

Cross Cutting Actions

Leadership	Project status	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
1. Achieve net zero carbon emissions for the council's operations by 2035 by delivering the Council's 2035 Carbon Reduction Programme.	Delivery		The Council's Greenhouse Gas Report for 2023/24 is now being finalised. Although the new 2035 net zero target gives more time, the Council is not projected to meet it based on the current rate of progress annually.
2. Assess the emissions from the council's supply chain and investments and develop a prioritised action plan for carbon reduction, including working with our supply chain to reduce carbon emissions and developing tools and guidance to integrate carbon impact into procurement decisions.	Design		Work to redevelop the procurement strategy and strengthen environmental controls has been slowed due to the extra financial control measures and new procurement legislation, therefore this action is still ongoing.
3. Strive to provide easy to understand climate information to educate and inform stakeholders, businesses and individuals about the need to act with urgency.	Design		The Leicestershire Collaborate to Accelerate Net zero (LCAN) project is well underway with a work package in development which will provide an online advisory service for organisations, businesses and communities with tools and advice supporting them to reach Net Zero. The Carbon Reduction team also carries out engagement activities at events across the county to spread carbon messaging and is supporting schools with a sustainability booklet.
Collaboration			
1. Develop and promote a Leicestershire Climate and Nature Pact to inspire other organisations and individuals to join the council in setting targets and delivering climate action.	Delivery		The pact was launched on 2023 and continues to collect signatories.
2. Develop a partnership and engagement plan which considers the role of stakeholders and individuals and how they can be encouraged and supported to take action.	Design		The LCAN project has a workpackage which is focussed on governance and how this could be developed to support Net Zero delivery across Leicestershire. It is anticipated this governance structure will then consider partnership engagement.
3. Work with others to engage with national government to call for urgent action to deliver net zero carbon, including a clear framework and the resources required to define and support the role of local authorities in	Delivery		LCC respond to Government consultations or similar, as and when they arise
Research and Innovation			
1. Work with partners, particularly knowledge-based institutions to support research, development and demonstration of low and zero carbon technologies.	Delivery		LCC is part of the Universities Civic Agreement, who we have worked with to secure money from Innovate UK to deliver the LCAN project. This successful collaboration brings together partners from The University of Leicester, De Montfort University, The Energy Systems Catapult, National Grid, Community Energy South and Green Fox Community Energy. The partners are working together to deliver 4 key work packages as part of this project which will accelerate delivery of Net Zero activity across Leicestershire. LCC is also a collaborative partner in the Green Living Leicestershire group, where the County and District/Borough Councils have collaboratively delivered various low carbon projects including Solar Together and Warm Homes schemes.
2. Take an evidence-based approach to assessing options and decision making to support the net zero transition.	Design		The LCAN project has a workpackage which is focussed on governance and how this could be developed to support Net Zero delivery across Leicestershire.
3. Support the development and deployment of carbon capture and storage approaches.	Discovery		Current activity follows the mitigation hierarchy prioritising carbon reduction over carbon capture, therefore LCC is not currently engaged with CCS development.

Funding			
1. Produce a funding plan for net zero, considering and taking maximum advantage of the diverse range of grant, finance, investment and other innovative models to deliver action.	Discovery		The Net Zero funding plan has been paused as resources and expertise are not available within the County Council to further develop the work into a deliverable plan, this would require external consultancy support which is currently outside of the scope of available finances.
2. Prioritise projects with multiple benefits, that save money and/or provide income.	Discovery		To be developed
3. Consider the impact of delivering action on residents and ensure that solutions are affordable and fair for all.	Discovery		To be developed

Transport

Action ID	Objective	Action	LCC Role	Who may be involved	Project stage 2024	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
Policy and Strategy							
T1	All	Develop a vision and strategy for decarbonised transport for Leicestershire in the new Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4).	Lead	Transport Partners Business Residents	Design		The Council is developing Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP 4), the Core Document of which is seeking Cabinet approval in November 2024. This sets out the vision and strategy for decarbonised transport in Leicestershire.
T2	All	Continue to engage with the public and stakeholders to get a better understanding of their needs and aspirations for travel improvements and infrastructure opportunities.	Lead	Transport Partners Business Residents	Delivery		The Council undertakes consultation exercises as part of the development of transport strategies, policies, plans, service and infrastructure improvements.
T3	All	Work with others to investigate models and tools to quantify the carbon impact of policy decisions and scheme design.	Ask	Midlands Connect MHA	Design		The Transport Strategy & Policy Team has ongoing dialogue with partners such as Midlands Connect to support this action.
T4	All	Identify opportunities for research into clean transport technology and local demonstration projects.	Ask	Universities Enterprise Zones LLEP Midlands Connect	Design		The Council seeks appropriate opportunities to facilitate this action such as the local electric vehicle infrastructure fund (LEVI)
T5	All	Support planning policies for development that reduce the need to travel for essential services and promote walking, cycling and public transport.	Ask	Districts	Delivery		The Council reviews new development plans and provides travel packs with information on walking, cycling and car sharing to new residents/employees, aligning with planning obligations.
T6	All	Revise the Leicestershire Highway Design Guide to incorporate environmental and net zero carbon consideration .	Lead	Developers Districts	Complete		An updated version of the Leicester Highway Design Guide was approved by Cabinet in October 2024.
T7	All	National government policy and long term funding allocations to support the delivery of capital schemes and promotional activity to decarbonise transport and to clarify its role.	Influence	Leicester City LLEP Midlands Connect Transport for East Midlands ADEPT	Delivery		Change in Government has made this challenging with regard to clarity on transport priorities. Awaiting confirmation on funding arrangements and opportunities before progressing this further.
Active travel and reducing mileage							
T8	1, 2	Implement the actions identified in the Cycling and Walking Strategy, in line with national policy and funding, to enable Leicestershire to become a county where walking and cycling are safe, accessible and obvious choices for short journeys and a natural part of longer journeys.	Lead	Districts Leicester City Developers Public transport providers	Delivery		Programme of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) continues to be rolled out.
T9	1, 2	Identify and build key walking and cycling infrastructure in line with national policy and funding	Lead	Districts	Design		Scheme designs in place but subject to external funding for delivery.
T10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Continue to deliver sustainable travel planning advice and support to businesses and residents through the Choose How You Move campaign.	Lead	Business Districts Health partners Residents Leicester City Schools	Delivery		The Council has been conducting behavioural change campaigns. The Schools Street campaign is active and encouraging low carbon methods of transport for the school run such as walking and using scooters.
T11	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Work with local employers to encourage remote and flexible working to reduce the need for business travel and commuting.	Ask	Business Districts Health partners LLEP	Delivery		The Council works with partners to aid businesses in flexible working policies and offering alternative transport options such as e-bikes and bus vouchers.
T12	All	Work with partners to promote sustainable travel and transport choices with their staff, customers, suppliers, residents and service users.	Ask	All partners Business LLEP	Delivery		There is ongoing collaboration with partners regarding sustainable transport through events, travel planning, and general promotion via social media and local advertising.

T13	2	Work with local employers to develop shared office space and work hubs.	Ask	Business Districts	Discovery		For future delivery as resources and funding allow
T14	3	Encourage businesses to educate drivers in fuel efficient driving and other fuel efficiency strategies such as route planning, vehicle maintenance etc.	Ask	LLEP Energy Saving Trust Business	Delivery		The Council aids journey planning through the 'Choose How You Move' website.
Public Transport							
T15	2, 4	Improve public transport through the delivery of the Bus Service Improvement Plan for Leicestershire in line with national policy and funding.	Lead	Public Transport providers	Delivery		A large proportion of bus operators fleet meet the Euro VI emissions standard with some routes operating with Euro 4 and 5. Euro VI to be implemented through the tender process as new contracts are awarded where feasible.
T16	2, 4	Trial modern IT enabled, dynamically routed Demand Responsive Transport service to improve passenger transport offer in rural communities, improving rural mobility	Lead	Residents Public Transport providers	Delivery		Digital Demand Responsive Transport (DDRT) service to be rolled out in the county as part of the passenger transport network review and redesign. To provide a holistic and layered service provision consisting of fixed timetable, DDRT or lifeline taxi based DRT services. New zones to be created as part of the network review.
T17	2, 4	Subject to appropriate mitigation, facilitate new rail services and other rail improvements (e.g. electrification), including exploring schemes such as the Ivanhoe Line.	Ask	DfT Districts Neighbouring Authorities LLEP Midlands Connect Transport for East Midlands Great British Rail	MMLe - Delivery Discovery		New bimode trains will come online in early 2025. Electrification works in south Leicestershire are substantially complete, with further electrification northwards to be developed subject to government funding. Govt has stopped work on the Ivanhoe Line, however LCC will support any future strategic rail projects that benefit Leicester accordingly.
Ultra Low Emission Vehicles							
T18	5	Develop a strategy for increasing the uptake of electric vehicles infrastructure.	Lead	Midlands Connect Business Residents Districts	Delivery		The Electric Vehicles Infrastructure strategy was adopted by Council Cabinet in September 2024. The Strategy will be reviewed in light of the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) pilot project in 2026.
T19	5, 6	Work with others to plan for ultra low emission vehicles and alternative fuelling infrastructure at a regional level.	Ask	Midlands Connect Neighbouring authorities Districts	Discovery		The Council continues to deliver the LEVI funded projects, working with other authority partners at a regional level. We continue to investigate alternative fuelling, e.g. hydrogen, through partner organisations and research bodies.
T20	5	Develop and adopt policy to support the uptake of electric vehicles and highway planning policy to promote the deployment of charging infrastructure.	Lead	Districts	Delivery		We have adopted policy through the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy and the Leicestershire Highways Design Guide.
T21	5	Collect and collate information on demand for public charging in Leicestershire from residents.	Lead	Districts Residents Business	Delivery		The Council undertook an electric vehicle survey in October 2023. The results of this were used to shape the LEVI pilot project. The chargepoint operator will undertake local consultation, further information on demand for public charging will be sought through the delivery of the LEVI pilot project.

T22	5	Deliver the LEVI funded charging infrastructure project, installing c. 100 on street charge points and seek opportunities to secure further LEVI funding to install further public charging points across the county.	Lead	Midlands Connect Neighbouring Authorities Districts Residents Business WPD	Delivery		The Council is still working with a consortium of partners to deliver the LEVI pilot project, a charge point operator has now been procured to install chargepoints across the County. The Council works towards the next round of funding with a new consortium of partners to expand the pilot project and install approximately 500 extra chargepoints across Leicestershire.
T23	5	Increase public charge point infrastructure at Leicestershire County Council sites e.g. country parks.	Lead	District Councils Energy Saving Trust	Discovery		Opportunities will be taken up where demand is evidenced, however the current focus is on charging infrastructure at private Council sites such as depots to support Council fleet transition to EVs.
T24	5	Deliver the FLEX-D project to develop a business case for charging hubs with solar canopy/battery storage and seek funding to implement.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub Districts LLEP	Delivery		The FLEX-D pilot project is progressing with installation of EV charging hubs anticipated in 2025
T25	5	Work with partners to consider options for joint procurement of low emission vehicles and refuelling infrastructure.	Ask	Districts Health partners Energy Saving Trust	Discovery		Since last year, the Midlands Net Zero Hub has funded feasibility studies into the business case for refuelling depots
T26	5	National investment in the electricity supply network to reduce the cost of connections to the grid linked to electric vehicle charge point infrastructure.	Influence	WPD Ofgem ADEPT Districts	Delivery		We provide transport EV charge plans to the National Grid when we have them and the LCAN project interfaces with the Future Series and Regional Energy Strategy Plan (RESP) function to assist.
T27	5	Investigate opportunities to provide incentives for green number plate vehicles.	Influence	Districts	Discovery		To be progressed at a later point
T28	5	National framework for charge point suppliers to provide consistent, simple payment options and support interoperability across networks.	Influence	ADEPT Government Business - charge point operators	Delivery		Newly implemented national legislation guarantees transparent and comparable prices for consumers using charge points. A significant portion of new charge points will be contactless. It also ensures providers open up their data so drivers can easily find an available charge point.
T29	5	Investigate and support opportunities to deploy EV car clubs in Leicestershire.	Ask	Districts Local councils VCSE Residents	Design		The LCAN scheme is progressing to support the set up of community energy groups, which will support the development of new EV car clubs. Successful club launched in Tilton on the Hill in August 2023.
Freight							
T30	6	Investigate opportunities for reducing the impact of long-haul freight road mileage such as shift to rail freight.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub Districts LLEP	Discovery		The Council continues to support Midlands Connect on rail and HGV alternative fuels.
T31	5, 6	Investigate opportunities for low emission alternatives for freight and logistics.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub Districts LLEP	Discovery		A Strategic Outline Business Case with East Midlands Freeport is in development for an HGV refuelling hub - delivery by end of March 2025.
T32	5,6	Support national investment and policy to enable the transition of freight movements to low carbon alternatives with less impact on the environment, including through a new Freight Energy Forum.	Influence	LLEP Midlands Connect Midlands Net Zero Hub	Delivery		The Council continues to lobby for better rail freight links. The EM Freeport acts as a catalyst for investment into low carbon freight in Leicestershire.
T33	5, 6	Work with others in the H2GV project to develop a business case for use of Hydrogen in HGVs, apply for funding to pilot the project, disseminate knowledge and seek to develop local demand and supply chain.	Ask	H2GVMids project group	Discovery		The H2GVMids funding bid was previously unsuccessful. Investigation of other routes by which hydrogen in HGVs may be promoted continues.
T34	1, 2, 5, 6	Investigate opportunities for reducing the impact of local delivery hubs and alternative 'last mile' delivery e.g. cargo bikes.	Ask	Local Councils District Councils Leicester City Council LLEP	Discovery		The search for an opportunity to develop a project is ongoing, private sector involvement will be required.

Buildings and Energy

Action ID	Objective	Action	LCC Role	Who may be involved	Project Stage 2024	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
Engagement							
B1	1, 2, 3	Provide information and materials to educate and engage residents in behaviour change, energy efficiency, low carbon sources of heating and renewable energy.	Lead	Low carbon industry Government Districts	Delivery		<p>The Home Energy Retrofit Offer (HERO) led by the Public Health Warm Homes service is delivering in person home visit advice to low income or health vulnerable residents.</p> <p>Reporting of measures taken up by residents following advice is hampered by significant timescales faced by households to progress through the grant scheme initiatives such as national Energy Company Obligation.</p> <p>The service will link with Environment & Transport leads to take up opportunities for joint promotion at public facing events. Warm Homes revises a booklet on home energy advice annually. Existing resources dedicated specifically to retrofit of homes are utilised over the creation of a local resource.</p>
B2	1, 2, 3	Continue to provide information, advice and signposting to households at risk of Fuel Poverty through First Contact Plus and Warm Homes Teams.	Lead	Districts Midlands Net Zero Hub	Delivery		<p>Referral activity has been sustained and Warm Homes has implemented a direct referral route by telephone and online form alongside other referral mechanisms including First Contact Plus and Joy Marketplace. Warm Homes links with the Respiratory and Housing project led by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council to build referral links between housing departments triaging homes with damp and mould issues linked to poor energy efficiency and ill health.</p> <p>Warm Homes revises a booklet on home energy advice annually and maintains an energy grants webpage detailing relevant local and national initiatives. Information regarding Warm Homes advice is disseminated through various teams including wider Community Delivery within Public Health and into public spaces such as libraries and community centres. Warm homes Support Officers provide briefings to professionals and attend public events and groups to discuss advice and promote the service.</p>
B3	2, 3, 6	Engage with commercial building owners to share best practice on building retrofit and low carbon solutions including energy storage and renewables.	Influence	Low carbon industry Midlands Net Zero Hub Government	Discovery		There has been limited scope for wider engagement of commercial building owners in the county
B4	1, 5	Continue to deliver and expedite smart metering programmes and introduce opportunities for new tariff structures which support flexible energy solutions.	Influence	DESNZ Energy Companies	Discovery		The Council will respond to Government consultation or similar, as and when they arise.

Retrofit						
B5	2, 3, 6	Apply for future funding to support building retrofit for homes and other buildings.	Lead	Districts Midlands Net Zero Hub	Delivery & Discovery	<p>Home Upgrade Grant phase 2 is currently in delivery, delivering fully funded energy efficiency measures to eligible homes heated by non mains gas appliances. Delivery runs to March 2025 with an estimated 190 homes deliverable and anticipated capital budget up to £2.85m.</p> <p>To facilitate continued funding, the Warm Homes Local Grant is being explored to deliver further grant funded energy efficiency measures to lower income households. The grant will support on and off mains gas households and pending further guidance from central government will provide funding for 3 to 5 year projects. This could represent an estimated capital value of between £10m and £20m. Projects will be able to start mobilisation from April 2025 onwards. Mobilisation is anticipated by September 2025.</p>
B6	2, 3, 6	Improve and extend the funding programmes for clean heat and energy efficiency.	Influence	DESNZ	Discovery	<p>See Action B.5. In addition, within the Green Living Leicestershire partnership offers are being explored to widen access to sustainable finance to enable residents to self fund energy efficiency and home improvements via a managed pot of self-sustaining Council funding that enable competitive long term loans and cost recoveries on properties that may struggle to otherwise afford upfront costs.</p> <p>The Council remains responsive to Government changes, recently adapting to the gas boiler ban shift and plans to secure increased grants for air source heat pumps.</p>
B7	2, 3, 6	Deliver the Sustainable Warmth programme for Leicestershire to increase the energy performance of homes across the county, reducing emissions and fuel poverty.	Lead	Districts Midlands Net Zero Hub	Completed	<p>The Sustainable Warmth programme for Leicestershire has now concluded, completing this action.</p>
B8	2, 3, 6	Secure funding to deliver retrofit programmes to social housing, increasing the energy performance of homes across the county and reducing emissions.	Ask	Districts Social Housing Providers	Discovery	<p>This sits within individual district authorities with social housing stock or individual social housing providers. Warm Homes grant scheme focus is on private sector housing.</p> <p>As part of the Government Warm Homes plan a new round of the Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (WH:SHF) Wave 3, formerly known as the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF), will provide funding to local authorities and others who own social housing stock to install energy efficiency upgrades and low-carbon heating measures to existing domestic homes in England.</p>

B9	2	Promote ECO funding, including utilisation of LA Flex mechanism.	Ask	Districts	Delivery		Warm homes has implemented a county wide Flexible eligibility mechanism available to local authorities to widen access to national Energy Company Obligation which provides grant funded energy efficiency upgrades to low income private sector households. This mechanism enables households to be declared eligible by the Warm Homes service where meeting expanded criteria considering health, housing and financial circumstances outside of the existing means tested benefit route.
B10	2	Enforce private rented and non-domestic Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards regulations.	Ask	Districts	Delivery		Progress continues to be made in this area, noting that the EPC band C requirement for all private rented property was previously scrapped but has since been reinstated with a new target year of 2030.
B11	3	Promote and encourage the uptake of government incentives for low carbon technologies including the Renewable Heat Incentive, Heat Pump Ready etc.	Lead	Government Residents Districts	Delivery		The Warm Homes service connects residents to various initiatives, offering advice on energy efficiency, grants and self-finance options. It is recognised that more could likely be done to directly engage households and this is the aim of the HERO demonstrator scheme which is currently delivering (referenced in action B1). In addition, the service has launched a newsletter to provide updates on energy policy and initiatives supporting energy efficiency improvements.
B12	2, 3	Deliver energy efficiency and decarbonisation of heat projects to a range of buildings including schools and education, health sector, public sector and business premises.	Ask	Districts LLEP Academies NHS	Discovery		The Local Area Energy Plan currently in development will support this but the Council will not have resources for any delivery.
B13	2, 3, 4, 6	Explore opportunities for the Invest in Leicestershire Programme to support net zero targets through retrofit, low carbon development, increased renewable energy generation and zero-carbon flagship development.	Lead	Developers LCC	Delivery		The IILP is an ongoing initiative that supports developments throughout Leicestershire and includes project requirements that are consistent with net zero carbon such as renewable energy installation.
B14	2	Develop a new programme of business support for energy efficiency and carbon reduction to build on the success of Green Belle and Zellar pilot	Ask	Leicester City Council LLEP Growth Hub	Delivery		The Leicestershire CAN project (Collaborate to Accelerate Net Zero) is in delivery and work package 4 advisory service is set to launch its GreenerFuture website and consultancy offer to businesses from January 2025.
B15	2	Work collaboratively to deliver efficiencies or fuel switching to industrial processes	Ask	Businesses Universities	Discovery		The Council supports research projects when they become available. The East Midlands Hydrogen Group is exploring hydrogen technology for significant energy users with the potential for collaborative work across partner organisations.
B16	2, 3	Improve the understanding of energy efficiency in the housing stock in Leicestershire to support energy improvement.	Ask	Districts	Delivery		Business Intelligence has developed a Tableau based tool for Warm Homes to map Energy Performance Certificate, deprivation and non-gas postcode data to support targeted communications for grant funded projects including Home Upgrade Grant and HERO. This can be updated as newer Open-Source data becomes available for future projects.

B17	2, 3, 4, 6	Provide support to develop retrofit and renewable energy supply chains and skills.	Influence	DESNZ	Discovery		The Midlands Net Zero Hub is completing an updated Low Carbon and Environmental Goods and Services Sector Study - this will help to inform the Council and others re supply chain and skills. Also Leicester and Leicestershire Business and Skills Partnership works with the Council on green skills. Finally, MNZH will be reporting on retrofit skills pilot soon.
Policy and Strategy							
B18	4, 6	Implement national planning policy and building standards that support net zero, including a high level of energy efficiency and renewable energy deployment.	Influence	DLUHC	Design		The County Council continues to influence and seek alignment with national planning policy, a revised version of which is expected to be published late 2024/early 2025.
B19	4, 6	Develop consistent local planning policies to support the net zero transition using an evidence-led approach to infrastructure, buildings and homes (including embodied carbon in new builds).	Ask	Districts Leicester City LLEP	Design		Continue to engage with respective Local Authorities on the development of their planning policy (some of whom are re-looking at timescales for Local Plan development).
B20	4, 6	Develop a vision and key principles for green growth and sustainable development in Leicestershire. Work with partners and as the County Planning Authority to adopt and integrate the vision into policies to protect and enhance the environment and support net zero.	Lead	Districts Leicester City LLEP	Discovery		The Council has engagement through partner meetings and workshops.
B21	4, 6	Review and update the Strategic Growth Plan to ensure it supports the transition to net zero carbon.	Ask	Districts Leicester City LLEP	Discovery		Any review and/or update to the Strategic Growth Plan still being discussed and require agreement by all partners (Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council, the district council's and the Business and Skills Partnership).
B22	2, 6	Explore opportunities for developer contributions to support net zero infrastructure and carbon reduction projects in the revision of the County Council Planning Obligations Policy.	Lead	Developers Districts	Discovery		Planning Obligations policy will ensure that the money the Council collects for its infrastructure is all inclusive upon delivery (i.e., that new schools are built in a sustainable, carbon neutral way) but the actual delivery of the infrastructure is service specific. There is an inclusion in the policy for sustainable transport and this is also being reviewed to ensure maximum take up of the bus pass / voucher scheme to encourage mode shift.
B23	All	Investigate options for developing a Local Area Energy Plan including decarbonised heating and low carbon energy, working with key partners.	Lead	Districts Leicester City Public Sector Universities Business WPD National Grid	Delivery		The Leicestershire CAN project is in delivery and work package 2 is developing a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) for Leicester and Leicestershire. Completion is projected for November 2025.
B24	3, 5, 6	Undertake research including heat mapping and identification of potential locations for energy projects, and secure funding to test innovative technologies to reduce carbon.	Ask	Universities Government Midlands Net Zero Hub	Delivery		The Leicestershire CAN project is in delivery and working towards developing a pipeline of projects as part of the LAEP and identifying areas for future community energy projects.
B25	3	Provide support with identifying potential locations for low carbon heat networks across the county.	Influence	HNDU	Delivery		Identifying areas for low carbon heat networks will be a part of the LAEP in development.
B26	2, 3	Review the MNZH commissioned District Eating findings and consider opportunities for delivery in Leicestershire.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub	Design		MNZH are exploring follow on work from the original study that looked at links between waste heat and horticulture.
B27	3	Explore opportunities and plan for Hydrogen Infrastructure.	Ask	Universities Midlands Net Zero Hub LLEP ERA	Discovery		This is delivered at a regional level such as the East Midlands Hydrogen initiative which the Council continues to engage with.
B28	All	Continue to support the Local Electricity Bill.	Influence	Parliament	Discovery		The Council will continue to monitor progress of the Local Electricity Bill through parliament.
B29	2, 3, 6	Provide an evidence base for new business models and financing options for low carbon technologies including Heat as a Service models.	Influence	DESNZ	Delivery		Leicestershire CAN is in delivery and work package 1 is exploring governance of net zero as well as finance options.

B30	All	Rebalance environmental levies between electricity and gas bills.	Influence	OFGEM	Discovery		There has been limited opportunity to influence stakeholders on this topic
B31	All	Consider carbon pricing and its role in achieving net zero.	Influence	DESNZ OFGEM LGA	Design		The Council has done some work to integrate carbon pricing into business cases and further work in this area is intended for the future.
B32	All	Deliver the Air Quality Partnership Action Plan to support carbon reduction	Ask	Air Quality Partnership National Highways	Delivery		The Air Quality Partnership is active - further work will be progressed to align its action plan to support carbon reduction.
Renewable Energy and Infrastructure							
B33	6	Work collaboratively to increase renewable energy generation and storage through innovative business models, sourcing of investment and technical solutions.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub LLEP Districts Investors Universities	Delivery		The Leicestershire Collaborate to Accelerate Net zero (LCAN) project is identifying a pipeline of local renewable energy and community energy projects within the LAEP.
B34	6	Deliver the Solar Together Leicestershire group buying project to support householders to install solar photovoltaics and battery storage.	Ask	Districts i-Choosr	Delivery		The Solar Together 2023 project has supported 223 solar and battery installations across the county, delivering £2.2million of private resident investment into renewables. It is estimated to deliver over 4,500 tCO2e reduction over 25 years.
B35	2, 3, 6	Provide support for community energy including investment and business models.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub LLEP Government Investors	Delivery		The community energy work package is upskilling community groups and individuals to create a community energy hub which will assist in delivering energy projects and advice.
B36	5	Complete research to support investment in the electricity network in Leicestershire to deliver the capacity required for electrification of heat, transport and connection of generation assets.	Ask	NGED National Grid Ofgem	Delivery		The LCAN project is currently in delivery and a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) is being developed which will address this. National Grid are a partner organisation of LCAN.
B37	5, 6	Promote and incentivise flexible energy and demand side management and facilitate increased energy storage capacity.	Ask	NGED National Grid Ofgem	Delivery		The LCAN project is currently in delivery and the LAEP being developed will address energy storage capacity.
B38	5, 6	Create fair and consistent markets and regulatory frameworks for low carbon generation and storage	Influence	DESNZ OFGEM	Discovery		Leicestershire County Council commits to supporting consultation exercises for improved competition in renewables as they arise.

Business and Economy

Action ID	Objective	Action	LCC Role	Who may be involved	Project Stage 2024	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
Policy and Strategy							
E1	1, 2, 3, 4	Deliver the Economic Growth Strategy and ensure economic plans and programmes support the net zero transition.	Ask	LLEP Leicester City Universities Chamber	Discovery		The LLEP have now transitioned into the Leicester and Leicestershire Business and Skills Partnership with the initial Business Board being held in September 24. We are awaiting further guidance on the development of a new Economic Growth Strategy and/or Local Growth Plan.
E2	1, 2, 3	Develop a Digital Strategy and consider the role of digital technology and skills in delivering net zero targets, including smart metering, artificial intelligence, weather modelling, smart grids, 5G rollout, enabling flexible working solutions etc.	Lead	LLEP	Design		Preparation work is underway which could feed into a further Digital Strategy.
E3	1, 2, 4	Develop an Inward Investment Strategy which considers low carbon goods and services.	Lead	Leicester City LLEP LCC	Discovery		To be progressed
E4	1, 2, 3	Develop the Freeport around East Midlands Airport integrating low carbon solutions and pilots.	Lead	Freeport partners	Delivery		The East Midlands Airport Green Futures initiative is being progressed, featuring projects to decarbonise the airport and surrounding area.
E5	2, 4	Develop a pipeline of projects to enable raising of capital and innovative investment models, linking to development of the Net Zero Funding Strategy and specific opportunities such as the Levelling Up agenda and UK Shared Prosperity Fund.	Lead	Districts LLEP	Delivery		Using UKSPF and the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), Districts are delivering initiatives, some of which are related to improving energy efficiency (Solar PV systems, insulation, lighting) and others to biodiversity preservation. No indication whether UKSPF will continue past March 2025 (awaiting confirmation from national government).
E6	4	Provide consistent policy which stimulates growth in the low carbon goods and services sector.	Influence	Government	Discovery		Leicestershire County Council is committed to responding to government consultations when they arise.
Business Support							
E7	1	Provide support to businesses to reduce their carbon emissions and develop low carbon goods and services through the Growth Hub provision.	Ask	LLEP Growth Hub Leicester City Chamber Business	Design		The Growth Hub is still under review amid the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership transition. It is anticipated that the LCAN project will support this action further.
E8	1	Explore opportunities for business training, education and events.	Ask	Chamber Growth Hub LLEP	Delivery		East Midlands Chamber continue to deliver green events for their members. A Green skills newsletter is produced quarterly by the LLBSP and updates have been given to the District Climate Change Group.
E9	1	Evaluate the Zellar platform pilot and determine next steps.	Ask	LLEP	Complete		Pilot project completed. The project will not be taken any further.
E10	1, 2, 3, 4	Support businesses to reduce costs and mitigate against energy price rises and ensure continued growth and job creation within the renewable energy sector, through generation of on site renewable energy and development of joint ventures for large scale local energy projects.	Ask	Midlands Net Zero Hub Government	Design		The ongoing LCAN project and subsequent Local Area Energy Plan will support businesses to install renewable energy generation capacity.
E11	1	Support landowners and land managers to access economic support including the Environmental Land Management Scheme, and Biodiversity Net Gain opportunities.	Lead	LPA's LRP NFU LLEP	Design		This will form a part of the implementation of the LNRS although it is unclear at present what form this will take.

E12	1, 5	Promote green tourism and green business opportunities in the county and review the tourism growth plan to support net zero ambitions and opportunities.	Lead	District Councils & Leicester City Council Visit England	Delivery		A Sustainable Tourism Plan has been created for Leicester and Leicestershire. Case studies of best practice are being created/ promoted and businesses are being supported to gain national green tourism accreditation. A sustainable tourism web page on Visit Leicester promotes Green Days (attractions/days out), Green Stays (accommodation & short breaks) and Green Ways (sustainable transport). A new Destination Management Plan will launch in 2026 aligned with VE's regenerative tourism approach.
E13	1, 4	Promote best practice through case studies and communications.	Lead		Delivery		Ongoing. Businesses benefitting from REPF grants that support sustainability are required to provide a case study to share best practice.
E14	1, 2	Consider options for low carbon business to business mentoring, peer support and knowledge share.	Ask	LLEP Leicester City Districts Chamber	Design		With changes to the LLEP transitioning to the LLBSP this is on hold and may become a future agenda item for the Business Board.
E15	2	Enable innovation through innovation pilots and dissemination of knowledge.	Influence	BEIS Innovate UK KTN	Design		With changes to the LLEP transitioning to the LLBSP this is on hold and may become a future agenda item for the Business Board.
E16	1	Work with others to gather evidence on the large greenhouse gas emitters in Leicestershire.	Ask	LLEP Universities Leicester City	Delivery		Studies on the emissions of sites including Charnwood campus and East Midlands Airport have been completed. Next steps are now looking at how the EM Freeport can look at its baseline and scenarios to net zero which can then support a better understanding of how to decarbonise industrial sites. Alongside this MNZH has funded four small industrial decarbonisation studies which will provide further information for this subject.
E17	2	Seek opportunities to increase SME incubation, business development provision and consider how to optimise links between R&D funding and investment in industry, to attract venture capital, start-up entrepreneurs and investors to grow a larger and dynamic start-up community.	Ask	Districts LLEP	Complete		ESIF Funding ceased in June 2023 and to date the Govt hasn't announced any replacement for either European funding or UKSPF.
Supply Chain							
E18	1	Work with supply chains to reduce carbon and increase the offering of low carbon goods and services.	Ask	Districts Universities Business	Discovery		Work to be progressed at a later point.
E19	All	Consider how council investments can support the net zero transition, including development of a Pension Climate Strategy.	Lead	Leicestershire LGPS Committee/Board	Delivery		The Net Zero Climate Strategy (NZCS) was approved by the Local Pension Committee at the March 2023 LPC meeting. The Fund is targetting net zero by 2050, with an ambition for sooner. This is alongside two interim targets to halve the carbon intensity of in scope investments by 2030, and reduce the financed emissions of in scope investments by 40% over the same time period against a 2019 baseline. As well as six secondary targets related to alignment, data coverage and exposure to fossil fuel companies and climate solutions. The primary interim targets are on track and progress will be reported to the Local Pension Committee.
E20	2	Promote circular economy principles to industry to decouple economic growth from the consumption of finite resources.	Ask	LLEP Universities	Delivery		To be progressed in future as and when resources allow

E21	3, 4	Support the delivery of zero carbon new builds and energy efficiency retrofit by building the supply chain for local skilled labour, low carbon products and retrofit skills, including securing funding for delivery programmes and considering social value requirements in procurement exercises.	Lead	Midlands Net Zero Hub Districts LLEP Developers Business	Delivery		Retrofit initiatives stalled as Govt directly funded three Leicestershire providers including Elmhurst Energy and Energy Trust to directly deliver. Wave 5 skills bootcamps where County partnered with the City Council and LLBSP has resulted in some green initiatives including solar panel installation, Agricultural Skills Programme, Sustainable Land Management Skills, Sustainability and Environmental Management. The Council continue to respond to related consultations and apply for further waves of funding as it becomes available.
E22	2	Support industrial innovation in renewable energy technology through research and pilots.	Ask	CREST Universities	Design		The Council will support these initiatives as far as our resources allow.
E23	4, 5	Consider approaches to maximising natural capital in the county, with economic benefits, including growth in visitor economy, creation of forestry and land management jobs, and sale of carbon credits.	Lead	National Forest, Woodland Trust LRWT Land owners and managers LRP NFU LLEP	Discovery		This work stopped when the LLEP did not proceed with the Natural Capital Investment Plan. However, it is hoped that some elements of this may be taken forwards as part of the LNRS in future.
E24	1, 2, 4	Support the delivery of low carbon transport by promoting and expanding existing advanced manufacturing facilities and research organisations.	Ask	Industry Business Universities	Delivery		The Council has been collaborating with MIRA Enterprise Zone to develop low carbon transport options.
E25	2, 3	Build the hydrogen value chain in the county including hydrogen skills, production, distribution and demand, particularly within the logistics sector, including participation in the Hydrex project, launch of the Freeport hydrogen skills hub pilot and building on the success of existing projects such as H2GEAR and H2GVMids.	Ask	ERA Universities Midlands Net Zero Hub Midlands Connect	Discovery		This is delivered at a regional level such as the East Midlands Hydrogen initiative which the Council continues to engage with. There are local examples at Mira Technology Park and EM Freeport.
E26	9	Work with partners to investigate and support the delivery of scalable carbon capture and storage technologies	Ask	Universities Districts Business Energy Companies	Discovery		Current activities align with the mitigation hierarchy. Leicestershire County Council is not currently involved in carbon capture and storage development but actively monitors national progress in this field.
E27	1, 2, 4	Use of Enterprise Zones to support low carbon sector industry and business clusters and increase R&D capacity in the county through securing investment and delivery of pilot projects.	Ask	LLEP Universities	Delivery		Leicestershire County Council collaborates with Charnwood Campus Enterprise Zone and Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park to boost research and development capacity. Projects currently in progress.
E28	1, 2	Incentivise the low carbon economy through financial mechanisms such as VAT and other tax relief, enhanced capital allowances etc.	Influence	Government	Delivery		There has been little opportunity to progress this action in the past year.
Skills							
E29	3	Develop a Skills Strategy, addressing the skills shortages and weaknesses in training provision identified in the Midlands Energy Hub Low Carbon Environmental Goods and Services Market Insight Study, and promoting acceleration and diversity in upskilling and reskilling.	Ask	LLEP Universities FE Colleges	Design		No projects have been included in the Green skills document, it informs partners of latest initiatives being developed by other organisations.
E30	3	Work with partners to raise awareness of green jobs with school age children.	Ask	LLEP Careers Hub Business	Delivery		Delivery is ongoing.
E31	3	Work with partners to promote green courses and increase availability of different courses.	Ask	FE colleges	Design		Wave 5 skills bootcamps where County partnered with the City Council and LLBSP has resulted in the Agricultural Skills Programme, Sustainable Land Management Skills and Sustainability and Environmental Management. The Council continue to respond to related consultations and apply for further waves of funding as it becomes available.

E32	3, 4	Continue to provide funding for skills and product development and long-term programmes of delivery.	Influence	Government	Discovery		Leicestershire County Council will explore any potential external funding opportunities to support these activities.
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Resources and Waste

Action ID	Objective	Action	LCC Role	Who may be involved	Project Stage 2024	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
Waste							
R1	1, 2	Complete the review and adoption of Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy	Ask	Districts	Complete		Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy was adopted in April 2023
R2	1, 2	Develop an action plan to deliver the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy	Ask	Districts	Complete		A comprehensive Action Plan to guide our initiatives has been developed.
R3a	1, 2	Introduce food waste collections by 31 March 2026 as per Government policy 'Simpler Recycling', including procurement of Anaerobic Digestion (AD) capacity to treat collected food waste therefore contributing to carbon emissions reduction.	Ask	Leicestershire Waste Partnership Districts	Delivery		The Council has a contract for food waste disposal by anaerobic digestion but also exploring other providers and considering options including the waste transfer station network for increased accessibility.
R3b	1, 2	Continue to support residents to reduce food waste through national campaigns such as "Love Food Hate Waste"	Lead	Districts Government VCSE	Delivery		Supported Food Waste Action Week with the theme of 'buy loose'. The Council continue to Promote Love Food Hate Waste via social media platforms, newsletters and initiatives.
R4	1, 2	Continue to support residents to implement home composting through provision of advice and guidance	Lead	Districts VCSE	Delivery		The Council supported Compost Awareness Week and continues to provide ongoing support, advice and guidance through the Master Composter volunteers.
R5	1, 2	Continue to deliver a programme of initiatives to increase reuse and prevent waste from arising	Ask	Districts VCSE	Delivery		The Council continues to promote reuse initiatives including the provision of ReHome Zones at Recycling and Household Waste sites, Mediquip collection containers and book/CD/DVD banks. We also promote reuse opportunities around the county including signposting to fixer events and repair workshops.
R6	1, 2	Continue to encourage residents to recycle right and reduce contamination in kerbside recycling	Lead	Districts	Delivery		The contamination campaign continues to guide residents on how to recycle right and reduce contamination. The Council actively supports and promotes the national Recycle Week campaign.
R7	1, 2	Continue to deliver a volunteer scheme to support and encourage residents to make positive behavioural changes	Lead	VCSE	Delivery		Ongoing recruitment of Environment Action Volunteers utilising social media platforms and newsletters. Continued development of the scheme to enhance the offer to Leicestershire residents

Materials							
R8	1	Explore the opportunities for the Minerals and Waste Local Plan to support the move to a circular economy.	Lead	Districts Business	Delivery		The recent review of the Leicestershire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (LMWLP) has shown that the plan remains flexible in its approach to recycling and re-use and that the policies and strategic objectives still support circular economy principles including sustainable waste management and carbon reduction. The LMWLP continues to deliver sustainable minerals and waste development in line with policy. Under the current system and legislation, a review of the LMWLP is anticipated in 2027. The Government continues to make changes to the planning system and consult on changes to policy and guidance.
R9	1	Implement policy which seeks to eliminate single use materials.	Influence	Government	Delivery		The Council responds to Government consultations or similar, as and when they arise. The Council actively promotes internal reduction in single use materials, seeking to increase recycling performance and reduce waste arising through raising internal staff awareness.
R10	1	Support national resource reduction campaigns such as "Refill" and "long live the lunchbox".	Ask	Districts Businesses	Delivery		The Council actively supports relevant national campaigns.
Food							
R11	1	Deliver the Sustainable Food Plan to reduce the carbon impact of food production, distribution and food waste	Ask	Sustainable Food Partnership	Delivery		The Sustainable Food Plan is now progressing towards the Gold Sustainable Food Places award, with a new plan needed to be shaped by partners and citizens. Core work continues focussed on food insecurity and procurement
R12	1	Explore options for local procurement of sustainable food for Local Authority and Schools catering to increase demand and stimulate supply chains.	Lead	Businesses	Design		A pilot procurement plan including ability to monitor and track carbon and biodiversity metrics through the value chain has been put to Leicestershire Traded Services and their decision is awaited.
R13	1	Support residents to grow their own food and buy local seasonal produce through the provision of advice and signposting.	Ask	Sustainable Food Partnership Districts	Design		Activity is ad hoc based on current resources available to communities and schools through Food for Life. Potential to run an engagement event in partnership with Leicester City Council to bring community growing projects together.
Water							
R14	3	Ensure a sustainable and resilient supply of water through leak reduction, customer education, provision of water efficiency measures, smart metering.	Ask	Water Companies	Discovery		The Council has had limited opportunity to influence relevant stakeholders. Work to be progressed in future if resources allow.
R15	3	Introduce more stringent water efficiency targets in national policy and regulations.	Influence	Government	Discovery		The Council will respond to Government consultation or similar, as and when they arise
R16	3	Consider water consumption in local plans including provision for water efficiency metrics in new developments	Ask	Districts	Discovery		The Council responds to district local plan consultations to ensure that they consider climate change in relation to water demand and availability.
R17	3	Support residents and businesses to reduce water consumption through provision of advice and signposting.	Ask	Districts VCSE Water companies	Discovery		Work ongoing as and when opportunities arise.
R18	3	Introduce water efficiency product labelling.	Influence	Government	Discovery		The Council has had limited opportunity to influence relevant stakeholders. Work to be progressed in future if resources allow.

Nature and Land Use

Action ID	Objective	Action	LCC Role	Who may be involved	Project Status 2024	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
N1	All	Develop a Nature Recovery Strategy for Leicestershire in line with government guidance when available	Lead	Districts Woodland Trust National Forest LRWT Neighbouring authorities and Local Councils Leicester City Land owners and managers VCSE Natural England Environment Agency	Design		Draft Local Nature and Recovery Strategy (LNRS) has been produced and is going through approval processes ahead of going out to public consultation in Jan-Feb 25.
N2	All	Publish national guidance and best practice on Nature Recovery Strategies.	Influence	Government	Delivery		Government guidance has been published on the LCC website. Further guidance will be published/made available as it is released by the government.
N3	1	Complete further research to develop a comprehensive baseline evidence base of the state of nature and carbon storage for Leicestershire.	Lead	Districts Woodland Trust National Forest LRWT	Design		A state of nature position has been developed as part of LNRS. However, assessing the county's carbon storage potential was outside of the scope.
N4	1	Build on the work of the Leicester and Leicestershire Natural Capital Strategy Assessment to develop opportunity mapping and create a natural capital investment plan to support net zero carbon.	Ask	LLEP Districts LRWT National Forest	Discovery		No further progress has been made on this, though the LNRS may act as a catalyst for some action in this area in the future.
N5	All	Implement the Action for Nature Delivery Plan and seek to identify carbon storage benefits where appropriate, particularly on the council's own estate.	Lead	Tenants	Delivery		Some of the actions within the Action for Nature delivery plan have been delivered, however none of those relate to carbon storage.
N6	All	Develop and implement Biodiversity Net Gain policy and approach for Leicestershire.	Lead	Districts	Delivery		The Ecology and Biodiversity team at the Council are implementing the statutory requirements of BNG by commenting accordingly on planning applications.
N7	All	Explore opportunities for the council to be a biodiversity and carbon offset provider.	Lead	Lead	Discovery		Leicestershire County Council land is being explored to use as a habitat bank for BNG offsetting; both in relation to its own developments and for sale to other developers. Opportunities will be explored further as and when resource allows. This will require involvement of various stakeholders.
N8	1	Bid for funding to develop the evidence base for ecosystem services including carbon sequestration.	Lead	LRWT Districts National Forest	Discovery		To be progressed at a future point.
N9	2, 3	Restore wet woodlands and other carbon rich habitats on council sites and promote case studies.	Lead	Environment Agency Landowners and Managers	Discovery		To be progressed at a future point.

N10	2, 3	Deliver natural flood risk management schemes which support nature and offer carbon storage benefits where appropriate.	Lead	Environment Agency Landowners and Managers	Delivery		Delivery of flood risk schemes moving forward. Delivery of 1ha of pond restoration and 8ha of farmland improvement completed, 1ha of tree/hedgerow planting to be completed in January (Breedon). Other projects (totalling 5ha tree planting) to be delivered 2025-2027.
N11	4	Promote natural flood risk management to landowners, highlighting the wider benefits for the local area.	Ask	VCSE Environment Agency	Delivery		Plans to update our engagement material have been delayed due to large flooding events and a focus on delivering a community led resilience message. A trial meeting on farm and landowner benefits is taking place in December with the Environment Agency and Natural England.
N12	2, 3	Deliver the County Council's tree strategy and commitment to plant 700,000 trees by 2030.	Lead	Districts Woodland Trust National Forest Business Residents	Delivery		The Council's tree planting initiative has planted over 430,000 trees to date (November 2024).
N13	1	Complete the Value of Trees project and consider rollout of toolkit.	Lead	ADEPT	Delivery		The development of the Value of Trees toolkit has been completed and it has now been integrated into the highways design guide. The Council is seeking means of developing the software of the tool.
N14	1	Continue work to quantify the carbon storage benefits of planted versus naturally regenerated woodland.	Ask	Forestry Research Council	Discovery		To be progressed at a future point if and when resources allow.
N15	4	Investigate natural negative emissions processes e.g. biochar.	Ask	Universities	Discovery		To be progressed as and when relevant projects come about.
Land Management and Use							
N16	4	Provide information and support to landowners and tenants wishing to maximise the benefit of land assets for public goods such as biodiversity, carbon reduction and climate resilience.	Ask	NFU Natural England LLEP Districts	Discovery		The Council provides a newsletter to farm tenants which covers support and advice on land assets. This issue has been included in the newsletter but there has not been any resulting activity.
N17	1	Explore opportunities to gain a better understanding of the carbon and nature benefits of local food procurement and improved land management and how to measure and monitor improvements, particularly on the council's own farms.	Lead	Tenants	Discovery		The Sustainable Food Plan is now progressing towards the Gold Sustainable Food Places award. A pilot procurement plan including ability to monitor and track carbon and biodiversity metrics through the value chain has been put to Leicestershire Traded Services
N18	1	Invest in additional research to improve understanding of carbon impact of different land management.	Influence	Government	Discovery		To be progressed at a future point if and when resources allow.
N19	2, 3	Develop a single council policy to reflect the multiple objectives for land use and the need to ensure 'additionality' is gained for nature, particularly where several benefits are to be claimed e.g. biodiversity net gain, climate resilience, carbon storage.	Lead	Universities	Discovery		Though the LNRS and the Food Plan the Council are looking at this. The Council are also working with the University of Leicester to organise a conference on Food and Land Use in February 2025.
N20	All	Consider nature and land use in local plans and requirements for developers e.g. Street trees, preservation and creation of green spaces, prioritisation of brownfield sites for development and land for energy generation assets.	Ask	Districts	Design		Comments are made about nature and land use as part of responding to consultations on Local Plans. It will also be picked up as part of the LNRS.

Communities

Action ID	Objective	Action	LCC Role	Who may be involved	Project stage 2024	RAG 2024	December 2024 Update Note
Engagement							
C1	All	Develop a Leicestershire Climate Pact for organisations, businesses and residents to join and pledge action.	Lead	All partners Business Residents	Delivery		Pact launched in February 2023, supported by 28 organisations to date.
C2	All	Develop an engagement plan to facilitate an ongoing two-way conversation on climate change action to understand and respond to community experience.	Lead	Districts and local councils Health partners Businesses Residents Education Universities	Design		The development of a Leicestershire engagement plan was paused to allow the LCAN project to develop and ensure any communications activities align with the outputs of this project. The Carbon Reduction team deliver engagement activities to residents as far as staff resources allow.
C3	3, 4	Deliver public and stakeholder engagement that is representative and inclusive to develop and deliver a just transition to net zero with widespread public participation.	Lead	Districts Universities	Design		The development of a Leicestershire engagement plan was paused to allow the LCAN project to develop and ensure any communications activities align with the outputs of this project. The Carbon Reduction team deliver engagement activities to residents as far as staff resources allow.
C4	3, 4	Explore options for innovative community governance, including a Citizens Panel, Youth Co-creation and Challenge Group.	Lead	Residents VCSE	Discovery		The LCAN project will deliver research and provide guidance on an appropriate governance model which will draw together stakeholders from across Leicestershire and support them to accelerate the delivery of Net Zero.
C5	All	Develop a coordinated and integrated information campaign to help residents make environmentally sustainable choices for their homes, travel and consumption.	Lead	Districts and local councils Health partners Businesses Residents Education Universities	Delivery		The carbon reduction team deliver information and initiatives as far as staff resources allow - these support residents to make sustainable choices and consider their carbon footprint. The 'How Bad are Bananas' game has been successful in delivering these messages to participants and has served as a valuable communications tool to the team.
C6	1	Explore opportunities to increase training, education and events, including carbon literacy.	Ask	Districts VCSE Education Universities	Delivery		The Carbon Reduction team attend events with the 'How Bad are Bananas' game to support residents understanding of carbon footprints and the choices they can make to reduce carbon. Events are attended as far as staff resources allow.
C7	All	Provide information and training to the County Council's Environmental Action Volunteers to support net zero.	Lead	EAVs	Delivery		There has been a recent recruitment drive for new Environmental Action Volunteers and carbon reduction is a option to specialise in for volunteers. Training has been developed to support this, but volunteer take up in general has been slow.
C8	4	Integrate net zero into linked consultation and engagement activity to test public attitudes and experience.	Lead		Design		The Carbon Redution Team has worked with the University of Leicester, the City Council and Voluntary Action Leicester to develop an Expression of Interest to bid for money from the Lottery's Climat Action Fund. If successful this bid will be focussed on rasing climate awareness in hard to reach communities.

C9	1, 2, 5	Develop targeted campaigns and opportunities to involve young people in shaping climate action, including working closely with schools.	Lead	Voice Network LLEP Careers Hub Youth Council Children in Care Council Education Youth groups	Delivery		The Carbon Reduction Team has worked with LCC's Educational Effectiveness service to develop a guidance booklet for schools focussed on sustainability. The team also delivered work with LCC's Cultural Youth service to support young people to become sustainability champions and delivered a survey to understand the barriers to young people of living more sustainably.
C10	All	Work with Public Health services e.g. Local Area Coordinators, community recovery, green social prescribing, Warm Homes, Good Food Leicestershire to maximise the opportunities to promote climate action with co-benefits for health.	Lead	Health partners	Discovery		Efforts are underway to align with public health campaigns, with officers in discussion to collaborate on events and literature as and when resources allow.
C11	2, 5	Develop tools and guidance to support communities to reduce carbon.	Ask	Universities Districts	Delivery		A Parish Toolkit has been reviewed and updated with the Green Living Leicestershire group to be relaunched in early 2025 and workshops are planned to support Parish Councils to use the document. The LCAN project's work package 3 to support community groups to deliver renewable energy projects is now underway. In addition the Council is working with partners to develop a bid to the Lottery Climate Action Fund to provide support and guidance on carbon reduction in hard to reach communities.
C12	2, 5	Production of national campaigns and toolkits to support consistent messages and promote personal action.	Influence	Government VCSE	Discovery		LCC will respond to Government consultation or similar, as and when they arise
Enabling Action							
C13	5	Support community action to reduce carbon through the SHIRE Environment Grants programme.	Lead	VCSE	Completed		This has ended as a grant scheme.
C14	5	Explore opportunities for community sector organisations to support on net zero activities.	Lead	VCSE	Design		LCAN project work package 3 is being set up to support community organisations to deliver community energy projects through providing them with tools, training a guidance. The project aims to set up 14 new community energy groups across the county.
C15	5	Investigate funding opportunities to increase the capacity of the Voluntary and Community Sector for net zero in Leicestershire, for example, the National Lottery Climate Action Fund.	Lead	National Lottery	Design		The Carbon Redution Team has worked with the University of Leicester, the City Council and Voluntary Action Leicester to develop an Expression of Interest to bid for money from the Lottery's Climat Action Fund. If successful this bid will be focussed on rasing climate awareness in hard to reach communities.
C16	1, 2, 5	Enable local Parish and Town councils to act on carbon reduction through information and training.	Ask	Local Councils	Delivery		The 'Net Zero Toolkit for Parish, Town Councils and Community Groups' has been reviewed and updated with the Green Living Leicestershire group to be relaunched in early 2025 and workshops are planned to support Parish Councils to use the document.
C17	1, 2, 5	Share best practice case studies of community action and disseminate useful information.	Lead	Districts VCSE	Delivery		The 'Net Zero Toolkit for Parish, Town Councils and Community Groups' features various case studies of community actions. The Communities Network hosted a net zero series during 2023-24 to share best practice, knowledge and information.
C18	2	Improved product labelling to help consumers identify green / climate friendly options.	Influence	Government	Discovery		LCC will respond to Government consultations or similar, as and when they arise

C19	2	Share information on local businesses to encourage residents to "shop local".	Ask	Districts Growth Hub LLEP	Completed		Taste the Place and Uncover the Story marketing campaigns support local retail & hospitality businesses. For trails & maps see www.visitleicester.info/ideas-and-inspiration/trails & www.visitleicester.info/taste-the-place/trails . Market Towns Sub-Group champion 'shop local' campaigns and events to boost footfall.
C20	2	Harness the purchasing power of individuals, business and communities to stimulate and grow green supply chains.	Influence	All partners	Completed		The Solar Together 2023 project has supported 223 solar and battery installations across the county, delivering £2.2million of private resident investment into renewables. It is estimated to deliver over 4,500 tCO2e reduction over 25 years.
C21	2	Explore incentive schemes to facilitate behaviour change.	Ask	Districts	Discovery		To be progressed at a future point.