
- Carbon Reduction LCC & Leicestershire
- Action for Nature
- Key Partnerships
- Horizon Scanning



 $\overline{}$ 

- Environment Strategy 2018-30 originally approved July 2018
- Leicestershire County Council declared Climate Emergency 15 May 2019
- Carbon neutrality by 2030 for LCC's own operations
- Work with others and to lobby government to make the wider 2030 target possible and to limit global warming to less than 1.5°C
- Carbon neutrality by 2050 (now 2045) or before for the county's emissions
- Signed up to UK 100 and are part of the Countryside Climate Network
- Already achieved 67% reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions since 2008-09 (based on 2019-20 figures)
- Environment Strategy 2018-30 and Strategic Plan revised to take account of carbon commitments
- Revised Environment Strategy 2018-30 approved July 20



# Why take action on environmental issues?

[Extracts from Environment Strategy 2018-30 (p29-31)]

- Increased risk of disruption to our critical services from extreme weather events
- Vulnerable people in the community are particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change
- Increased risk of damage to the Council's highway assets
- Increased costs to Public Health and the NHS due to rise in illnesses and deaths caused by air pollution
- Increased costs for Social Services supporting people living with debilitating diseases caused by air pollution
- To reduce the cost of managing the Council's waste and the County's household waste
- Reputational and financial cost of dealing with a pollution event

0

## Why take action on environmental issues? (2) Leicestershire

- The Council has a statutory responsibility to take due regard of biodiversity in all its decisions and activities
- Leicestershire is a rural county, and the food sector is one of the county's main industries so will be affected by any reductions in crop yields and difficulties in food production
- To protect Leicestershire residents from the consequences of food shortages and the health effects of biodiversity loss
- To protect the most vulnerable in our society from harm
- To avoid / reduce increased future costs on the council

# Links to Strategic Plan



As part of the 2020 interim review of the Strategic Plan the Council's environmental and carbon commitments were embedded into the relevant outcomes.

The Strategic Plan is currently going through a full review and the intention is to have a separate Environment outcome which picks up the Council's environmental commitments and objectives on climate change, carbon reduction, nature, the local environment, sustainable resource use, low carbon economy etc.

A draft of the revised Strategic Plan will be taken to the November meeting of Scrutiny.

## **Environment Strategy 2018-30**

Environment

2018 - 2030:

delivering a

better future

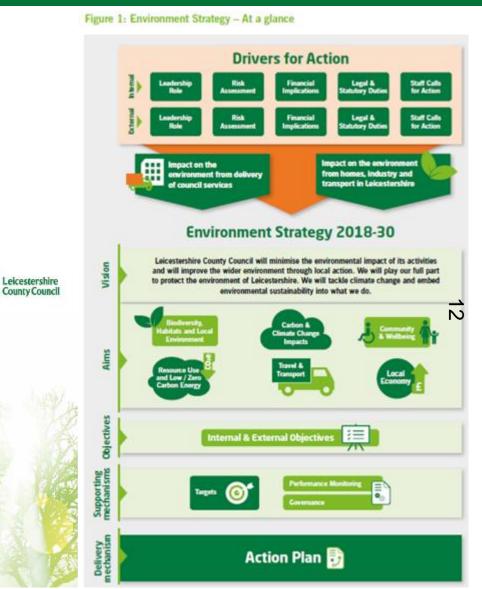
Strategy



The Strategy consists of 15 aims & 37 objectives set across six themes:

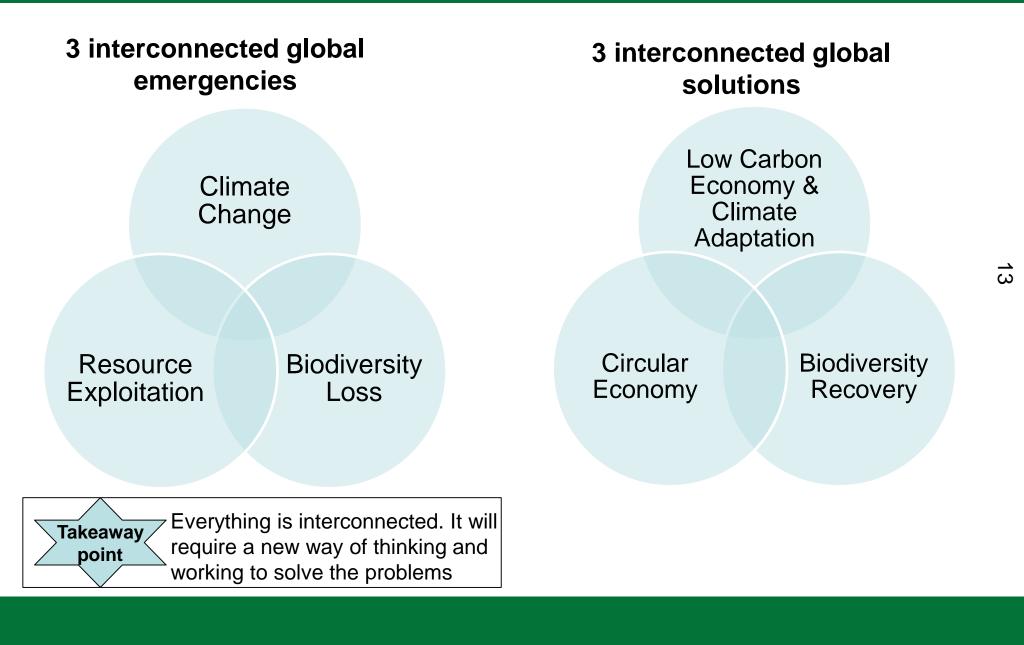
- Carbon and Climate Change Impacts
- Resource Use and Low / Zero Carbon Energy
- Travel and Transport
- Biodiversity, Habitats and Local Environment
- Community and Wellbeing
- Local Economy

https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-andplanning/conservation-and-sustainability/environmental-policiesand-reports



## Wider than just Climate Change





### **Main Areas of Activity**



#### Carbon Reduction – LCC & Leicestershire

- Decarbonising Energy
  - LCC Strategic Property Energy Strategy
  - Renewable Energy
  - Decarbonising housing new builds / retrofitting Public Health
- Decarbonising Travel & Transport
  - Electric vehicles & EV Infrastructure
  - Walking and Cycling
- Carbon Literacy Training
- Air Quality Co-benefits health

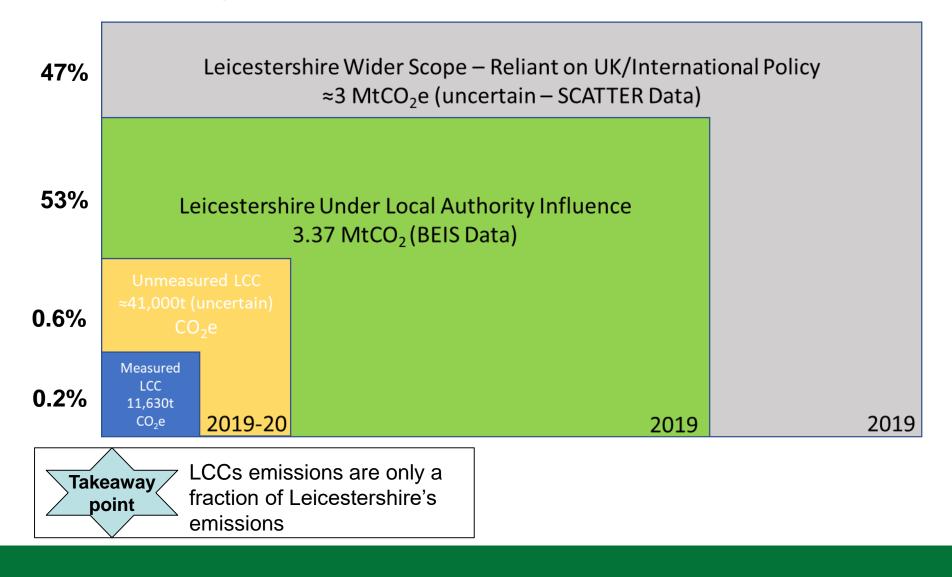
#### Biodiversity & Natural Capital

- Action for Nature
- Ash Dieback
- Tree Management Strategy
- Nature Recovery Strategy
- Climate Adaptation & Resilience dealing with existing and future impacts of climate change
- Waste management & resource use
- Environmental Management System & Environment Performance Monitoring

#### **Carbon Reduction**



#### **Understanding LCC & Leicestershire emissions**

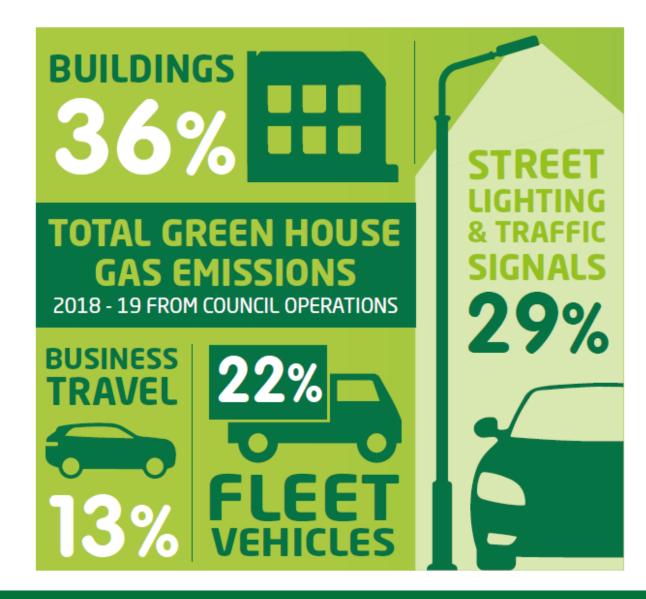


# Understanding Leicestershire's Emissions



	Council's Own Operations	County-wide Emissions
е	<u>Net Zero by 2030</u> Scope 1: Fleet vehicles, Air conditioning gases, gas use (e.g. heating of buildings)	<u>Net Zero by 2045 - Under LA Control</u> CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from: Industry, Commercial, Public Sector, Domestic and Transport
In Scope	Scope 2: Purchased electricity (e.g. lighting in buildings & streetlights)	Does not include: large industrial sites, railways, motorways and land-use
	Scope 3: Business mileage	
a	Wider LCC Emissions	Wider County Emissions
Scope	Scope 3: Purchased goods & services, transportation and distribution, investments, downstream leased assets,	Includes additional greenhouse gasses (not just CO <sub>2</sub> )
Out of S	employee commuting (?), waste generated in operations (?), business travel (?), upstream leased assets (?)	Includes aviation, rail, motorways, waterborne navigation, all industry emissions and land use

### Main Sources of LCC GHG emissions



Note: This does not include emissions from sources such as waste, procurement and staff commuting (unmeasured emissions – est. 41,000 tonnes CO2e)

Work taking place to better understand, define and quantify these.

Main sources of LCC measured emissions of c.12,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e (Based on 2019-20 figures)

.eicestershire

County Council

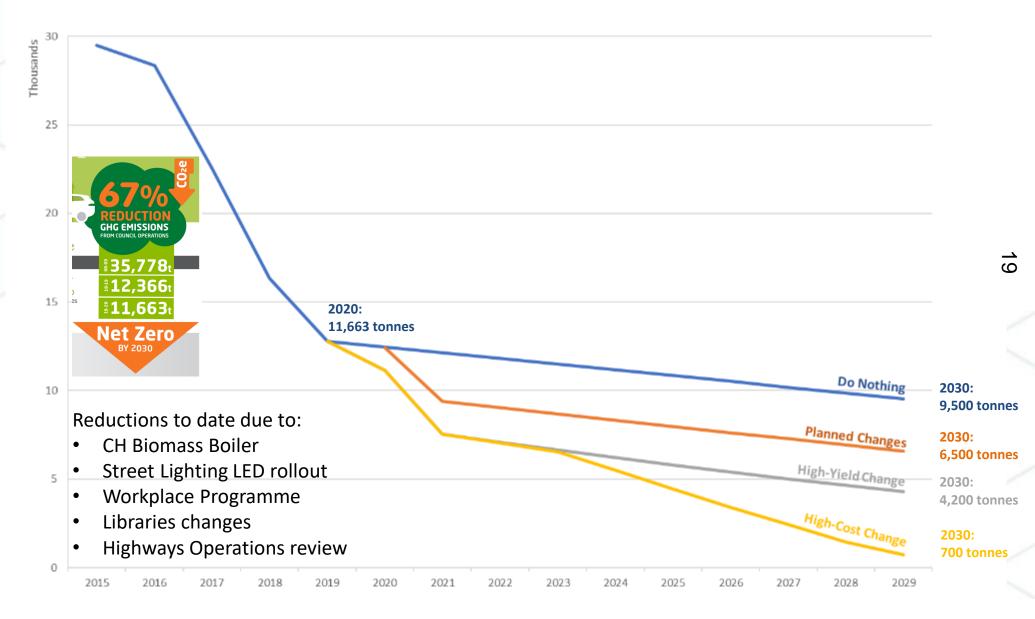
#### Measured LCC Emissions: Carbon Reduction Roadmap

#### **Programme – Tranche 1**



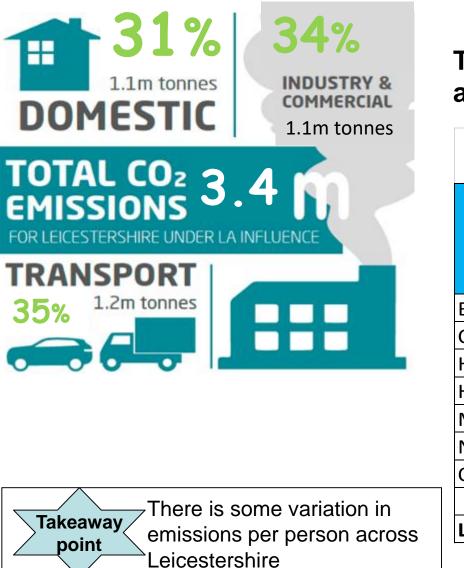
Do Nothing	Planned Changes	Simple / High Return	Complex / Low Return
	<ul> <li>Buildings LED lighting upgrades</li> <li>Improved equipment</li> <li>Quorn Solar Farm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved fuel use and management</li> <li>Embankment House</li> <li>Broadening EV Pool Car offer</li> <li>Partial fleet EV replacement</li> <li>Automation of mileage claims</li> <li>Low level streetlighting management</li> <li>Buildings insulation improvement</li> <li>Further solar/wind farms (not included in tonnages below)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Bio-mass/Ground or Air source heating</li> <li>Traffic Signals LED upgrades</li> <li>Broader fleet EV replacement</li> <li>Formal offsetting (not included in tonnages below)</li> </ul>
3,200 tonnes CO2e saved	3,000 tonnes CO2e saved	2,300 tonnes CO2e saved	3,500 tonnes CO2e saved

#### GHG Emissions Profile 2015 - 2030



Leicestershire County Counci

#### **Leicestershire Emissions**



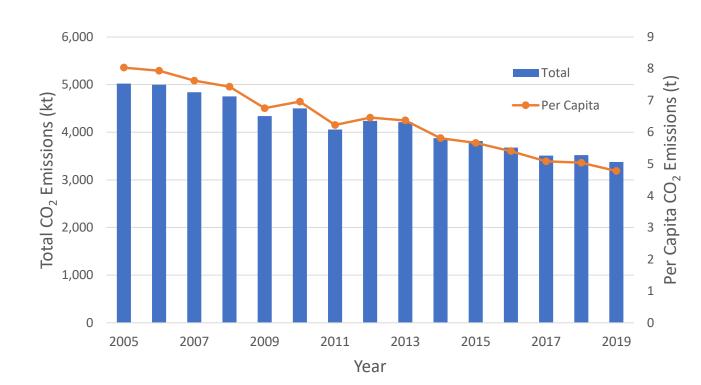
# Tonnes of carbon per person by District and County

\_eicestershire

County Council

2019	LA Influence	Wider
LA Area	Per Capita Emissions	Per Capita Emissions
Blaby	3.6	5.8
Charnwood	4.0	4.4
Harborough	4.5	6.1
Hinckley & Bosworth	4.3	5.4
Melton	5.7	5.6
North West Leicestershire	8.6	10.9
Oadby & Wigston	3.0	3.1
Leicestershire	4.8	5.9

#### **County Emissions Under LCC Influence**



In 2019, the County emitted 3.37 million tonnes of  $CO_2$ 

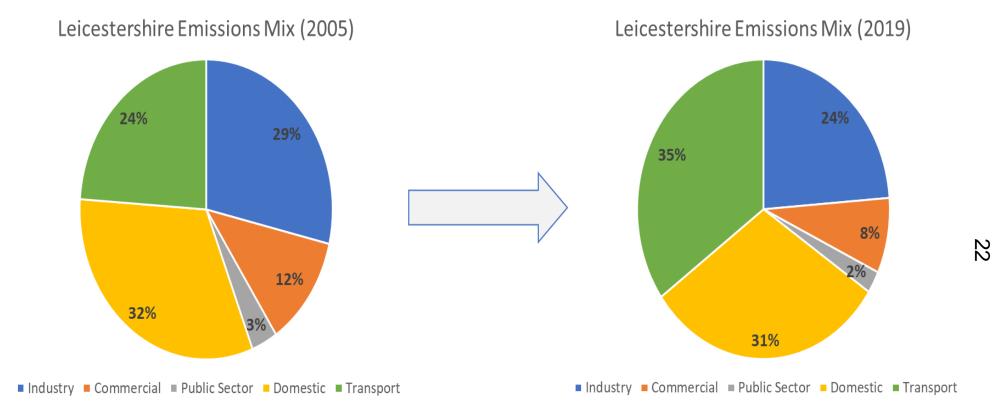
*Leicestershire* 

**County** Council

Since 2005, the County has achieved:

- ✓ 33% reduction in total emissions (1.6 million tonn so of CO<sub>2</sub>)
- ✓ 40% reduction in per capita emissions
- ✓ An annual average emissions reduction rate of 2.7%





18

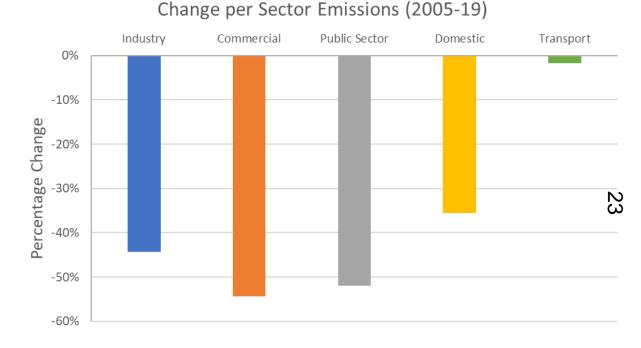
## **County Emissions Reduction Progress**

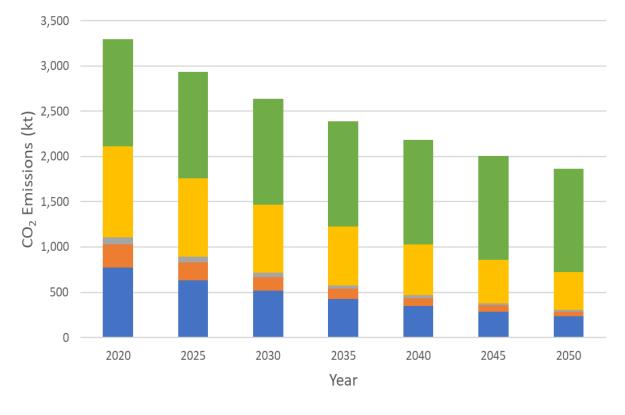


Since 2005, four of the five emissions sectors have reduced considerably.

Transport though has only reduced by 1.7%

Of the total emissions reduction 2005-19 (1.6 million tonnes of CO2): Industry contributed 39%, Domestic 35%, Commercial 20%, Public Sector 5% and Transport 1%.





■ Industry ■ Commercial ■ Public Sector ■ Domestic ■ Transport

37% of the County's emissions remain in 2050

Leicestershire County Council

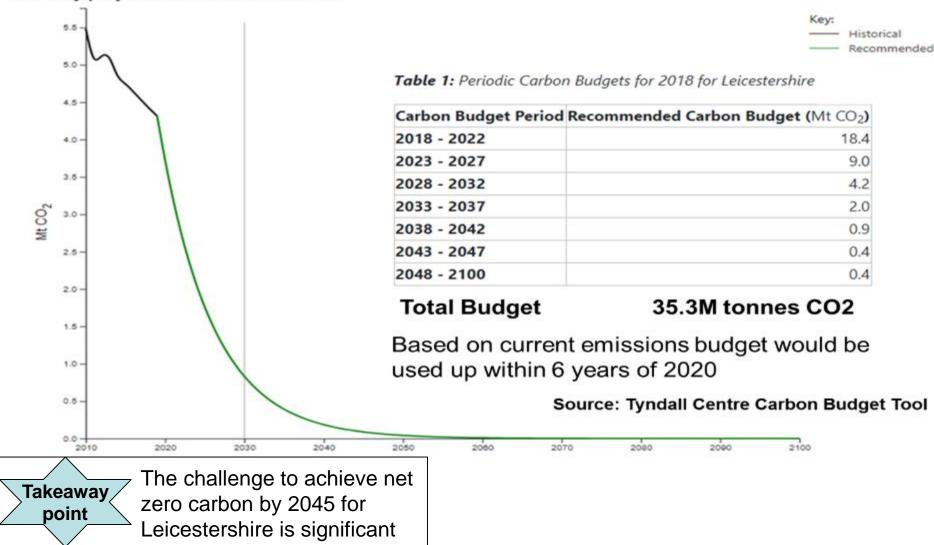
Emissions are 3 x higher than Leicestershire's indicative carbon budget

N.B. Business as usual projected based on average emissions reduction rates per sector between 2005 and 2019

24

#### **Emission trajectories for Leicestershire**

#### Pathway projections for Leicestershire





#### Action planning and levers of influence



#### Demonstrates greater leadership

F. Involving, Engaging & Communicating: translating climate targets for local relevance; raising awareness, involving people & ideas for local solutions

> E. Partnerships: leading, bringing people & organisations together, joining others' partnerships

**D. Showcasing:** innovating, piloting, demonstrating and sharing good practice, scaling and replicating

C. Place Shaping: using powers to control development and transport

B. Procurement and commissioning & commercialisation

> A. Direct control: buildings, operations, travel



In development, it will provide

- Emissions inventory
- Pathways to Zero
- Explore control and influence & identify lead partners
- Estimate costs
- Highlight gaps in existing powers and resources
- Identify co-benefits for the economy and health

Leicestershire County Council Net Zero Action Plan will outline the council's role and contribution in achieving the county target

Both documents will be produced during Autumn 2021

2



# **Action for Nature**

A Strategic Approach to Biodiversity, Habitat & the Local Environment and supporting Delivery Plan

#### What does it do?



20

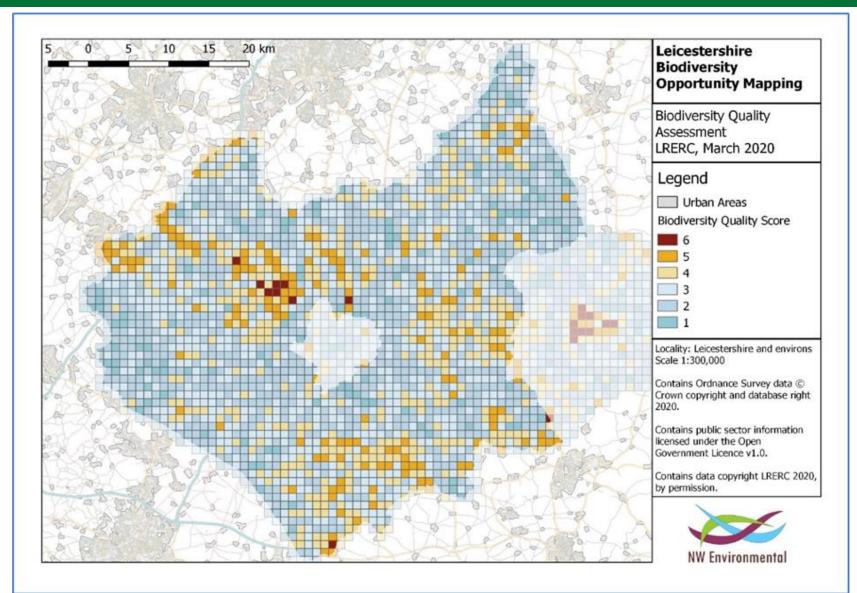
The 'Action for Nature' document builds on and supports the aims and objectives of the Environment Strategy 2018-2030 and seeks to compile into a single document:

- understanding of the policy and legislative context within which achievement of these aims and objectives is set;
- understanding of the current state of nature in Leicestershire;
- guiding **principles and rationale** of our approach;
- identification of the key **opportunities for action**;
- supporting **Delivery Plan** that provides more detail of the actions to be taken;
- foundation on which further action for nature can be taken as greater understanding of future legislative and other changes arise, such as the Environment Bill

#### Values the important and crucial role that eco-system services play in underpinning our economy and society

#### **LRERC Biodiversity Quality Score**





## **Opportunities for action**



- Focus on areas of direct control and influence of LCC:
  - Improving the land management practices on land directly owned or managed by the Council;
  - Supporting the tenants of Council land to better manage this land;
  - Ensuring biodiversity is included in the development of Council policies, plans and projects
  - Influencing or adding value to the polices, plans and projects of others
  - Supporting awareness raising and education on biodiversity
  - Maintaining and developing local data on the ecology and historic environment of the county;
  - Identifying opportunities for realising eco-system service benefits on Council land, including carbon sequestration and storage



- UK100
- Charnwood Forest Regional Park Board
- Air Quality & Health Partnership
- Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP)
- Experts Reference Group
- Leicester Climate Emergency Partnership
- Environment Group Green Agenda
- Soar Catchment Partnership
- River Soar & Grand Union Canal Partnership
- East Midlands Climate Action Network
- Leicestershire Rural Partnership
- The National Forest
- Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust

# Horizon scanning

Leicestershi County Coun

- Environment Bill and Planning Bill
- Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution
- National Infrastructure Strategy, Energy White Paper, Heat and Buildings Strategy
- Decarbonisation of Transport Plan
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy
- Net Zero Carbon Strategy
- Environment Principles consultation; integration, prevention, rectification, polluter pays, precautionary
- Climate Change Committee; Annual Progress reports and UK Climate Risk Climate – health and care priorities for action
- Highways Maintenance Self Assessment
- Sustainable Homes and Sustainable Buildings Standards
- IPCC Climate Change Assessment Reports (AR6)







# Environment & Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee

# **Resources and Waste Strategy**

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

Ann Carruthers, Director of Environment & Transport



# Waste Management Overview



# Section 1: Policy and Strategy

## **Waste Policy**

#### Leicestershi County Coun

## UK Policy

- Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England (2018)
- A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (2018)

## New Legislation

- Environment Bill sets out government's agenda for environmental reform and governance post-Brexit
- The Bill is currently progressing through Parliament expected to become law in Autumn 2021

## **Leicestershire Policy**

 Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update (2011) – currently being reviewed

- Management of municipal waste in Leicestershire is undertaken by Leicestershire County Council (the Waste Disposal Authority) and the 7 districts (Waste Collection Authorities)
- □ Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) LCC and the 7 districts
- Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2011-2020 (LMWMS) sets out how LWP intend to manage municipal waste in Leicestershire
- Review of LMWMS currently underway complete Spring 2022





# Section 2: Local Authority Waste Services 8

## **Waste Collection Authorities**

- Leicestershire County Council
- As Waste Collection Authorities (WCA's), the districts provide kerbside collections of residual waste and recycling
- The WCAs deliver the waste they've collected where directed by the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA)
- 6 of the 7 District Councils provide commingled dry recycling collections, North West Leicestershire District Council provide a kerbside sorted collection service
- 6 of the 7 District Councils provide chargeable green waste collection services, North West Leicestershire District Council provide a free service

## Waste Disposal Authority



- We provide recycling, composting, treatment and disposal outlets for waste collected across the County
- There are a variety of contracts in place for managing this waste ranging from values of over £6 million a year to less than £25,000
- Around 60% of our residual (black bin) waste is disposed of or treated at facilities outside of the County area
- □ Landfilling waste costs £109-£145 per tonne
- The budget for disposing, treating and recycling our waste is approximately £25 million each year
- This cost increases as more waste is generated and prices and landfill tax continue to rise

## **Waste Disposal Authority**



- ❑ We operate 14 Recycling Household Waste Sites (RHWS) for residents to use
- The RHWS receive over 50,000 tonnes of household waste each year and more than 1.5 million customer visits (although this was lower in 2020 due to COVID restrictions)
- We also operate 2 Waste Transfer Stations (WTS) and contract with two more. Another WTS at Bardon is currently under construction
- □ The WTS typically handle 80,000 tonnes of waste each year, most of it delivered in Refuse Collection Vehicles by the WCAs. This waste is then bulked up in articulated lorries and sent to treatment or landfill
- Our Whetstone WTS also offers a trade waste service, for small traders to deliver to which has a turnover of greater than £0.8 million each year

## Whetstone Waste Transfer Station





## Whetstone RHWS







# Section 3: Waste Facts and Figures

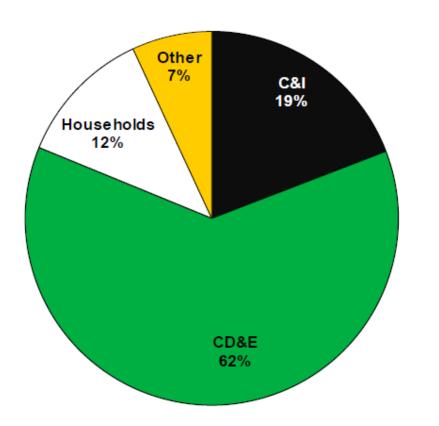


Local authority collected waste consists of all 'waste from households', street sweepings, municipal parks and gardens waste, beach cleansing waste, and waste resulting from the clearance of fly-tipped materials plus some commercial and/or industrial waste

## **National Waste Figures 2018**



The chart below shows the different sources of waste in the UK in 2018. Total UK waste 222.2 million tonnes.



C&I – commercial and industrial (42.6 million tonnes)

CD&E – construction, demolition and excavation inc. dredging (137.8 million tonnes)

Households – 26.4 million tones

Other – waste from mining, agriculture, forestry and fishing (15.4 million tonnes)

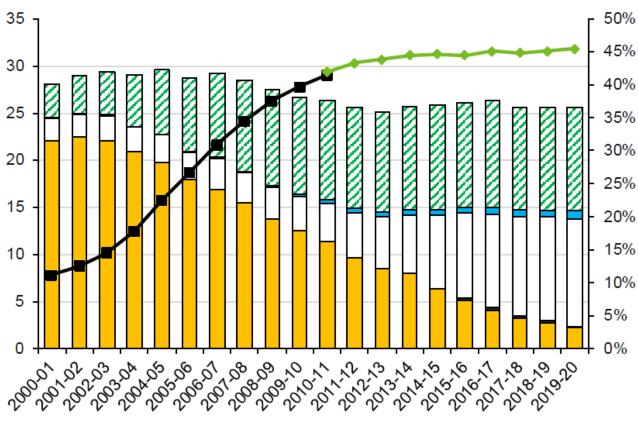
## Management of Local Authority Collected Waste in England





- Recycled-composted
- Waste from households recycling rate

#### Million tonnes



Incineration without EfW \*

Other \*\*

Household waste recycling rate \*\*\*

Recycling rate



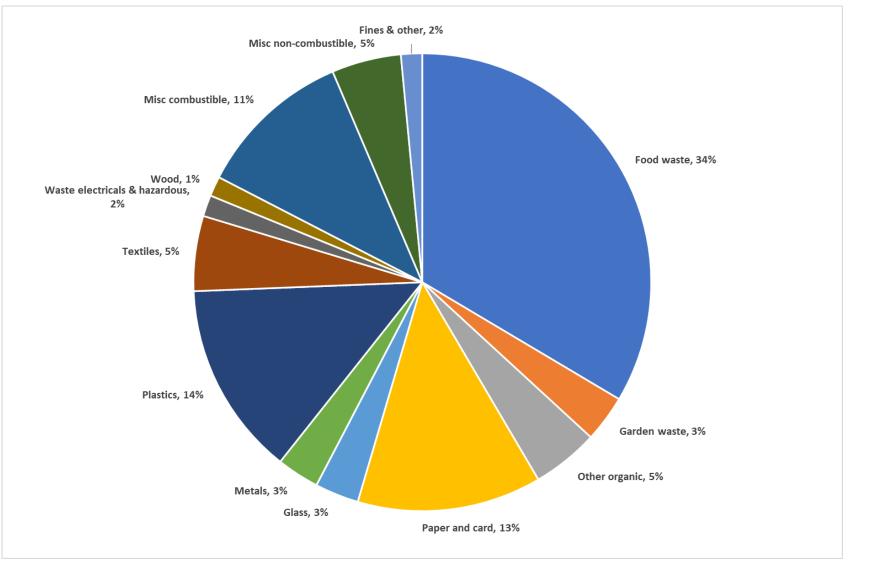
\*Incineration with energy recovery/without energy recovery includes incineration bottom ash (IBA) and metals from IBA. This is consistent with existing definition for household waste recycling so is not impacted by the change in 'waste from households' recycling definition.

\*\* Other includes waste treated/disposed of through other unspecified methods as well as process and moisture loss.

\*\*\*The Household waste recycling rate is based on a broader measure of waste and is not directly comparable to the 'waste from households' recycling rate.

IBA metals are included within the 'waste from households' recycling rate shown on this chart from April 2015/16 onwards but is not included in household waste recycling.

## **Residual waste (black bin) composition UK**



From WRAP Household Waste Composition 2017





Performance Indicator	Result	
Total household waste (2020/21)	309,313 tonnes	
Total household waste per household (2020/21)	1,020 kg	
Total residual waste per household (2020/21)	578 kg	<u>თ</u>
Total household waste sent for recycling, reuse and composting per household (2020/21)	442 kg	
Percentage household waste sent for recycling, reuse and composting (2020/21)	43.3%	



# Section 4: Waste Initiatives

## **Current Waste Initiative Schemes**

Leicestershire County Council

- Home composting
- Love Food Hate Waste
- Recycling & contamination
- Clothing, tools and furniture reuse
- Education
- Real nappies
- Seasonal campaigns
- Events, roadshows & volunteers
- Shire Environment Grants
- Work with Leicestershire Adult Learning Service to subsidise classes for Leicestershire residents

## **Recent activity**



#### **Recycling and contamination campaigns**

Keep Britain Tidy nappy campaign – social media and RHWS adshells following research on public behaviours.



Easter

#### Festivals and observances

Ongoing series of seasonal campaigns aiming to engage new audiences via social media and Lesswaste website.



2 related 🔁

## Home Composting

**Compost Awareness Week** 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May

An annual event to promote all aspects of composting; this year focusing on the cycle of growing, eating, composting and growing again. Š



## **Recent activity**



#### Food Waste Action Week

A high-profile national campaign highlighting the links between food waste and climate change, including social media messaging, videos by volunteers and a series of online cookery classes.

LCC was a strategic partner for the campaign.



#### Environment Matters newsletter

New quarterly newsletter for residents to replace the Composting Chronicle, covering a wider range of waste and environmental topics.



#### WELCOME.

to the first edition of Environment Matters, Leicestershire County Council's newsletter which brings you the latest in all things environment focussed. Today, we're taking a look at parish biodiversity initiatives, we have an update on our waste site opening days and times as well as the latest on the county's street lighting project

DON'T LET YOUR RECYCLING GO TO WASTE We all know that recycling is a good for the environment, but what happens if something is placed in your kerbside ecycling bin that shouldn't be there

**ENVIRONMEN** 

GRANT



Leicestershire County Council achieved further 17% reduction in emissions from street lighting during 2019-20. meaning emissions from street lighting nave reduced by 73% since 2016-17

#### Shire Environment **Grant scheme**

New virtual workshops developed to encourage greater take-up of waste applications. After the first workshop the number of applications more than doubled.



OUR WASTE, OUR **RESOURCES: A STRATEGY** FOR ENGLAND



## Introduction and Strategic Framework

- □ The Resources and Waste Strategy is guided by two overarching objectives:
  - To maximise the value of resource use
  - To minimise waste and its impact on the environment

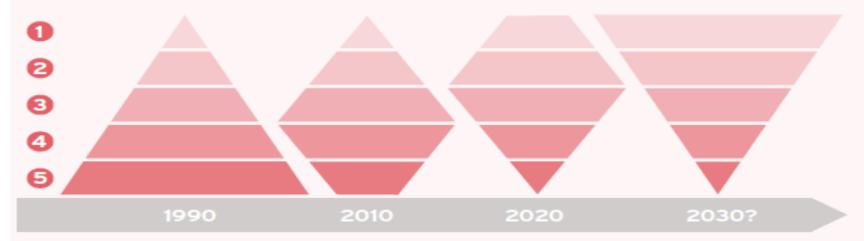
- Strategy will contribute to five strategic ambitions:
  - To work towards all plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025
  - To work towards eliminating food waste to landfill by 2030
  - To eliminate avoidable plastic waste over the lifetime of the 25 Year Environment Plan
  - To double resource productivity by 2050
  - To eliminate avoidable waste of all kinds by 2050

Ω.

## National strategic approach over time



Evolution of Waste Management Practices: In the past, most waste was dealt with by disposal, but over time that will shift increasingly to recycling, reuse and ultimately prevention.



#### Prevention

Using less material in design and manufacture. Keeping products for longer; reuse. Using less hazardous materials.

#### Preparing for reuse

Checking, cleaning, repairing, refurbishing, whole items or spare parts.

#### Recycling

Turning waste into a new substance or product. Includes composting if it meets quality protocols.

#### Other recovery

Includes anaerobic digestion, incineration with energy recovery, gasification and pyrolysis which produce energy (fuels, heat and power) and materials from waste; some backfilling.

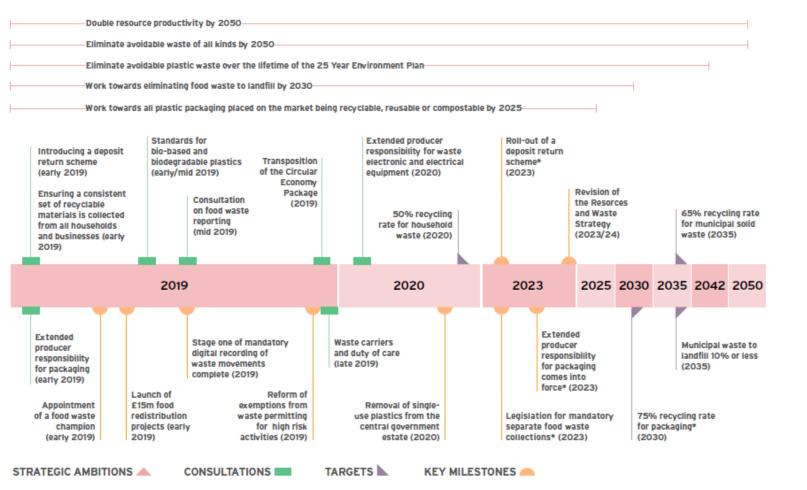
#### Disposal

Landfill and incineration without energy recovery.

## **Key Milestones**



#### **KEY MILESTONES**



\*subject to consultation



- Following on from the DEFRA Resources and Waste Strategy and the initial first round consultations released in May 2019, three secondary consultations have been published focusing on the main policy areas which are:
  - Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) (England, Wales & NI) closed 4 June 2021
  - Reforming the UK packaging responsibility system/Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) (UK) – closed 4 June 2021
  - Consistency in household and business recycling collections (England) – closed 4 July 2021



## Extended Producer Responsibility 2



- In 2019 Government set out the case for significant reforms to the packaging responsibility system. It included making producers pay the full net cost of managing packaging once it becomes waste, setting more ambitious targets for producers and introducing clear and consistent labelling for recyclability
- Powers are being taken through the Environment Bill 2020 to enable the introduction of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packaging
- Government have indicated that changes to the system will be operational by 2023 with a phased approach
- ❑ Proposes minimum recycling targets for six packaging materials (paper, glass, ℜ aluminium, steel, plastic and wood) and to introduce targets to increase the use of refillable/reusable packaging
- Payments to LAs should be based on both the tonnages and quality of packaging waste collected and recycled
- New registration and reporting requirements for reprocessors and exporters of packaging waste
- Possible ban on the export of plastic waste to countries that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.



# Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland a

## Overview



- Set to be launched in late 2024, the primary objectives are to increase recycling rates, increase the quality of recycling and reduce littering
- Not a reward scheme. Consumers would return drinks containers to designated points and redeem the deposit paid upfront upon purchase of the container
- □ 2 proposed DRS models:
  - 'All-in' Upper size limit of 3L of drinks containers in-scope,
  - 'On-the-go' Drinks containers in scope restricted to less than 750ml in size, which are likely to be consumed outside of the home
- Based on material rather than product (including PET bottles, steel and aluminium cans and glass bottles) including the cap where applicable
- Propose exclusion of HDPE, beverage cartons, disposable cups, sachets and pouches
- Government has assumed a 20p deposit and 85% return rate (by 3rd year)

## **Proposals**



- Return Points sets out retailer options proposing all retailers who sell in scope containers will be obligated to host a return point. Also, option for exploring alternative methods of return. Hosts of return points will be paid a handling fee. Also, an option for voluntary return points (such as RHWS).
- □ Labelling mandatory labelling to be legislated so all in scope containers are quickly identifiable. Also minimises risk of fraud, ensuring once they are scanned they lose their deposit and cannot be returned again. Technology options are currently being trialled.
- Local Authorities In scope containers will still end up in local authority waste streams. Three options proposed:
  - Option 1 do nothing allow local authorities to redeem deposit
  - Option 2 Deposit Management Organisation (DMO) makes payment to LAs via EPR Scheme
  - Option 3 hybrid option DMO pays deposit on returned containers as in Option 1 and any additional material is covered by funding formula as in Option 2
- Compliance Monitoring consider environmental regulators are best placed to be scheme regulators and will consider role for local authorities/traded services to regulate consumer facing obligations that are placed on retailers.



# **Consistency in Household and Business Recycling in England**



#### Government ambition is to:

- Improve the quantity and quality of municipal waste recycled in England
- Increase recycling rates and ensuring less waste goes to landfill
- Encourage LAs to improve how they recycle and businesses to invest in recycling
- Create consistency in what can be collected for recycling reducing confusion
- Government recognises that these new duties will impose additional costs on LAs and will ensure that the costs are covered in line with Government guidance on new burdens
- Propose LAs in England should be required to collect a core set of materials at kerbside from houses and flats by the end of 2023/24 (except plastic film which is 2026/27)
- Collection containers and bins determined at the local level. Government are not proceeding with standardised bin colours
- Recyclable waste can be collected together only if is not technically or economically practicable or if no significant environmental benefit of collecting separately
- By 2023 LAs to provide all properties and flats with access to at least a weekly separate food collection including provision of containers and liners
- Propose that all LAs have to arrange for the collection of garden waste in the 2023/24 financial year. Free garden waste is presented as the preferred option

## Proposals – Non-Household Municipal Waste Leicestershire

- Government want to increase the recycling of packaging, food and other recyclable materials beyond the household sector – to ensure consistency between home, school and work
- Propose businesses, public organisations (e.g., schools, universities, hospitals and Government buildings) and other organisations (including charities and not-for-profit organisations) producing household like waste should arrange for this waste to be collected as recycling
- Propose the dry recyclable waste streams should include the same materials as those in the equivalent waste stream from households, in the financial year 2023/24
- The Environment Bill requires food waste to be collected from all non household municipal premises that produce food waste. Must be collected separately from the dry waste streams as well as residual waste
- Propose measures to reduce the cost of recycling and waste management for small and micro firms including exemptions
- Considering local franchising of waste services, including joint collection of household and non household municipal waste and more waste drop off sites including Recycling and Household Waste Sites

## Conclusion



- □ LCC submitted responses to all consultations
- LCC broadly supportive of overall aims and objectives. Some areas require further consideration such as understanding the relationship between collection and disposal authorities, esp. in regards to managing recycling contracts and ensuring payments capture all packaging materials in the residual waste stream
- Composition of household waste streams likely to change as a result of the reforms
- lacksquare Ensured there was consistency between all responses to the 3 consultations  $^{arepsilon}$
- Will continue to monitor the Governments response to the submitted consultations and will continue to engage as appropriate
- There will be financial implications when the changes are implemented but there needs to be further details provided before these can be fully understood
- The Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy which is currently under review will take account of the proposed changes and remain flexible enough to react to any significant changes resulting from that new policies through reviews of the Strategy

This page is intentionally left blank

## Agenda Item 11



#### ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 3 SEPTEMBER 2021

#### ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE PERFORMANCE REPORT TO JUNE 2021

#### JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

#### Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Environment and Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the latest performance update on the key performance indicators that the Council is responsible for delivering against the Council's Strategic Plan. Most performance Indicators included in this report are reported by the Environment and Waste branch of the Environment and Transport Department.

#### Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. The updates in this report reflect progress against the Council's Strategic Outcomes Framework within the Strategic Plan to 2022, and the Environment performance framework and related high-level plans and strategies. Revised and updated versions of the Strategic Plan and Environment Strategy were agreed at the County Council meeting in July 2020 and place greater emphasis on delivery of environmental priorities. The refreshed documents informed the current performance framework and indicators in this report.

#### **Background**

3. Following the decision to separate the Environment and Transport scrutiny committees by full Council in July 2021 this is the first report to the committee covering the performance of the Council's Environment and Waste Management Services as well as Climate Change and delivery of the Council's Green Agenda. Overlap can be expected with other committees, noting the Highways and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee oversight of transport, with expected consideration of carbon impact, however the ECCOSC will oversee performance through its quarterly performance reports, and where appropriate, the Chair, Vice-Chair and Spokespersons will be consulted on the issue and be invited to submit comments or attend the meeting.

- 4. This report highlights how a variety of indicators are performing against the Council's key outcomes: Strong Economy, Wellbeing, Keeping People Safe, Great Communities, Affordable and Quality Homes and supporting corporate enablers.
- 5. The performance dashboards include several indicators where the Council does not have direct or a lot of control of delivery, such as for air and river quality and biodiversity. They have been included to provide greater oversight of the environment and help understand what life is like in Leicestershire and include a mixture of national and locally developed performance indicators. Measuring these may highlight areas for scrutiny of delivery by other agencies or the need for lobbying to influence government policy and funding. It is expected that action by a range of agencies will improve a number of these metrics over time. Internal indicators, where the Council has the most control, are identified with an 'L' within the performance dashboards in Appendix B.
- 6. The Council monitors and assesses its performance by considering its RAG rating, direction of travel (DOT) and quartile position when compared to other English Counties.
- 7. For each indicator reported, the dashboard shows information on the latest data against the previous update and target (if available), the RAG rating (Red, Amber or Green) if applicable (see definitions of RAG ratings in Appendix A), the DOT, the trend, and the comparison quartile position, where available.
- 8. Improvement or deterioration in performance is indicated by the DOT on the performance dashboard. For example, if tonnes of carbon emissions from LCC buildings declines in number the DOT will show a green arrow pointing upwards representing an improvement in performance. If the indicator does not have a DOT arrow, this is because no update is available. This may be due to the time taken to obtain data from third parties and calculate the results or because some indicators are updated less frequently, for example, annually.
- 9. The Council's performance is benchmarked against 33 English authorities which cover large, principally non-urban geographical areas. Where it is available, the performance dashboards within Appendix B indicate which quartile Leicestershire's performance falls into. The Council's quartile position provides insight into how this indicator compares to other county councils in England. The 1st quartile is defined as performance that falls within the top 25% of county councils (the best). The 4th quartile is defined as performance that falls within the bottom 25% of county councils (the worst). The comparison quartiles are updated annually.
- 10. The frequency in which the indicators are reported varies; some are quarterly, others are annual, and some even less frequent. Quarterly updates tend to have a data lag of two quarters or more. For clarity, the time-periods that the data cover are contained in the performance dashboards (Appendix B).

#### Performance Update – latest data to June 2021

- 11. The quarterly performance dashboard shows Environment and Climate Change performance up to June 2021. Overall, there are 29 performance indicators included in this report which are aligned with the Council's Strategic Plan Outcomes. They are presented in the Environment and Waste performance dashboards (Appendix B). This report focuses on the indicators that have been updated, which is 17 this quarter. Where DOT is available: eight show performance improvements, two had declined and seven remained similar to the previous update.
- 12. The latest position shows that Environment and Waste had 10 key performance indicators (KPIs) that have met target or are on track (green), one amber (performance is currently not meeting the target or set to miss the target by a narrow margin) and four KPIs that are rated red (where performance is currently not meeting the target or set to miss the target or set to miss the target (details in the Keeping People Safe and Corporate Enabler sections of this report)).
- 13. Across all the KPIs the Council has notably good performance for: the 'percentage of domestic properties with energy performance certificate rating C plus (for new houses)', 'Carbon emissions from LCC buildings (tonnes)', 'Carbon emissions from LCC street lighting and traffic signs (tonnes)', 'Total carbon emissions from LCC sites (non-operational)', 'Total LCC GHG emissions', 'Tonnes of waste produced from LCC sites', the 'Percentage of staff who say LCC is doing enough to reduce its environmental impact', 'Total business miles claimed ('000 of miles), 'Total fly-tipping incidents per 1,000 population', and that 'Leicestershire rivers (excluding Leicester) are in good chemical status (%)'.
- 14. Where comparative performance is available the Council is in the top quartile for two indicators (listed in Appendix B with green 1<sup>st</sup> quartile positions). The Council is in the bottom quartile for two indicators: 'The percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill' and 'the percentage of domestic properties with Energy Performance Certificate rating C+ (existing)'.
- 15. The updates that follow focus on indicators that either have not met their target, have seen a decline in performance or notable good performance.

## Strong Economy – Green Economy

- 16. This outcome includes indicators that support a greener economy. Within this outcome two indicators were updated in quarter 1 (details in the following paragraphs). Of the two indicators updated both had seen an improvement in performance within this outcome, represented by green DOT up arrows in the dashboards. Targets haven't been set for these indicators since the authority has limited influence over them.
- 17. 'Electric vehicle charging locations per 100,000 population' improved in performance by 11% since the previous quarter from 21 locations per 100,000 in quarter 4 (2020/21) to 23 in quarter 1 (2021/22) and a 29% increase since the same period last year. Despite this improvement in performance Leicestershire remains in the third quartile (below average) when compared to other counties for 2020. The Council's

Carbon Reduction Team are overseeing initiatives that aim to increase the number of charging locations. The Council has been receiving free support from the Energy Saving Trust Local Authority Support Programme including EV heat mapping to predict likely demand for on-street charging. Local transport policy is being developed regarding on-street charging to cover footway obstruction and regulatory issues. Opportunities are being explored to use existing budgets for charging infrastructure at Council sites to access national government funding under the Onstreet Residential Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS).

18. 'Electric vehicle ownership – Ultra low emission vehicles (ULEVs) rate/10,000 population' also improved in performance by 36% as ownership increased from 45/10,000 in quarter 4 (2020/21) to 61/10,000 in quarter 1 (2021/2022) (data a quarter in arears) which has almost doubled since the same period last year. This demonstrates a significant momentum of people moving from fossil fuelled vehicles to more sustainable electric alternatives. However, Leicestershire remains in the third quartile (below average) when compared to other counties for 2020.

## Wellbeing – Air Quality

19. There are no updates to report against within this outcome this quarter. An update on the quartile position for 'PM 2.5 air pollution fine particulate matter' is expected in October.

## Keeping People Safe – Environmental risks

- 20. The department continues to support the Keeping People Safe outcome primarily through its environmental risks monitoring.
- 21. 'Environmental risks managed' remained the same as the previous year at five. The remaining risks have plans in place or work taking place to address or reduce the risks. A number of them are expected to no longer be regarded as high risks at the end of this financial year. Over the past decade, the number of risks has been reduced from 100 to the current position demonstrating excellent performance over time. This was reported in more detail to the Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of the Environmental Performance Report 2019-20 in January 2021.

## **Great Communities – Waste and Energy**

22. The Department supports the Great Communities outcome through its waste management and energy initiatives and evaluates performance through public opinion and wider county indicators. Of the five indicators updated in quarter 1, one indicator has declined in performance and four indicators remained similar. Indicators rated green include 'Annual Percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill', 'Total household waste per household' (target was to see an improvement in performance) and 'Carbon emissions per capita (in local authority influence)'.

- 23. Of the eight comparable indicators, all except for 'Total fly-tipping incidents per 1,000 population' which was in the top quartile (best performing quartile), performed below average when compared to other English county councils. Many of these comparisons cover 2019/20 data, more up-to-date comparison positions are expected in October.
- 24. The 'percentage of household waste sent by local authorities across Leicestershire for reuse, recycling or composting' remained the same as the previous quarter at 43% (data is two quarters in arrears) and missed its 50% target, resulting in an amber rating. It lies within the 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile position (2019/20). The indicator has not met target due to national issues, seasonal fluctuations in garden waste, economic factors, as well as issues specific to Leicestershire such as the closure of the Cotesbach Mechanical Biological Treatment plant (MBT) and service changes across the county. Most of the factors identified are beyond the sole control of the Council, limiting the opportunity to mitigate the impacts.
- 25. The 'Annual percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill' met its target of 30% (rated green) during 2019/20. Its performance has remained steady at 28% since the previous quarter. In recent years this indicator had experienced a loss of alternative (non-landfill) disposal points. The authority has negotiated an increase in the amount of waste delivered to alternative disposal points which has begun to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. Performance against this indicator remained in the 4<sup>th</sup> quartile in 2019/20.
- 26. The 'Total household waste per household (kg) is rated green despite a slight decline in performance since the previous quarter due to a 1% increase in waste. However, this remains in the third quartile for 2019/ 20 when compared to other English county councils.
- 27. Two new performance indicators have been identified within the Council's Strategic Plan performance framework to include which are drawn from the Community Insight Survey. This survey aims to understand public perceptions across areas of importance to the Council. It is a telephone survey of 1,600 respondents annually. The quarterly reporting uses rolling 12-month results. The latest survey results tell us that 97% of respondents agree that 'protecting the environment is important' in the 12 months to quarter 1 (2021/22) and 67% of respondents think that 'the Council should do more to help protect the environment (including carbon reduction and helping tackle climate change) in the same period.

## Affordable and Quality Homes

28. As part of supporting the Council's Affordable and Quality Homes outcome the Council monitors both the energy efficiency of new and existing homes within the County. The latest data shows that 97% of new homes are relatively energy efficient compared to older homes of which 39% were rated as energy efficient in quarter 4 (2020/21). New homes have seen a two percentage points improvement in performance since the previous quarter and older homes improved by three percentage points in performance since the previous quarter. Comparisons (2020)

with other English county council's show that the 'Percentage of domestic properties with Energy Performance certificate rating C+ (new homes)' falls within the 1<sup>st</sup> (top) quartile and the 'Percentage of domestic properties with Energy Performance certificate rating C+ (existing homes)' falls within the 4<sup>th</sup> (bottom) quartile, indicating that existing homes in the County would benefit from more energy efficient incentives. The Authority does not have direct control over this, and further improvement may be contingent on national programmes such as grant schemes to improve insulation and energy efficiency.

# **Corporate Enabler: County Council Environmental Impact**

- 29. The Department supports the Corporate Enabler outcome largely through its environmental initiatives. Seven indicators were updated in quarter 1. Overall, seven indicators had met their departmental targets and three had not. Four indicators had improved in performance, one had declined in performance and two remained the same. The Council continues to show good overall performance for most indicators within this outcome.
- 30. The '% of waste recycled from LCC sites (non-operational)' declined in performance by five percentage points since the previous update to 48% in Q4 2020/21 and missed its target of 62.3%. Many buildings and council services operated at a reduced staff capacity in quarter 4 due to the third lockdown, which meant that less dry recycling was captured in council buildings. An important outcome here is that there has been a significant reduction in waste overall and consequently there is less recyclable waste being produced / captured which is resulting in a lower recycling performance figure. There is less paper due to reduced printing and no composting waste, both of which would have previously contributed to bolstering the recycling figure.
- 31. The 'amount of renewable energy generated as a % of consumption' improved in performance by 4 percentage points since the previous quarter, from 13% in quarter 2 (2020/21) to 17% in quarter 3 (2020/21). Despite this improvement it hasn't met its target of 22% yet. This is a 'stretch' target which is aligned with the target to reach 50% by 2030, as set out in the Council's Strategic Property Energy Strategy 2020-30.
- 32. The Authority continues to perform well on reducing its 'Tonnes of waste produced from LCC sites' as waste fell by 29% since the previous update and 'Total business miles claimed' also fell by 16% since the previous update. As these results covered quarter 4 and quarter 3 respectively, these reductions are likely to have been influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic alongside the Council's improvement initiatives, as there were significantly fewer staff than normal which generated much less waste in Council offices and sites and there were fewer staff travelling for work.

## Background papers

<u>Leicestershire County Council's Strategic Outcomes Framework and Strategic Plan 2018-</u> 22. Environment Strategy 2018-30

# **Circulation under Local Issues Alert Procedure**

None.

# Equalities and Human Rights Implications

There are no specific equalities and human rights implications to note as part of this performance report.

# Appendices

Appendix A. Definitions of RAG ratings.

Appendix B. Strategic Plan Performance Dashboards by Outcomes (Environment and Waste Performance) to June 2021.

# Officers to Contact

Ann Carruthers Director, Environment and Transport Department Tel: (0116) 305 7000 Email: <u>Ann.Carruthers@leics.gov.uk</u>

Nicola Truslove Business Partner, Business Intelligence Service Tel: (0116) 305 8302 Email: <u>Nicola.Truslove@leics.gov.uk</u> This page is intentionally left blank

#### Appendix A. Explanation of RAG Rating

	Close monitoring or significant action required. This would normally be triggered by any combination of the following:
RED	<ul> <li>Performance is currently not meeting the target or set to miss the target by a significant amount.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Actions in place are not believed to be enough to bring performance fully back on track before the end of the target or reporting period.</li> </ul>
	The issue requires further attention or action
	Light touch monitoring required. This would normally be triggered by any combination of the following:
	• Performance is currently not meeting the target or set to miss the target by a narrow margin.
AMBER	• There are a set of actions in place that is expected to result in performance coming closer to meeting the target by the end of the target or reporting period.
	<ul> <li>May flag associated issues, risks and actions to be addressed to ensure performance progresses.</li> </ul>
GREEN	. No action required. This would normally be triggered when performance is currently meeting the target or on track to meet the target, no significant issues are being flagged up and actions to progress performance are in place

The degree to which performance is missing a target is open to debate. A common way of overcoming this is to use a precise percentage threshold between current performance and the target. However, a blanket approach (such as plus or minus 10%) is not appropriate due to the varying ways that metrics are reported e.g. small numbers, rates per capita, percentages.

This page is intentionally left blank

# Appendix B. Environment & Waste KPIs dashboards Q1 2021/22

#### **Strong Economy**

#### Environment & Waste KPI Performance Dashboards Q1 2021-22

Area Environment & Waste	Select Strategic Plan Outcome & Waste Strong Economy		Indicator Type All		R	AG Ratir	ng	DOT Arrow		
L = LCC indicators	C = County ir	ndicato	rs				S NA		NO UPDATE 3	2
Indicator		Туре	Target	Latest Data	Period	Previous Data	RAG	Performance DOT	Previous Quarters/Years	Quartiles
C Electric vehicle charging lo population	ocation per 100,000	SP		23.06	Q1 2021	20.77	NA	1		3rd 2020
C Electric vehicle ownership vehicles (ULEVs) rate/10,0		SP		61.18	Q1 2021	44.93	NA	1		3rd 2020
C NO2 exceedances for Leice	stershire	SP		3	2019	8	NA			NA
C Leicestershire rivers (exclu in good ecological status (		SP		9.4	2019	0.67	NA		/	NA
C Leicestershire rivers (excl in good chemical status (%		SP		0	2019	99.6	NA			NA

## Wellbeing

#### Environment & Waste KPI Performance Dashboards Q1 2021-22

Environment &	Waste KPI Performan	nce Das	hboard	Is Q1 20	21-22				Leice	stershire v Council
Area Environment & Wast		Select Strategic Plan Outcome Wellbeing							1000-000	yCouncil
						R	AG Rati	ng	DOT Arrow	
							NA		NO UPDATE	
L = LCC indic	ators C = County	indicato	rs				1		1	
Indicator		Туре	Target	Latest Data	Period	Previous Data	RAG	Performance DOT	Previous Quarters/Years	Quartiles
C PM2.5 Air polluti (µg/m²)	on fine particulate matter	SP		9.92	2019	9.13	NA			3rd 2019

#### **Keeping People Safe**

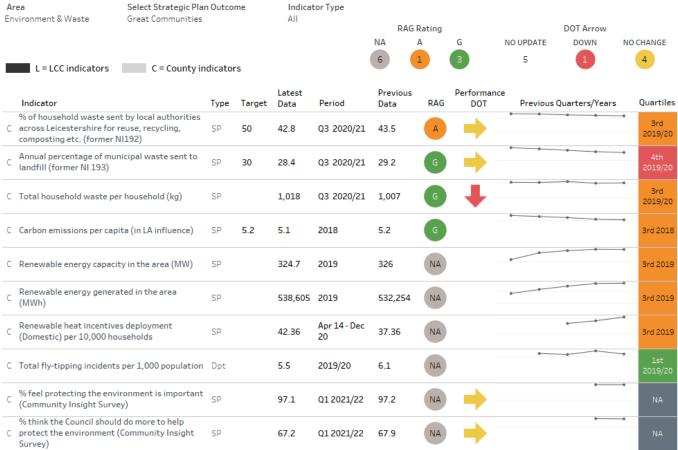
Environment & Was	Is Q1 20	021-22				Leice	stershire ty Council			
Area Environment & Waste	Select Strategic Pla Keeping People Saf		me	Indica All	ator Type					ty Council
						R	R	ng	NO CHANGE	
L = LCC indicators	C = County i	ndicator Type	rs Target	Latest Data	Period	Previous Data	RAG	Performance DOT	Previous Quarters/Years	Quartiles
L Environmental risks ma	naged	SP	0	5	2020/21	5	R	-		NA





#### **Great Communities**

#### Environment & Waste KPI Performance Dashboards Q1 2021-22



#### **Affordable & Quality Homes**

E	nvironment & Waste KPI Per	formance D	ashboai				Leices	tershire Council		
An	ea Select Stra	ategic Plan Out	come	Indic	ator Type					
Env	vironment & Waste Affordable	omes	All							
			R	AG Ratir	ng	DOT Arrow				
							NA		UP	
	L = LCC indicators C =			2		2				
	Indicator	Тур	e Targe	Latest Data	Period	Previous Data	RAG	Performance DOT	Previous Quarters/Years	Quartiles
с	Indicator % domestic properties with Energy Performance Certificate rating C+ (exi	cn.	e Targe		Period Q4 2020/21		NA			Quartiles 4th 2020





#### **Corporate Enablers**

#### Environment & Waste KPI Performance Dashboards Q1 2021-22

Environment & Waste KPI Performance Dashboards Q1 2021-22										tershire	
Area         Select Strategic Plan Outcome           Environment & Waste         Corporate Enablers				ator Type	PAG	Rating			DOT	Arrow	council
				R	(acing		NO UPDATE	DOWN	NO CHANGE	UP	
L = LCC indicators C = County in	ndicato	rs			3	7		3	1	2	4
Indicator	Туре	Target	Latest Data	Period	Previous Data	RAG	Performa DOT		ous Quarto	ers/Years	Quartiles
L Carbon emissions from LCC buildings (tonnes)	SP	3,885	3,393	Q3 2020/21	3,477	G		••	•	• •	NA
Carbon emissions from LCC street lighting and traffic signs (tonnes)	SP	5,790	2,200	Q4 2020/21	2,209	G	-	••	•	• •	NA
L Carbon emissions from LCC fleet	SP	2,316	2,424	2019/20	2,190	R		►		• • •	NA
Total Carbon emissions from LCC sites (non-operational)	SP	16,098	10,540	2019/20	11,134	G		• •		+	NA
L Total LCC GHG emissions	SP	16,209	11,663	2019/20	12,366	G		*		• • •	NA
% waste recycled from LCC sites (non-operational)	SP	62.3	48.4	Q4 2020/21	53.5	R	∔	••	•		NA
L Tonnes of waste produced from LCC sites	SP	410.1	132.8	Q4 2020/21	188	G					NA
Amount of renewable energy generated as a % of consumption	SP	21.6	16.8	Q3 2020/21	12.8	R		•	•		NA
% of staff who say LCC is doing enough to reduce its environmental impact	SP	80	93	Q4 2020/21	92.3	G	-	• •	•	• •	NA
L Total Business miles claimed ('000s of miles)	SP	5,745	3,409	Q3 2020/21	4,040	G	1	••		• • •	NA

# 83

This page is intentionally left blank