

# Climate Change Strategy Themes Survey Report

December 2022

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## 1. Summary

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Questionnaire format:	<i>Online and paper survey</i>
Responses:	<b>98 total</b> <i>10 paper</i> <i>86 online</i> <i>2 letters</i>
Date range:	<i>14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022</i>

## 2. Introduction

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Chesterfield Borough Council is developing its new Climate Change Strategy to provide the Council with a pathway to becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

Using a broad range of data, the Council has developed a draft set of strategic themes which were consulted on and feedback sought. Before completing the questionnaire, respondents were asked to take some time to read the accompanying background information which was available on the CBC website.

During the 'live period' the survey was promoted through various routes including the following:

- Chesterfield Borough Council's corporate social media
- Emails / leaflets sent to 146 local organisations, community groups and schools
- Chesterfield Equality and Diversity forum mailing list
- Health and Wellbeing mailing list
- Staveley Town Deal Youth Forum representatives

There was also a landing page on the climate change section of the Council's website with background information and links to the online survey. Copies of the strategy, survey and glossary were also made available in alternative formats when requested.

Respondents were given the opportunity to find out about further engagement opportunities and receive information and updates from the Council on climate change. 46 respondents provided their contact details.

Two letters were received from local groups. Their responses are contained within the survey results and also in full in Appendix B.

Comments made on the themes of the strategy by the respondents have been categorised throughout the report and are summarised as follows:

No.	Category	Examples
1	<b>Energy reduction</b>	Energy efficiency, insulation, reduce radiator temperatures
2	<b>Local renewables</b>	Solar, wind turbines, heat networks, heat pumps, biogas, hydroelectricity
3	<b>Building standards and planning</b>	A rated, ecological standards, rainwater harvesting, renewables as standard, brownfield sites, use of empty buildings, discourage residents paving gardens
4	<b>Electric Vehicles</b>	Council vehicles, buses, encourage EV users
5	<b>Active travel</b>	Lead by example, cycle routes, safer walking routes, bike scheme for staff
6	<b>Public transport</b>	Hydrogen/electric busses, increased frequency, reduced cost, bus service for hospital staff
7	<b>Infrastructure</b>	Charging points, pedestrianisation, traffic management
8	<b>Greenspace</b>	Access, maintained paths, allotments, tree planting
9	<b>Nature</b>	Preserve, protect, Increase biodiversity. Grass verges, no pesticides
10	<b>Communication</b>	Free advice, public awareness, carbon calculator, urgency of situation
11	<b>Engagement</b>	Community 'swapping markets', support local volunteer groups, work with schools/colleges, incentives for local businesses
12	<b>Training</b>	Continued Climate training for staff/councillors, offer external training to partners/suppliers/residents
13	<b>Baseline data</b>	Accurate, monitoring, carbon figures, air quality data
14	<b>Progress updates/examples</b>	Lead by example, live projects e.g. PEAK team, communicating progress, have a focussed project to use as an example e.g. taxis
15	<b>Procurement</b>	Ask suppliers to consider climate change impacts
16	<b>Waste &amp; Recycling</b>	Access to recycling bins, paper reduction, plastic reduction
17	<b>Partnerships</b>	Local LAs, local businesses, volunteer groups, local investments in renewables e.g. green bonds, diversity – invite everyone to the conversation

18	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Reduce number journeys e.g. for external meetings, food – promoting meat alternatives, adaptation for extreme weather events, less land for animal agriculture, real-life actions, celebrating Chesterfield, cobenefits, consider all corporate activities, include ‘progress towards’ 2050 targets, stop wasting taxpayers’ money on climate hoax, stop listening to the green woke
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### 3. Questionnaire Results

#### Q1. How important do you think each of the proposed themes are in enabling the Council to become carbon neutral?

How important do you think each of the proposed themes are in enabling the Council to become carbon neutral?						
	Very important	Important	Neutral	Less Important	Not at all important	Don't know
<b>Buildings and energy</b>	70	18	1	0	4	0
	75.3%	19.4%	1.1%	0.0%	4.30%	0.0%
<b>Travel</b>	67	16	4	2	4	0
	72.0%	17.2%	4.3%	2.2%	4.3%	0.0%
<b>Green space, land use and offsetting</b>	51	29	9	1	3	0
	54.8%	31.2%	9.7%	1.1%	3.2%	0.0%
<b>Communications, engagement and training</b>	36	32	9	7	4	3
	39.6%	35.2%	9.9%	7.7%	4.4%	3.3%
<b>Data, monitoring and corporate activity</b>	26	33	15	11	6	1
	28.3%	35.9%	16.3%	12.0%	6.5%	1.1%

<b>Council influence and partnership activity</b>	40	28	8	9	5	2
	43.5%	30.4%	8.7%	9.8%	5.4%	2.2%

**Q2. Can you suggest any activities under the proposed themes that you think the Council should prioritise to tackle climate change within our own operations by 2030 and the wider Borough by 2050?**

Cat. No.	Cat. Title	Number of comments					
		Buildings and energy	Travel	Green space, land use and offsetting	Communications, engagement and training	Data, monitoring and corporate activity	Council influence and partnership activity
1	Energy reduction	25	0	0	1	0	1
2	Local renewables	20	0	3	0	0	0
3	Building standards and planning	13	1	16	0	0	1
4	Electric Vehicles	0	15	0	0	0	0
5	Active travel	0	13	1	0	0	0
6	Public transport	0	19	0	0	0	0
7	Infrastructure	0	12	0	0	0	0
8	Greenspace	1	0	19	0	0	0
9	Nature	1	0	13	0	1	0
10	Communication	0	0	1	16	2	2
11	Engagement	0	0	0	9	2	3
12	Training	0	0	0	10	0	0
13	Baseline data	0	0	1	1	15	0

14	<b>Progress updates/ examples</b>	0	0	0	2	0	1
15	<b>Procurement</b>	0	0	0	0	8	4
16	<b>Waste &amp; Recycling</b>	1	0	0	2	1	1
17	<b>Partnerships</b>	1	0	1	0	0	12
18	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	4	11	4	11	10	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>66</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>

Full responses are detailed within Appendix A.

**Q3. Is there anything you think we have missed, or any themes you would like to suggest?**

Cat. No.	Cat. Title	Number of responses
1	<b>Energy reduction</b>	1
2	<b>Local renewables</b>	3
3	<b>Building standards and planning</b>	0
4	<b>Electric Vehicles</b>	0
5	<b>Active travel</b>	0
6	<b>Public transport</b>	0
7	<b>Infrastructure</b>	2
8	<b>Greenspace</b>	1
9	<b>Nature</b>	0
10	<b>Communication</b>	2
11	<b>Engagement</b>	3
12	<b>Training</b>	0
13	<b>Baseline data</b>	1
14	<b>Progress updates/ examples</b>	1
15	<b>Procurement</b>	0
16	<b>Waste &amp; Recycling</b>	6

17	<b>Partnerships</b>	2
18	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>

Full responses are detailed within Appendix A.

**Q4. Are you:**

<b>Are you:</b>		
	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Responding as an individual</b>	89	95.7%
<b>Responding on behalf of an organisation</b>	4	4.3%

**If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, what is the name of your organisation?**

No responses were received to this question.

**If you are responding as an individual, please provide your postcode below:**

77 responses were received to this question. Postcode locations are broken down as follows:

<b>Postcode beginning:</b>	<b>No.</b>
S40	28
S41	25
S42	4
S43	13
S44	3
Other	4

**Q5. What is your connection to Chesterfield?** Respondents were asked to tick all that apply

What is your connection to Chesterfield?		
Chesterfield resident	81	92.0%
Derbyshire resident	14	15.9%
Go to work or place of education in Chesterfield	13	14.8%
Visit Chesterfield regularly	12	13.6%
Occasional visitor to Chesterfield Borough	0	0.0%
Other connection to Chesterfield Borough	0	0.0%
No connection to Chesterfield but interested in Climate Change	0	0.0%

**Other, please specify:**

Three further responses were received as follows:

- Also a local business owner but I am filling this in personally
- Grew up in Chesterfield and visit regularly as we still have the family home
- Occasional visitor to Chesterfield Borough and very interested in the Climate crisis

**Q6. Is your household currently taking steps to reduce its carbon footprint?**

Is your household currently taking steps to reduce its carbon footprint?		
<b>Yes</b>	78	88.6%
<b>No</b>	10	11.4%

**If yes, please provide us with some more information below:**

74 replies were received and were categorised as follows:

Cat. No.	Cat. Title	Number of responses
1	Energy	45



2	Travel	11
3	Nature and other environmental actions	4
4	Wider action	0
5	Waste	11
6	Lifestyle	2
7	Other	1

Full responses are detailed within Appendix A.

**Q7. Is your organisation currently taking steps to reduce its carbon footprint?**

Is your organisation currently taking steps to reduce it's carbon footprint?		
<b>Yes</b>	5	83.3%
<b>No</b>	1	16.7%

If yes, please provide us with some more information below:

4 replies were received and were categorised as follows:

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Cat. Title</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>
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1	Energy	1
2	Travel	1
3	Nature and other environmental actions	1
4	Wider action	1
5	Waste	0
6	Lifestyle	0
7	Other	0

Full responses are detailed within Appendix A.

**Q8. What is your preference for receiving information about the Council's activities and progress in becoming carbon neutral / general climate change information?** Respondents were asked to tick all that apply

<b>What is your preference for receiving information about the Council's activities and progress in becoming carbon neutral / general climate change information?</b>		
Local newspapers	24	30.0%
Local radio	15	18.8%
CBC social media	24	30.0%
Your Chesterfield publication	41	51.3%
CBC website	33	41.3%
CBC councillors	13	16.3%

Other, please specify:

26 further responses were received as and were categorised follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>
Email	16
Radio	1
Destination Chesterfield mailings	1
Facebook	1
Billboards	2
My Chesterfield publication	1
Other	4

Full responses are detailed within Appendix A

#### **4. Equality monitoring**

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##### **What is your gender?**

<b>What is your gender?</b>		
Male	43	53.8%
Female	36	45.0%

Prefer not to say	1	1.3%
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**Is your gender identity the same gender you were assigned at birth?**

<b>Is your gender identity the same gender you were assigned at birth?</b>		
Yes	76	98.7%
No	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	1	1.3%

**How old are you?**

<b>How old are you?</b>		
16 years or under	6	7.6%
17 to 24 years	2	2.5%
25 to 34 years	7	8.9%
35 to 44 years	7	8.9%
45 to 54 years	15	19.0%
55 to 64 years	17	21.5%
65 to 74 years	19	24.1%

75 years and over	5	6.3%
Prefer not to say	1	1.3%

**Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

<b>Do you consider yourself to have a disability?</b>		
Yes – affecting mobility	8	10.0%
Yes – affecting hearing	2	2.5%
Yes – affecting vision	3	3.8%
Yes – a learning disability	2	2.5%
Yes – affecting mental health	10	12.5%
Other disability	5	6.3%
No	54	67.5%
Prefer not to say	4	5.0%

**What is your ethnicity?**

<b>What is your ethnicity?</b>		
White British	70	88.6%
Other White background	1	1.3%

Black or Black British	0	0.0%
Asian or Asian British	0	0.0%
Mixed ethnic group	3	3.8%
Other ethnic group	3	3.8%
Prefer not to say	2	2.5%

**Which of the following best describes your religion?**

<b>Which of the following best describes your religion?</b>		
Buddhist	2	2.5%
Christian	31	39.2%
Hindu	0	0.0%
Jewish	0	0.0%

Muslim	0	0.0%
Sikh	0	0.0%
None	35	44.3%
Other	7	8.9%
Prefer not to say	4	5.1%

**Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?**

<b>Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?</b>		
Heterosexual / Straight	63	79.7%
Bisexual	4	5.1%
Lesbian	1	1.3%
Gay Man	3	3.8%
Other	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	8	10.1%

## 5. Appendix A Full comments

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**Q2. Can you suggest any activities under the proposed themes that you think the Council should prioritise to tackle climate change within our own operations by 2030 and the wider Borough by 2050?**

**Theme 1: Buildings and Energy use**

## 1. Energy reduction

Make buildings energy efficient.
Insulate homes.
Reduction of heating in council buildings.
Try to use less gas.
Insulate buildings.
Insulation of existing buildings. Switching to local energy production/network. Using a transparent certification process for construction of new buildings.
Offering grants to older premises to install insulation, solar panels etc.
Do we have too many energy inefficient buildings?
Make retrofitting for homes and local businesses super easy to understand and achieve.
Improving insulation in all buildings. Ensuring any new buildings are built to much higher environmental standards than is currently required. Pushing for more renewable energy sources - this could involve putting solar panels on the roofs of buildings, bus shelters etc.
Get the windows in the Town hall to close.
Schemes to improve local privately owned properties in terms of energy efficiency, by offering loft insulation and cavity wall insulation at reduced or free rates for customers. Run schemes to help local people buy green energy for their properties, such as heat pumps, wind turbines, solar panels. This could be done through loans or rentals. The council should also conduct schemes to improve rental properties in terms of their energy efficiency by installing loft insulation and cavity wall insulation to help reduce heating bills.
Insulation of homes.
Insulate council buildings. Put solar panels on council buildings
Insulate and reduce heating needs. All new builds should be carbon neutral. Location should be considered for ease of travel by public transport, pedestrians and cycling, for example, although it was NE Derbyshire county council moving to an out of town location that encouraged car travel and decreased ability to use public transport.
Improved insulation is vital. Environmentally good heating systems are also essential. Empty and unneeded buildings should be sold off. Stop buying into the myth that the country needs 300,000 homes a year - there are 130 AirBnB lets available in Chesterfield alone, 300,000 across the country, return this housing to stock. Restore older housing instead of demolishing.
Insulation, switch to renewables.
Insulation and retrofitting heat sources.



Find ways of supporting less well off residents to improve their properties and reduce energy usage. This could be financial and/or it could be through providing honest, reliable information and advice and/or using your size to bulk buy equipment or materials. I think that you could also have a list of businesses that have been vetted and can be trusted to do the work.
Build houses with better insulation and solar panels to offset energy usage.
Move to more energy efficient homes both public and private by making insulation of a property an incentivised element of the local council plan.
Chesterfield borough council needs to continue with ambitious targets to radically improve the home energy (EPC) and insulation of all of its own housing stock. Chesterfield borough council should adopt the planning guidance that requires all new builds to be zero carbon and must work collaboratively across Derbyshire to this standard. Chesterfield borough council needs to start now to actively promote and support significant improvements to home energy and insulation standards across all housing sectors - this Borough-wide programme cannot wait and should be concurrent with achieving its own 2030 targets.
Heat efficiency.
Home insulation and energy efficiency.
Tackle the energy use in existing homes across the borough by providing advice and support in a proactive way. Use your comms more effectively and imaginatively. Ensure that your local plan sets the highest standard for new homes as a default.

## 2. Local renewables

Solar panels to council office and where possible houses.
Look at installing wind turbines on appropriate council sites, e.g. schools.
Solar panel installation at council owned sites (housing schemes / stand road / QPSC / Queens Park).
Use solar power.
Alternative energy sources should definitely be prioritised, as well as things such as improving insulation. We should start by optimising energy use at home and incorporating it into every day life.
Gas supplies to council buildings should be replaced with PV and/or heat pumps. Trial a district heating network.
Installation of photovoltaic panels on council buildings.
Fit buildings with solar panels, other available technology and reusable energy sources.
All houses to be built with solar panels on roof and heat pumps.

Install more wind and solar power generators on council buildings and land. Whenever work is being carried out on council housing solar panels should be installed to help the residents with their power bills. Encourage community owned sustainable power stations.
Solar panels on all Council housing and public buildings.
All commercial new development should have solar roofing.
Solar panels, insulation, draft-proofing.
Solar panels on main council buildings.
Put solar panels on council houses and bungalows to help the carbon emissions
Greater renewables particularly in high energy use buildings.
More solar panels and wind power and battery power storage solutions for both Council properties and public use.
By using the heat from your servers to heat water and the buildings they are in. Air source pumps, water source pumps and ground source heat pumps, heat recovery ventilation systems, solar, water and wind power. Install panels on all council houses that want them.
All proposals - good start but need strengthening, replace “could include” with “will include”, need more confidence from Chesterfield borough council; REGOs - as with 'offsetting', REGOs are not reliable certification, Chesterfield borough council needs to move beyond their use in order to guarantee the energy used is genuinely contributing to the aspirations of this plan, as soon as possible <a href="https://www.goodenergy.co.uk/business/blog/regos-sorting-fact-from-fiction">https://www.goodenergy.co.uk/business/blog/regos-sorting-fact-from-fiction</a> ; contract providers and corporate partners should meet Chesterfield borough council's own standards; use planning system to ensure all private development applications meet high standards of carbon and resource use reduction (a) at corporate policy level (b) insulation in new buildings (c) renewable energy generation (solar panels, heat exchange, wind generation for industrial developments, etc.), for buildings, (d) easy access to public transport, walking/cycling; enable / support Chesterfield borough council tenants to reduce energy use (and bills) (e.g. insulation, etc.), install renewable generation - grants, advice, Chesterfield borough council bulk buying equipment and doing installations for tenants where necessary.
Convert to solar power where possible and use low energy products within the buildings.

### 3. Building standards and planning

HTT housing stock and old commercial private stock.
Ensure all council buildings are fully utilised and sell, repurpose or mothball any which are no longer needed.
Reintroduce minimum amounts of solar panels on all new buildings. Only allow non gas heating in all new developments.
Make sure that building regulations ensure all new houses, council or private, have the highest ecological standards. It is possible to build A rated houses but they will only be built if regulations stipulate, currently they are only for the very rich.
Reduce the number of buildings used.

Make sure all new builds are zero carbon efficient with solar panels, electric charging points, rain water harvest and air source heat pumps.
Enhancing buildings that are already standing and not prioritise the creation of new homes for development as they take away from our limited green spaces. Invest in green infrastructure and replace old insulation to cut back on energy costs.
All new builds should be forced to install solar etc. Not presently happening and a simple way to reduce reliance on elec/gas.
Ensure all housing developments are built to highest possible standards with good insulation etc. This needs monitoring.
Less new building on green field sites. Compulsory solar panels on approved new sites with own turbine.
Reduce the number of green sites being built on.
New house building, in whatever sector, private or public, should meet highest possible sustainability targets.
Derbyshire county council's Climate Supplementary Planning Guidance, which is currently in draft form but due to be published should be adopted as council policy within the Local Plan.
In the council's Local Plan, ensure that all new buildings are carbon neutral or close to zero carbon.
Work with funding partners and local communities to provide a home energy retrofit advice point, to include insulation and low carbon heating/electricity advice for all home occupiers.

## 8. Greenspace

Stop blocking access to green spaces by selling land off without full consideration of the effects.
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## 9. Nature

Housing going up in so many spaces, taking away natural countryside and wildlife homes. Things like this need to be preserved as we are just destroying our planet and this will have a huge impact on future generations.
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## 16. Waste and Recycling

Recycling bins at college.
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## 17. Partnerships

Work with other local authorities in Derbyshire to create economies of scale for the provision of renewable energy or insulation for housing in Chesterfield.

## 18. Miscellaneous

Sack the council and demolish the town hall.

A common sense approach would be good, but unlikely once one looks at the leading questions on the previous page. This is not a survey but a tick box exercise of trying to justify a plan already in place.

Not important.

Stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.

## Theme 2: Travel

### 3. Buildings standards and planning

All proposals - good start but too weak, replace "could include" with "will include"; prioritise support for facilitation of public transport and cycling / walking in all planning and development (or when making submissions to other authorities on developments outside Chesterfield borough council control) to encourage residents and visitors to leave car at home; prioritise measures to encourage residents to switch to 'green' vehicles and modes of transport, when deciding on planning applications, development plans or when making submissions to other authorities on developments outside Chesterfield borough council control; targets on installation of public access charging points around borough, including restriction by non-charging parking blocking use by drivers wanting to charge vehicle, especially for Chesterfield borough council tenants, especially in flats with no personal front gardens / drives.

### 4. Electric vehicles

Chesterfield council's vehicles to be electric. Labour Council Leader to set example by using bicycle rather than borough limo.

Electrification.

Electrify vehicles or alternative fuel for council vehicles and buses.

Switching to a subscription mobility model with a zero carbon vehicle manufacturer Toyota Kinto/Renault Mobilise. Help taxis achieve zero carbon fleet.

Council fleet.
Make sure all buses and council vans are electric and provide better bus coverage for all areas in the borough.
Phase out petrol and diesel vehicles. Replace with electric vehicles and install more solar and wind generators to recharge electric vehicles. It's all about long term cost of this choice against continuing to use diesel and petrol. More electric car charging infrastructure for all.
Moving to electric (cars) is important but reducing the need to drive should be priority. Incentivise employees to walk, cycle, catch bus. Benefits of health, community etc as well as reduced cost. Make it an easy decision, i.e. requirements to wear smart clothes at work does not help those wanting to cycle.
Electric vehicles and more charging points.
The stupidity of pushing all electric is beyond comprehension, no doubt it will be implemented, whatever the evidence. Same with crazy ULEZ, all just a ploy to immobilise the people.
Electric vehicles, staff discounts for cycles, charging points.
All council vehicles to go electric.
More EV charging stations which can be used 24hrs with fast charging.
Go electric where possible.
Provide electric car charging points in car parks etc. Use electric vehicles to carry out council work.

## 5. Active Travel

Improve the infrastructure across the borough with Active Travel. The potential is there to improve pathways and cycleways to cut down on motor vehicle use.
Focus on increasing the number of journeys made using active travel or public transport for distances of less than five kilometres. This may involve the following:- pedestrianisation of more town centre streets; increasing car parking charges; ensuring that cycling infrastructure is available and safe to use (i.e. well lit - I am currently unable to use the Station Cycle Link to cycle home from work, as it is too dark by 5.30 pm and I don't feel safe); promotion of 'bike buses' to enable children to cycle to school.
Cycling and walking is prioritised in the Local Plan but consistently ignored by planning officers and planning committee. Council needs to up its game and insist on implementing its own policies. Supplementary Planning Document for walking and cycling promised three years ago but never happened.
Provision of electric bikes and standard bikes for staff use.

Encourage staff (and public) to walk, cycle and use public transport. The public transport in our area is dismal; if we want more people to use it, bus frequency needs a step change in frequency, until buses run very frequently, folk will still use cars. Helping the County and operators to improve frequency is our most important task in influencing folk.

Making active travel as safe and accessible as possible.

Adopt a real active travel plan, encourage cycling and walking. East west route not supported by councillors for instance. Lead by example and show support. Provide real infrastructure to enable this. Public transport - regular and sensibly priced (two families of four using a bus for a 1.5 mile trip to town = £19. Cheaper to get a taxi). Need to create an environment that does not centre around the private car.

Active travel is essential. We need better infrastructure across the whole borough. Cycle lanes and better paths are essential. The council need to show strong leadership to push these schemes through.

Ensure that new housing developments have integrated walking and cycling plans that encourage people to use alternatives to cars to get to work elsewhere. This would include bus routes. Improve walking and cycling routes and keep them maintained so that they don't become overgrown and road markings are visible etc.

Chesterfield borough council needs to implement and publish an integrated transport assessment for the borough. It must make meaningful and significant changes to planning so that all new developments prioritise low carbon forms of public transport and walking/cycling. Chesterfield borough council needs to actively support active travel options like walking and cycling as alternatives to car use through education and community engagement, strategic planning around existing facilities and new developments. Chesterfield borough council needs

to look at best practice in towns and cities with positive examples of integrated public transport and effective active transport policies. There are too many cars in and around Chesterfield undertaking short journeys and we can do better than this.

I know scooter travel is a two edged issue but could be considered as a joint enterprise for moving people around in the town centre where feasible.

Actively promote alternatives to road travel and disinvest in carbon-producing means of transport including new roads.

Lobby sector bodies (including for instance, Derbyshire county council and Stagecoach) to increase public transport services and reduce emissions. Actively promote public transport in Chesterfield through the Station Master Plan, the planning process, and lobby for new public transport such as the proposed opening of the Barrow Hill Line.

We are pleased to see the council seeking to enable active travel. We'd like to see the council actively opposing planning requests which run contrary to this and publish the Active Travel Supplementary Planning Document.

In the council's 2020 Climate Change Action Plan ("the 2020 Plan"), there was reference to ensuring new housing routes were connected to public transport routes, please can this be included in the current plan and rigorously enforced.

We suggest that items 1-4 from the appendix to the 2020 Plan be replicated in the current list of priorities i.e.:

i) Working with DCC to prioritise investment into cycling, walking and public transport, including suitable wildlife corridors and opening up waterways. All new developments must be connected meaningfully to the cycle / walking network. Chesterfield borough council to establish minimum size of development for this to be applied. ii) Chesterfield borough council to publish a strategic assessment of Integrated Transport within the borough to support our communities making the transition to sustainable modes of transport. iii) Chesterfield borough council to work with taxi and bus operators regarding the move to electric vehicles within Chesterfield. Chesterfield borough council to consider as part of its wider work in relation to clean air the introduction of a strategic network of charging points. iv) Chesterfield borough council to implement a policy whereby fleet vehicles will be moved to electric / hybrid where suitable vehicles exist whenever a vehicle lease expires.

With emissions from transport being one of the major contributors to climate change we fully agree with the strategy to prioritise walking, cycling and public transport. Sadly this is often not the case with new developments and little 'joined up' thinking. We believe that a more robust stance from CBC planning department would encourage developers to provide infrastructure to enable walking and cycling. In 2019 we had discussions with the Forward Planning team who were developing Supplementary Planning Guidance which would outline the Borough's requirements for walking and cycling connectivity. Three years later this doesn't seem to have materialised yet.

We would like to see laid down criteria for walking and cycling infrastructure in SPG in line with national guidance Local Transport Note 1/20. As part of that discussion we had an agreement with Forward Planning that the Cycle Campaign would be involved at an early stage for any major developments. This was one of the outcomes of our complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman that CBC failed to implement the

Local Plan (walking and cycling connectivity) when the new leisure centre was built at the Queen's Park annexe. Since then we have not been invited to discuss any major developments other than through public consultations. At the present time local authorities in Derbyshire have minimal control of bus services but there are ways that more control could be taken and we urge CBC to explore that with Derbyshire County

Council. A 'travel card' system similar to London with capped fares will encourage public transport use. One area that is readily controlled by CBC is its own vehicle fleet, as a matter of urgency vehicles should be changed to electric when their current leases are renewed. Finally we have been somewhat dismayed by the political opposition to new cycling infrastructure in Chesterfield proposed by Derbyshire County Council. Enabling the less confident to cycle segregated from vehicles and providing better walking infrastructure surely has to be part of any climate change policy. More walking and cycle journeys will reduce the number of vehicles on the roads which means less congestion for those who have to use a vehicle for their journey. The benefits for both mental and physical health by enabling walking and cycling are well known.

## 6. Public Transport

Better public transport.
Hydrogenising the bus fleet, promoting EV and incentivising citizens to purchase EV cars
Public transport needs to be more reliable and more schemes should definitely be launched to reduce fuel consumption.
Transitioning away from fossil fuel reliant public transport. Encouraging the public to buy electric cars by providing more charge points for electric cars. Further improving cycle paths.
Make a travel scheme that is easier to access and affordable, in particular car pool services and buses.
Reduce charges for local public transport to encourage a reduction in cars on the road. Provide reduced cycle to work schemes for residents. Maintain canals and green space walk areas throughout the year properly. This could be done through establishing volunteer groups to contribute. Maintain roads, reducing the impact that pot holes have on cars. Instead of closing roads that reduce congestion on heavy roads offer one way routes through country lanes that include cycle routes so that both cars and cycles can use the roads, thus reducing the risk of collisions.
Aim for free or really cheap bus travel.
Promote bus travel, partner with Stagecoach, car share within the council, vehicles electric or hybrid. Jobs done with economical journeys.
More regular and cheaper buses to town.
Ensure improved public transport
Work with private companies to ensure public transport is more efficient and affordable so that it incentivises people to use it rather than using cars.
Improve bus services.
Support bus and taxi companies to move away from diesel etc vehicles.
More affordable and frequent public transport.



I want to see much more investment in public transport, at the moment it is costly and unreliable. I also want to see much more priority to pedestrians and then cyclists. I want to see measures that actually disincentivise cars and car usage.
Reduced rate travel at peak times.
Greater opportunities for green travel.
Good public transport.
Public transport so that people don't need to use cars.

## 7. Infrastructure

When closing roads consider the additional pollution to areas that would have to take the extra traffic. Ensure that all areas are considered for cyclists. I.e.. no way to access the east west cycle path from Spital/Hady without going round the main island by Ibis and Kwik fit.
Build electricity.
Encourage active travel by reducing speed limits, LTNs, charging for car parking, providing proper bicycle parking, adding zebra crossings.
Think about traffic flow, rather than reducing access for cars. Electric cars only in the town centre? Such as York has done.
More electric charging points, encourages use of electric cars. Raise tax on diesel engines of Chesterfield residents.
More charge points. More buses.
First hour free parking to encourage longer stays in town centre so reducing the numbers of car trips into town.
Priority of public and active travel networks over cars. More infrastructure for cyclists, including cycle lanes that are not just painted lines on a road and enforce the provisions that are there and stop cars parking on cycle lanes.
Increase walking, cycling and bus priority infrastructure. Limit car use in the town centre
Firm commitment to more rapid and fast electric vehicle chargers at local and town centre levels, including street projects to encourage adoption of electric vehicles for those without their own drives.
Stop making things worse by building new roads - all the evidence suggests we need to cut road traffic by 20-30% by 2030 relative to 2019. Do more to encourage and support public transport and active travel, particularly in new developments, rather than paying lip service to it, or actively opposing it.
Invest in more charging points around the town centre. Encourage the use of public transport.

## 18. Miscellaneous

Reduce the number of external meetings, share transport to those attended or use public transport.
Should be reduced where possible.
Give more funding towards diesel cars forget useless electric.
I am not sure electric is the answer anymore, how will someone living in a terrace or a flat charge it? If we put charging points in the street we could see charging disputes. Are there any other alternatives?
Reduce unnecessary travel by council employees and commit to not flying for business at all (I imagine there may not be any flying already, but it's worth setting a standard here). Shift council fleet to more efficient vehicles or (where it makes sense to do so) electric vehicles. Support EV charging points in the borough.
Eliminate all non-essential council travel. Do not buy into the myth that electric vehicles are currently better for the environment, they're not, they're more expensive to operate and actually require more energy and produce more carbon per vehicle.
Promote the use of local shops to reduce travel.
Reduce travelling, sharing, route optimisation, cut out unnecessary journeys (for example meetings by Zoom / Teams etc.).
Hydrogen.
Stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.
EVs are more polluting than petrol and diesel vehicles because we only concentrate on green house gases, not other pollutants from vehicles, like brake particulates, metal particulates and tyre particulates, along with the waste from their batteries. EV will be scrap as a second hand vehicle due to people not understanding the correct use of the batteries. If it costs around £5000 for a battery pack after 4-5 years ( the timeframe will depend on how the vehicle is treated ) then who will pay for them to be replaced? So more vehicles will be scrapped due to cost not due to end of life. Hydrogen is the way forward for transport and heating but also we will need solar, wind and other forms of green energy. Nuclear energy will never be a green energy, it's far from safe and we don't even know what to do with its waste, which is far more damaging than another waste.

### Theme 3: Green space, land use and offsetting

#### 2. Local renewables

Do we make any bio-gas from the grass from our parks? Ecotricity is building bio-gas generators.
Build solar and wind farms, that offer habitats for wild life. Give residents more access to allotments and community trade swapping markets.
Use land for renewables.

### 3. Building standards and planning

No more building on prime land. Ensure brownfield sites are used first.
Protect the environment by not giving planning permission for new developments on greenfield sites, especially when there is plenty of brownfield land currently unutilised in Chesterfield which could be used for development.
Attempting to avoid offsetting wherever possible as this is not actually dealing with the problem. Ensuring green belt is looked after, ensuring that plentiful trees (of a species beneficial to the local area) are a requirement of any new developments for both housing or businesses.
Use brown sites.
Encourage development on brownfield sites rather than green belt and make energy efficiency and renewable energy key parts of planning. Use council land to create more bio-diversity, better use of grass verges and no to the use of pesticides or herbicides.
Encourage building on brownfield sites - work with land owners. Empty buildings used for housing/flats in town centre - less need for car use. Tree planting - already happening.
Commit to not using offsets except where there is no other action available. Commit to not giving planning permission on forested land.
No more building on green sites until brown field sites exhausted, irrespective of cost.
So many empty old factories and sites, maybe a 100% better approach would be to knock down and build new rather than trying to preserve the old sh**.
Stop the reduction of green space, and the building programme.
Maintain green belt where possible and use brown field sites as a priority. Adopt tree planting schemes in all areas and encourage planting in resident gardens and public spaces.
Ensure new building isn't allowed to remove trees etc.
All new housing developments to have solar panels.
Conversion of abandoned properties such as Robinsons factory site to housing.
Stop building on green spaces.
Don't put housing on good farming land. Use brownfield sites first. Use offsetting carefully and not as greenwashing environmentally unsound practices.

### 5. Active Travel

Should be used to help incentivise people to walk, cycle etc. Far more benefit in reducing carbon produced than carbon offsetting especially in a largely urban setting, planting wild flowers, fruit trees (have a free, healthy snack on your walk to work). Create green highways connecting key

places, schools, offices etc. It's far far cheaper to make footpaths / cycleways user friendly than to spend on roads, health benefits etc. Don't be too narrow minded just looking at carbon. Maintain what we've already got, planting trees is popular but of limited benefit, cheaper, easier and possibly better just to fence an area off and trees will grown anyway. Offsetting can be more of an auditing game.

## 8. Greenspace

We need to preserve our green space instead of previous borough policy to build houses and concrete over the whole of Chesterfield.
Parks and green spaces need protecting and adding too. More tree planting and work with communities to improves the spaces.
Stop building on green spaces where it blocks access to the public to green projects.
Maximise carbon offsetting via planting trees.

Ensure any trees which need to be cut down are replaced by at least three new ones. Make use of any vacant land belonging to the council to offer new allotments to the public in order to minimise upkeep requirements.
Ensure green spaces remain as such, and that we plant those trees. Forget offsetting, experts say most is a nonsense.
Planting trees is ok but not planting 'whips'. Better to manage existing trees in our parks which are getting overgrown and crowded.
Introduce more green space in the town centre by turning excess unused retail buildings into parkland. Our Victorian forebears made sacrifices to create, for instance, Queen's Park, whereas this would not be the most profitable use of the land in purely financial terms.
Tree planting. Surface water attenuation for resilience.
Start community gardens and growing projects.
More tree planting. More green spaces to be opened up where possible.
Encourage voluntary tree planting extensively, Chesterfield has many bare green spaces that could be used. Support flood management activities e.g. those recently undertaken by DCRT.
Much more green space, including creating new green spaces. Stop cutting verges, allow areas to grow wild. Stop residents from cutting down trees and established shrubs and concreting the land.
Plant more free fruit trees etc in green spaces.
Better management of green spaces.

More tree planting at scale is welcome but we must also stop cutting down existing trees and removing bio-diverse habitats for road-building and new housing developments. Stop granting planning permissions for larger homes and start to promote (realistically) affordable new "greener" homes on brown field sites. Re-imagine the town centre's building stock. Stand up to the developers - apply policies that put people's housing needs before property developer profit. Rewilding land is welcome but it must be a significant programme to support pollinators and biodiversity and not just a token effort. Offsetting is a last resort.

All proposals - good start but need to do more, urgently, replace "could include" with "will include"; green space - include small scale green space (small gardens, trees, etc.) wherever possible; include larger green space (small parks, relaxing areas) in town centre development; allocate more land for allotments and community orchards (possibly as part of housing development applications); encourage voluntary sector organisations to set up and manage their own green spaces (small gardens, open spaces, food production beds, etc.) (grants, advice, council facilitating support networks for organisations to access advice and encouragement from other projects); use planning mechanisms to require private developments to include appropriate 'green space' (as above) for use by local residents; offsetting - ensure all offsetting meets as minimum UN Gold Standard requirements, <https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/energy/short-guide-carbon-offsets>; support offsetting other than standard tree planting, such as short-cycle energy generation/use (e.g. bio-gas from coppicing) but avoiding schemes that divert resources away from food production into energy generation; finance carbon reduction projects or low-carbon energy generation; direct financing of local carbon reduction projects (i.e. giving cash to such projects in Chesterfield and Derbyshire instead of purchasing offsets in corporate offsetting schemes); inseting - "retrofitting local housing" - essential, should be immediate targets rather than "exploring" and should be in all Chesterfield borough council owned housing, plus some housing associations and private tenancies (possibly non-Chesterfield borough council tenancies via grants or interest-free loans), prioritising tenants in 'fuel poverty'.

Plant more trees in existing green spaces. Encourage tree planting by residents.

We welcome the planting of additional trees in the borough. It is critical that planning decisions prevent the removal of existing mature trees.

The 2020 Plan included plans to undertake a full inventory of all Chesterfield borough council land with a view to maximising carbon capture. Please could this be included within the current plan, or if already actioned please could you confirm the details of this.

Reinstate the policy to work with Derbyshire county council on nature-friendly verges and re-wilding. This could include a local engagement plan to explain the rationale for this.

Take rigorous enforcement action where impermeable surfaces are laid in breach of planning conditions, leading to surface water run-off and exacerbating flooding.

## 9. Nature

For every acre developed an acre of green designated as undevelopable for the future BNG assessment across council's estate and then local partnership with schools etc to implement.
Work closely with parks, farms, National Parks and timber mills in and around the borough. Could a project be set up to grow the reeds to re thatch revolution house?
Working to increase biodiversity is very important for maintaining eco systems.
Should be preserved for wildlife.
Prioritising nature recovery in all green spaces and council land.
Protect all our green spaces and plant more trees and hedges.
Preserve green spaces and use the land effectively. Offset carbon as much as possible. Protect the green spaces we have left.
The council to save remaining green land and turn it over to wildlife. There's still a good amount of brownfield space left to build on and all other green space saved.
Less about offsetting, more about carbon capture. Re-wilding verges will help with biodiversity and will save money on machines used to cut verges throughout the summer. Leave the verges to grow and all sorts of beautiful flowers will re-emerge and encourage insects and birds. Clamp down on residents paving over front and back gardens.
I think that the council could take a strong lead in setting an example of how to create, improve and manage local habitats to mitigate against the extreme events of climate change and provide a safe haven for wildlife to build up populations and give them some resilience to the challenges they will face in the future. I think there are several ways the council could do this. 1) When planting trees, make sure they are native species that have evolved alongside our native wildlife to provide the highest benefit. There should also be an aftercare program as during this summer's heatwave I was walking beside Loundsley Green road where a large number of saplings had been planted, only to see that about two thirds of them had died off. This seems like a waste of time and resources and another lost growing year for the trees to mature. 2) Improve bio-diversity by creating more varied habitats on council land. This is even more important now that the Government have removed

the Local Nature Recovery Scheme section from their Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS). I would like to see the council undertake small projects across the borough to create and enhance existing areas of nature. This could be creating small ponds, planting copses of trees, turning mowed grassland into native wildflower meadow or purchasing land like the old gas holders behind Mecca Bingo and turning it into a small nature reserve. They could also look at ways to enhance and expand the wildlife corridors that run through the town along the rivers (Rother, Hipper and Holme Brook) as this could provide some protection from flooding alongside the benefits to wildlife and local residents. 3) The council could introduce a scheme similar to the Percent for Art that applies to large developments in the borough. A 'Percent for Nature' scheme could require developers to fund or include projects that create or enhance natural habitats in and around Chesterfield. This would reduce some of the financial burden on the council to fund these projects. 4) I would like to see the council take a lead in revolutionising the 'Chesterfield in Bloom' events by moving away from the old fashioned view of public realm gardening. Looking at photographs from this year's events the overwhelming trend was to plant everything with sterile bedding plants. While they may look good to us, these plants are pretty useless to wildlife. To me it seems like a great opportunity to lead and educate the public on how to plant up gardens with a rich display of plants that are great for wildlife. If done correctly, successional displays can last through most of the year without relying on mass planting of sterile bedding plants. I think by introducing these measures the council could do a great deal to help protect our local wildlife from the damaging effects of climate change while also improving the local environment for the town's residents.

Green spaces are the lungs of the community and should be protected, even if that means the council has to refuse building applications. If solar or wind farms are built they should be based on a land share with agriculture, not replace it.

Less verge cutting.

Rewinding spaces.

## 10. Communication

Offsetting is a useful help when there is only a little carbon to offset (under 500 tonnes) but otherwise it's a 'cop out' to reducing energy within Chesterfield. Green spaces should be kept in good condition and not sold off - Loundsley Green Woods are an excellent example. Developing this beautiful woodland is a crime to the town. Land use is something that the planners need to look at more carefully - they pay no cognisance to efficient or appropriate use of land.

## 13. Baseline data

Do a proper inventory of Chesterfield borough council's land and how it can be used for carbon capture.

## 17. Partnerships

Encourage the county council to implement its long-since announced intention to improve the green spaces of the Rother's floodplain to make them more wildlife friendly in the light of climate change and the planting of more trees.

#### 18. Miscellaneous

Green house gases.

Use less land for animal agriculture and plant more crops instead. Help farmers switch from meat and dairy farming to plant based alternatives.

Stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.

Offsetting doesn't work, it's a big con. We pay Tesla a fortune in carbon credits but they don't save any carbon in the production of their vehicles and they produce more carbon and waste in building an EV than a standard vehicle. The people who should be paid the carbon credits are the drivers of EV's, this would help offset the cost of an EV and reward the people making the carbon savings. Offsetting is another form of brainwashing because you can still pollute as long as you can say you have some kind of green offsetting but we can see clearly the planet can't cope with offsetting of polluting activities as our environment is dying.

### **Theme 4: Communications, engagement and training**

#### 1. Energy reduction

Try to use less fuel and gases.

#### 10. Communication

Free and impartial advice that addresses what needs to be done rather than what people 'feel' needs doing.

Public awareness is crucial in making any of the above changes.]

Just keep on using all communication channels to explain the issues, what is needed from the public in terms of recycling and avoiding waste.

Yes, communicate well, use good printed matter such as the recent Transition led leaflet to encourage energy savings.

More education for people to make them aware of what is happening.

Continue communicating about climate change as much as possible and supporting local groups like Transition Chesterfield.



I don't engage much with social media, don't really listen to local radio and only found this survey by accident (searching the website for something else). However, I have spent plenty of time sitting in traffic at red lights, I think signs at traffic lights, bus shelters and anywhere people are a captive audience would be good to raise public awareness of environmental initiatives.
Provide carbon calculator for residents and businesses.
Promote understanding of which actions genuinely help climate change.
Communicate with schools and health services the benefits and opportunities. The council should set an example.
Better communication with local people.
Not sure how, but people need to understand just how serious this is.
a) Don't waste a lot of money on this, and b) ensure a balanced view is presented.
Chesterfield borough council has declared a climate emergency but the urgency of its response to date, while making a welcome start in the right direction, has not been in proportion to the climate crisis that is looming. Chesterfield borough council needs to demonstrate bold leadership within its communities to prepare people for the impacts on health, well-being, food security, extreme weather events etc that are on the horizon and which will significantly affect the lives of all residents of the borough. Chesterfield borough council staff, officers and councillors must engage with the climate change action plan and seek to form partnerships and networks to move forward together in finding local solutions. Chesterfield borough council needs a programme of public engagement through speaker events, information and education through the council's publications and at events and by working with partners at community level. The Chesterfield borough council website pages on climate change need to be reviewed with reference to much more interactive and informative versions offered by other local authorities.
Actually do some climate communications - and do some actual outreach and engagement with residents. Make sure that climate is embedded into all council activities. Make sure all councillors and senior officers have carbon literacy training.
Vital to bring people into greater awareness's

## 11. Engagement

Support voluntary groups by listening and providing a free printing service. They can do a lot of the work for you.
Engage the schools and improve the Eco vocational training so that kids can see it as a career choice.
Prioritise work with local environmental groups to create a virtuous circle of carbon reducing behaviour in the Borough.
Engage with all businesses and the population to fire people up to get onboard with the plans. Provide help to make sure lower income families have well insulated homes to help with energy costs.
Teach people of all ages about sustainability, how to work out energy costs, how to make reductions in their habits, etc.

More communication with local population to encourage changes in behaviour.
Engage with young people.
Work with voluntary sector, e.g. environmental groups, organisations working with older people, mosques, churches, etc., to target home owners and tenants, especially those in fuel poverty, with their actions and policies; use Chesterfield borough council small grants (and if possible, innovative offsetting, see above) to support voluntary sector initiatives; open up Chesterfield borough council training programme on Climate Crisis and Climate Action to non-employees and councillors, especially where small organisations would struggle to finance own training.
We note from the 2021 Resident Survey that 81% of residents are very or fairly concerned about climate change. We strongly encourage the council to run a full engagement process involving local residents, groups and businesses in the discussion on tackling the climate emergency. If the council were to arrange a facilitated discussion programme involving community groups and a series of well-publicised events, this could involve previously unheard voices and raise new ideas for meeting the council's 2030 and 2050 commitments.
We would welcome the opportunity to engage with the council and provide input into the Delivery Plan through regular dialogue. Please could you confirm the expected timeframes for the annual Delivery Plan review process.
In respect of Carbon Literacy Training, please could the council confirm the percentage of councillors and employees provided with training to date. Given the urgency and gravity of the Climate Emergency, we propose that the council should include a target to ensure that 100% of councillors and employees receive the training by end of 2023 would be welcome.
Work collaboratively with local groups actively working towards net zero to leverage influence on Climate Change issues. For instance, further engagement and support with Transition Chesterfield on policy and practical projects would be welcome. Future Transition Chesterfield events in furtherance of the council's climate emergency motion dated July 2019 could be supported by the presence of councillors and/or officers and targeted publicity.

## 12. Training

Climate Fresk Rollout to continue, work with suppliers and merchants. Climate change / climate action training for partners and suppliers at council premises for free / subsidised.
Training new staff certainly. Don't waste paper sending out printed mailshots to the public.
Thorough climate change education for all council employees and information for the general public on why it is important, citing irrefutable evidence.
Train people to grow food.

Training on alternative types of energy available so can advise residents.
Training for residents on how they can contribute to climate change.
Ensure that all councillors and staff are trained on climate change awareness, so that it is second nature to question every action with regards to climate change. Talk to climate change groups more, we are all on the same side against climate change. Advise residents what they can do to help with this and what help the council can give to them.
Provide free online training to small businesses.
Greater training for residents.
We all need training and education about climate change, it needs to be taught in schools and all the way up because the people in power are the most brainwashed, Covid was a prime example of this, the whole world was convinced by the media we had a Global Extinct event but it never was, there needed to be a mortality rate of at least 60 to 70% it was no where near. No one in power challenged the information and certainly didn't read the National Statistics Office's documents on the Mortality rates in the UK, The Variants of Concern or how many people died of the Flu (or should I say the complications of the Flu is the correct term, 110,000 died from the flu and pneumonia in 2018, 12,500! ). 100 people dying in every 100,000 equates to 6 million a year or 500,000 a month, we never reached this figure. It took 18 months worldwide to hit 5 million people that had died from Covid but even that is questionable, which the government are only slowly admitting to this. In the same time frame around 18 to 22 million people died of heart disease world wide but that's not a problem, why? Educate the people with power first, away from the brainwashing, before you can educate the rest, it's the people at the top making most of the problems.

### 13. Baseline data

Just reading the strategy document it becomes clear that there is very little actually known by the council - how can you include such wide margins in future assessments of winter rainfall, for example. Wide variances make a nonsense of subsequent claims that the increased rainfall will increase incidences of flooding. Communicate by all means, but at least try to be accurate.
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### 14. Progress updates / examples

Use live projects not slogans and green washing - work alongside PEAK team.
People need to be updated on progress and know that necessary change is being made. It's encouraging.

### 16. Waste and recycling

Give all town centre businesses a recycling bin or offer some greener alternative for them to recycle their rubbish.
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Encourage/reward recycling in buildings, promote zero waste products for use at work and home. Train staff to understand recycling correctly etc and inform the public.

## 18. Miscellaneous

It depends what the training is.

Is adequate as it is.

Waste of tax payers money for schwabs climate hoax.

Often green initiatives are centrally funded and not coming from our council tax, often people just don't get this and have no support for green schemes as a result.

Ensuring strategy is followed through. There seem to be many instances where Council has policies that don't actually translate to on-the-ground stuff. Staff not following or recognising what is needed.

Celebrate Chesterfield and its history. Less Woke, more we did this..struggles of the working class.

Promote plant based diets and cutting down on meat and dairy in the borough and implement more of these options in schools, hospitals etc.

Sure, but try to do this with a fresh unbiased mindset and not from the brainwashed green woke clubs. Sadly, the tone of the questionnaire makes much clear.

Environment more important than a fast profit, stop wasting money on smart road signs.

Stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.

Minimise use of cloud based storage.

## Theme 5 Data, monitoring and corporate activity

### 9. Nature

Keep better records of ecological activity with useful spreadsheets.

### 10. Communication

To tie in with communication, high level data could be communicated via newsletters, social media, etc as part of a public awareness campaign.

Better transparency of the use of data. Do datasets exist for public use? For example if there is temperature / CO / flood / recycling volume data from the local area, making this accessible would give the ability to track these things over time. If these things do exist, make them more obviously available.

## 11. Engagement

Get all businesses onboard . Give council tax rebates for high scoring businesses that go green.

If there is a way to monitor who in the borough buys into schemes to save energy, offer them reductions in local services such as council tax or provide them trade offs, e.g. free public transport, car parking, etc.

## 13. Baseline Data

Up to date accurate data helps formulate policy.

Carbon monitoring and air quality monitoring on Town Hall then roll-out.

Monitoring is a critical part of reducing carbon emissions, and proving that they are going down is critical to the success of the scheme. All I can say is that the people who carry out this monitoring of data produced need to be motivated, well-trained and the people they report to need to listen and react to the information provided.

Not just the carbon emissions of the council, but the area as a whole as well.

You have to collect data to report back to the government I'm guessing?

Set baselines to be able to monitor performance.

Produce a base line of data so that we can all see what progress is made on all these initiatives each year. Also set measurable targets with dates. Report on progress on these targets to all residents.

Measure the benefits of the actions, not only actual carbon produced, but how people 'feel', improved well being for example. Corporate activity, again this should be incentivised to be carbon neutral, for example car boot sale should be in centre of town not out of town. Planning should take into account carbon footprint, for example the new MacDonalds should not have happened, should have to demonstrate how they reduce car use, improve health etc. instead of short term considerations. Another example is M&S moving to retail park, again this incentivises car use, increasing carbon footprint, in this respect Chesterfield is going backwards.

Need to be clearer about sources of data used. The strategy included a graph at the start but no indication of where the data was drawn from, for instance. Do we need to ensure all possible sources of baseline data are being taken advantage of or just the easy ones?

Actual true monitoring would be good, but can you do this without manipulation distorting the true readings? Evidence shows poor history.

Monitor the town's pollution levels.
You cannot assess progress without baseline data and SMART targets. The new strategy is a much watered down version of the climate action plan 2020 with lots of vague statements and broad aspirations. If Chesterfield borough council is serious about its climate strategy, then the actions need to have target dates, costings and regular review dates. Chesterfield borough council can take steps, if it chooses, to apply sustainability standards to all aspects of its corporate activity e.g. procurement, public events.
Ensure that the actions are measurable and quantifiable where possible, and publish annual reports to measure progress against the Tyndall carbon budgets.
Ensure targets are set and met within councils. Again reward good behaviour, effective recycling/reuse etc.
There needs to be an assessment of progress against quantitative (SMART) targets and with reference to baseline data. We suggest that the council adopts the University of Manchester "Tyndall Budget".
Amend the council's procurement policy to favour organisations evidencing actions towards attaining to net zero.
We are concerned that waste and consumption has not been included as a strategic theme. This is a critical, circular theme over which the council has direct control over. We suggest that the omission is rectified and targets from the 2020 Plan are also added.

#### 14. Progress updates / examples

Lead from the front using own comprehensive data sets.
Regular, frank and open updates on council progress, opportunities for local businesses and information to the public on any new technology solutions which are discovered and become available.
Push projects and stats to the public via social media.
Share data on a street by street basis to create local competition.
Data of recycling levels, progress towards being carbon neutral.
Data is key. If residents see the data they will realise we need to do something about an issue.
Honest reviews of all projects - warts and all.
Communication of performance.

#### 16. Waste and recycling

Stop wasting paper.

## 18. Miscellaneous

Should belong to other areas.

Who cares just stop wasting my tax money on this crap.

Cut all woke departments.

The council should look at all corporate activities and not just consider offsetting but ask the question "is it really necessary?" If the answer is anything short of an absolute "yes" then don't do it. And that applies to everything from the monthly labour party-endorsing newsletter to mayoral journeys/visits and annual dinners and events.

Not really relevant to climate change.

Small scale.

Stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.

If you accept what you are being told is the truth without checking the information is correct in the first place, what good is any of what you do. I put forward big tobacco's story to the world "Smoking is good for you", big oils is "Natural gas is the way forward". Oh and my favourite, "We are going to cure the Flu with a vaccine", which is odd as we have never been able to do that.

Prioritise "Chesterfield Climate Change Impact Assessment tool" in all decision making, e.g. infrastructure / industrial developments / housing developments.

Minimise use of cloud based storage.

## Theme 6: Council influence and partnership activity

### 1. Energy reduction

Schemes to improve local privately owned properties in terms of energy efficiency, by offering loft insulation and cavity wall insulation at reduced or free rates for customers. Run schemes to help local people buy green energy for their properties, such as heat pumps, wind turbines, solar panels. This could be done through loans or rentals. The council should also conduct schemes to improve rental properties in terms of their energy efficiency by installing loft insulation and cavity wall insulation to help reduce heating bills.

### 3. Building standards and planning

Influence on planning activities. This is currently very poor and seems to be lacking in rigorous monitoring so that plans are checked as construction takes place etc.

#### 10. Communication

Promotion to residents, working with schools and large Chesterfield businesses to encourage carbon neutrality.

First the council needs to get the correct education and facts, not what is being pumped out by the main stream.

#### 11. Engagement

Work with schools, colleges and universities in and around the borough regarding education and training.

Cut business rates to ensure town centre is full.

Help small companies.

#### 14. Progress updates / examples

The council needs to lead by example in every decision that it makes and not be influenced by outside organisations whose main priority is profit over climate change.

#### 15. Procurement

Ensure suppliers are made aware that contracts will always need to take into account the effects on the climate, and that employment of local residents is an important metric. Also push this message to companies in the district and especially to those planning to move here.

The council is in a position to favour B Corp rated companies (or similar schemes) when procuring from new suppliers. Although a relatively new scheme, this would promote sustainable practices for businesses.

All Chesterfield borough council partners, suppliers, contractors, Trade Unions for employees, etc., should be required to have C-neutral policies in place, and be able to demonstrate they are taking positive action towards these policies.



All council-run events to apply sustainability criteria when granting permissions. For example, at the Christmas Lights Switch On and the Fireworks Display, the council should not permit the sale of disposable plastic novelty gifts and balloons from street traders.

The council has a key role to play in events run by third parties which either require council permission to operate or use council premises. The council could adopt a policy offering to waive premises charges for an existing event if they demonstrate that it will not be using single-use plastics. This could incentivise events such as Chesterfield Pride or Chesterfield 10k to remove single use plastics (the plastics industry contribute 4% of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions).

We encourage the council to develop a Social Value and Low Carbon procurement policy (as opposed to a Social value in procurement policy).

We welcome the reference to climate-focussed partnerships such as the Local Authorities Energy Partnership, Local Government Association networks, local business and Destination Chesterfield. We consider that the Council's most effective means of harnessing these partnerships is to create an open forum for all groups to work and establish solutions.

## 16. Waste and recycling

All fancy words, maybe start in tidying ones own house - wish you could start with cleaning our streets of all the litter, waste less and reduce peoples tax burden.

## 17. Partnerships

Work collaboratively with all Derbyshire local authorities in order to force far stricter housing development green policy.

Partnership activity will not bring about change. This needs to be driven by Chesterfield borough council alone. Using case studies of businesses who are working towards (or have achieved) carbon neutrality is OK, but not 'getting a company in to sort it on the council's behalf'.

This is something we need to tackle as a community and it will take the public, the authority and businesses working together.

Partner with schools, colleges, businesses to get the word out . Insulate all homes, businesses to save energy, have active groups providing help to residents to upgrade their homes. Buy insulation in bulk and sell at cost to residents to get best deals. Partnership with solar firm to provide best price and most efficient schemes for residents so they can buy knowing it's a quality product at the right price with support and ongoing maintenance.

Become a local champion by actions not just words.

Offer green bonds to residents. Generate funding for carbon reduction schemes/projects.

Liaise with other councils on best practice on climate change, we are all in the same boat.
Should make more use of all the different climate related groups out there to help and then influence all the businesses and organisations. Produce a local approach getting local businesses on board. Not being steam rolled by the larger corporate companies. Again incentivise them to be carbon neutral, through pedestrian friendly, cycle friendly and connected to public transport.
Working with others and leading others to make a difference.
Chesterfield borough council should be the leading body bringing together all sectors, statutory, voluntary/community and business to harness local expertise and commitment to finding local solutions to climate change. Chesterfield borough council needs to proactively reach out to people/groups in all communities to prepare for climate adaptations and mitigations. Chesterfield borough council should be applying county/region-wide standards and initiatives to planning and transport policies. It is accepted that local authorities are struggling with a lack of finance from central government so engagement at the county/regional level is needed to share in the potential positive benefits for health, well-being and the local economy from planning proactively for a low carbon future.
Use your influence with business and Destination Chesterfield more effectively and transparently. Bring different parts of the community together, with workshops or meetings in each ward.
Ensure partners are of like mind and represent what is being put forward. Don't allow companies to Greenwich their dirty tactics via your business.

## 18. Miscellaneous

Does the borough council actually have any influence? Companies operate despite Chesterfield council, not because of it.
Should belong to other areas.
Communicating grants - on council tax bills or rates to avoid paper and postage? Supporting Grant Applications Trusted Trader Initiative on Green.
Shouldn't have any. Concentrate on homes for people without and get the roads sorted so they can take more traffic.
So long as it doesn't result in paying more for goods and services from 'greener' partners, instead encourage less green to improve.
Council need to stick to big decisions but need to properly consult with residents when changing things.
The council should curtail all activity to only that which is prescribed, setting aside anything that falls into the category of "might be good for Chesterfield".
Also not relevant to climate change.
Ensure aims are realistic. Don't let decarbonisation aims over-rule a balanced and sensible approach.

Stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.

**Q3. Is there anything you think we have missed, or any themes you would like to suggest?**

1. Energy reduction

Switch off some street lights after midnight.

2. Local renewables

We have a lot of rivers in the town. Can we look at the possibility of using local hydroelectric generation? Also, is there vacant council land where wind turbines could be situated to generate electricity?

Solar rather than heat pumps which are extremely noisy.

I believe we need to build council properties again to provide affordable homes for residents rather than forcing them into shared ownership properties. We need residents to be able to buy green energy that is produced on our own doorstep and is owned by our local council.

7. Infrastructure

Far better cycle networks.

Free parking would encourage people to shop locally instead of travelling further away, thus lowering emissions.

8. Greenspace

Increase the proportion of planting and green space.

10. Communication

Chesterfield council should constantly remind citizens of the importance of climate change.

We need to get over to employees and public alike the urgency of the need to deal with climate change. There is a great new book "Hothouse Earth" written by Derbyshire man Bill McGuire, environment expert, it's simple and says it all, and is short to digest.

11. Engagement

Incentive schemes for businesses operating on council owned property to reduce carbon e.g. no single use plastics = discounted rent.
Help , engage and communicate with all areas and people in the borough. Provide great transport links to reduce individual car travel. Have a park and ride at a couple of the car park sites, push the insulation of all homes in the borough to save energy.
Educate the Government. Also people who can afford to buy a home and people who can get a council house get help with greening their homes, but people who can do neither are penalised in private renting as the landlords won't do this for many reasons, so we need help with insulation, solar and the other benefits because our bills don't go down, only up. Someone with a mortgage, their bills drop as they pay off the mortgage, and so are advantaged in two ways.

13. Baseline data

Data and monitoring should not be a theme, but something that you do to measure progress of all the themes
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14. Progress updates / examples

Selecting one sector/industry and fast tracking that as an example of successful change. I would do taxis.
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16. Waste and recycling

Reduce the council's use of plastic Refuse sacks, switch to recycled paper ones.
Waste disposal. It is just as important from an environmental perspective.
There is very little on waste management, which featured as a theme in the last strategy 2019 to 2023. The council manages waste collection services, so is in a powerful position to make changes and educate the community in this area.
Encouraging repair as part of the recycling agenda. This should be part of a waste strategy which seems to be missing from the whole document. So much waste is food or household items that are bought cheaply so not valued. Can the council not support alternative shops apart from pound shops, shops that produce things of interest and value? Support independent sustainable traders etc.
Where has "waste" gone in the new strategy? What happened to promoting reduce, reuse, recycle? All part of a lower carbon economy.
Keep pushing home recycling and expanding what can be done at home as much as possible.

17. Partnerships

Climate justice, social justice. Making everyone included and valued in conversations about climate change.
Encourage green energy firms to bring jobs to the borough.
18. Miscellaneous
Stop wasting our tax money on rubbish like the climate hoax.
Food, perhaps - promoting non-meat alternatives and radically reducing beef/lamb in e.g. council canteen or any council provided food services, if there are any.
A joined up plan for Chesterfield, it lacks ambition and is overly concerned with cars and buildings. Very little about walking, cycling, getting people out of cars into greener spaces, health and wellbeing benefits. A great example is what they have done in Sheffield's Grey to Green Project, why not do the same here.
Celebrate Britishness, don't apologise for it. Reduce rates to ensure town centre full.
Going carbon neutral, well that is a blatant lie - you can't. Yep, maybe you should have an unbiased look or are you just pushing the big reset?
I think this survey and the documentation supporting it lack credibility and start from a biased position with leading questions.
Just stop spending tax payer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.
All targets are good but this is urgent. We can't wait until 2050 for the actions listed as '2050 targets'. Therefore, 2030 targets need to include 'progress towards' all 2050 targets. Establish Citizen Assemblies (i.e. range of individuals across political opinions, age, ethnic background, etc., provided with expert information and opportunity to reach informed conclusions) to have (meaningful) influence on decisions in all themes.

**Q6. Is your household currently taking steps to reduce it's carbon footprint? If yes, please provide us with some more information below:**

1. Energy

Using Energy Less: The House is already insulated....
Solar, Better insulation, Grid tied batteries, EV, Cycling, Supporting Green growing projects. Teaching people about off grid solar systems and how to install.
I have had all insulation done, new A+ rated boiler and I am also exploring PV
Solar panels, electric car and bikes, not flying, planting trees, investigating improvements to home insulation
Reduction in electricity use. Hybrid car. Recycling everything where possible.
Solar panels, reduced thermostat setting on central heating, careful recycling, minimising use of electricity and water. House has cavity wall insulation and extra loft insulation. Not travelling abroad.

Self installed solar electricity and water heating installed, internal insulation added, electric heating from renewable source, walk and cycle for local transport.
Green Energy Tariff - LED bulbs throughout the house, insulation improved in loft and roof, Rainwater reclamation for garden, growing own veg and herbs where possible
solar panels, electric vehicle, service boiler regularly (v important part of using less gas), good cavity insulation, turning controls down, wearing sweaters, Walking INTO TOWN AND USING THE BUSES, buy locally,
Saving power
Electric charging point at home. Hybrid vehicle. We keep bees.
Close off power appliances when not in use. Recycle. Fully vegan / plant based household.
renewable energy provider
Turning down heating temperature, walking instead of driving short trips e.g. to the library.
Reducing heating, not taking as many flights, growing own food, eating less meat.
Solar panels and no 'fire'
Looking at solar panels . Insulating two old properties using efficient internal plaster products , reducing energy costs changing all lights to led
Solar panels and recycling as much as possible
We have actively been cutting down our energy usage and using eco-friendly products wherever possible. We are also big on recycling.
Energy lightbulbs, reduced energy consumption, good insulation, lots of recycling
cavity wall insulation and loft insulation. Would buy wind turbine and solar panel if provided a scheme and fair guidance which meant the energy my property produced would be available for my home and my local council to help make our carbon footprint better.
Lower fuel usage.
We have installed solar panels at our expense. Have installed an infra red heater to heat the office (as one of us now works from home permanently) using energy generated from the roof and will look to install these in other rooms as it is proving successful. Simple things like washing when generating energy etc. We cycle more, 80% of my commuting is now done by cycle. We shop sustainably and use independent businesses rather than chain stores ... less mileage associated with products produced etc. We car share more with friends and encourage kids to arrange pick ups on trips rather than all traveling independently.
I have solar panels and have replaced my gas boiler with an air source heat pump.
Extremely low carbon footprint. We have a micro wind generator and photovoltaic panels. We grow most of our own food.

reduce energy consumption, insulation in home, improved windows and doors, water butt, compost bin, recycling
A few years back I reduced my home thermostat to 18 degrees C. I use wind and solar to dry my washing (on the clothes line). I have a doorstep delivery of milk in glass bottles. I recycle most of the waste from my house very rarely filling and putting out the black bin. I grow some of my own fruit and vegetables and run a couple of compost heaps. I walk to most places in Chesterfield rather than use the car. I haven't flown in an aeroplane for about 10 years. I use my own containers to hold loose produce from Steph's Sustainable Stuff market stall and other retailers.
We have turned down our thermostat recently and are looking at insulation options (our house is a 1900s build with no cavity walls so this is not straightforward!) We have solar panels, have prioritised fuel efficiency for our car, walk and cycle as much as we can, and approximately 50% of our meals are vegetarian.
Reduce heating, looking to put in heat pump, solar panels but we need financial help for this. Cycle and walk instead of using car but roads are not user friendly.
Boarding loft
Just moved to Chesterfield. 1930's bungalow. Disappointed that it can't have cavity wall insulation as external insulation is far too expensive. However am having conservatory roof insulation fitted along with loft insulation and a new more efficient boiler and radiators.
Green sourced electricity, Drive EV, low energy bulbs and motion sensor bulbs SMART heating controls
AA+ for windows and all electrical white goods Cavity insulation, solar panels with battery storage Changed car to an EV and walking more
Less use of heating and lighting.
Additional roof insulation; Solar PV on order; Cavity-wall insulation planned. Electric car charging point to be installed.
Cutting down on my heating
Reducing energy use
Had gas capped at property reduced use of plastics
Reduced power consumption. Improved insulation. Reduced car ownership and mileage of the one still owned. Wildlife friendly planting. No future air travel likely. Detailed attention to recycling.
I'm insulating the roof to a greater depth at my expense but can afford solar, cavity wall insulation, a new boiler and the list goes on.
Improving simple home insulation measures, considering more expensive measures like solar panels, floor insulation & cavity walls but struggling to find a reliable source of advice that we can trust and that is actually available
turning off central heating most times, purchase of hybrid car, reduced journeys
We have insulated our home, replaced our gas boiler with an air source heat pump, use public transport and walk and cycle where possible, don't fly, are vegetarian/vegan and try not to buy new stuff where possible

Use less gas. Changed to plug in hybrid car.
Using less energy, converting to led lights everywhere in the home, bought a hybrid electric vehicle, using up left over food more.

## 2. Travel

Electric car, solar panels for electricity & water, solar batteries and we also offset our aircraft travels
Since 2019, we have dropped from a 2 car household to a 1 car household. We regularly use active travel (cycling) and public transport to commute to work and school. We have reduced our consumption of meat and buy it from a local farm shop We grow vegetables on our allotment We have turned down our heating in an effort to reduce our energy consumption
Walking and cycling instead of driving, despite the dangers, turning down thermostat
Active travel and public transport where possible, recycling, draft excluders and turning the thermostat down, vegetarian, buy second-hand items and clothing where possible
Fewer car journeys, increased bicycle use, reduce single use plastics, remove draughts.
Reduce short car journeys, reduce energy use, buying second hand
Reducing car dependent travel. Thinking about window insulation as old house and is not well insulated.
Using my vehicle less, recycling what is available
electric car and looking at air source heat pump and solar panels
EV, more insulation, looking at getting solar panels and battery storage
Using a bicycle and bus for transport. Plant based diet, growing some of my own food. Limit consumer spending. Repair items rather than replace.

## 3. Nature and other environmental actions

I grow my own veg, I reduce plastic waste, I have my own compost, I keep the heating thermostat low, I avoid air travel if I can, I work from home mostly, I have planted trees in my garden.
Planting trees in this country, rooftop solar and hvo diesel fuel
Growing food in our garden and allotment. Planting the garden with plants that benefit wildlife. Growing a wildflower meadow on part of my allotment plot and growing pollinator friendly plants alongside. Reducing heating. Recycling waste. Not buying new electronics every time a new version is released. Making do with what we have. Buying electricity from renewable supplier. Not owning a car.



Grow our own food as much as possible. House well cladded. Running economical car. Don't fly. Set internal temperature lower 18. Wear warm clothing

## 5. Waste

Reducing waste, insulating home and using car less. Much more active travel done this last few years

Avoid using plastic were possible only use material shopping bags

recycling, choice of more economical cars, increased foot and cycle travel, using woodburner rather than gas, reducing electricity consumption

recycling more and reducing energy consumption

Recycling. Cannot afford heat pumps or electrical vehicle.

We reuse our shopping plastic bags. We save our electricity by turning off all our outlets that we are not using at the moment.

Recycling and always using public transport. Buying second-hand etc.

recycling , linked car journeys , shopping local ,

Recycling

Reusing, recycling, composting where possible. Reducing energy use. Reducing car use. Allowing parts of my garden to re-wild naturally.

Recycle more, reduce boiler temp, walk more

## 6. Lifestyle

Myself and my partner are both vegan, we recycle and reuse as much as we can, we carbon offset whenever we go abroad and have invested our money into renewable energy, electric vehicles and charge points and have made sure our pensions only invest in environmentally friendly causes. We are looking to purchase a sustainable home when we can afford to along with electric vehicles but until then we try to reduce use of our cars as much as possible and ensure we switch all of our lights and electrical items off at home when not in use and keep the heating at a maximum of 18C.

Less consumption, less waste, less heating, shopping locally, less use of the car...

## 7. Other

I don't know

**Q7. Is your organisation currently taking steps to reduce it's carbon footprint? If yes, please provide us with some more information below:**

1. Energy

Decarbonising supply chain Matching built space with green space Using a globally recognised certification process for all activity Promoting health and wellbeing

2. Travel

Travel. Green house gases

3. Nature and other environmental actions

Vehicles run off waste oil

4. Wider action

Steps: ~ our ethos & policy is to be as sustainable as possible, meaning minimising resource use and impact on the local & global environment & eco-systems, providing a model (= information & advice, practical example, training) for other individuals & groups; ~ we aim to be a model of 'grow your own' food, produced ecologically, therefore avoiding use of pesticides, chemical fertilisers, etc., plus minimising 'food miles', transport costs, food wastage, etc., (we cannot grow enough to allow members to be self-sufficient, but we aim to improve our consumption in this direction) ~ we are off-grid, i.e. all our energy is generated on site (solar panels), all our water (apart from drinking water) is rain-water harvested; ~ we are sited to encourage volunteers & visitors to travel by cycle, walking or public transport; ~ we practice 'repair, reuse, recycle' of materials as much as possible, we use plastic to a minimum (and restrict plastic use where possible to long-term, e.g. 10 or 25 year, use);

**Q8. What is your preference for receiving information about the Council's activities and progress in becoming carbon neutral / general climate change information? Other 1. Email**

Email
email
Email and occasional special council meetings.
email
I receive emails from green peace.
via email
email us.
Email
Email
Email to 'My Chesterfield' members
Emails to draw attention to relevant information posted on the website
Email
direct e-mail (as in next answer). I/we tend not to read / listen to / access above. CBC councillors tend not to be in touch. Thus, we would be unlikely to know about any council initiatives / information to respond to or comment on.
emails from CBC
As a former member of the Climate Action Working group it would have been nice to have been contacted directly by email by the council - if nothing else to spread the word about this survey. And because there is nowhere else in this survey to add comments, need to say that the original plan was supposed to be a rolling plan, but it now appears to have been dropped completely which seems a backward step after only 2 years
Email

2. Radio

We use radio for what happening in the world
--

3. Destination Chesterfield

via Destination Chesterfield mailings

4. Facebook

Facebook

5. Billboards

Billboards , use redundant building in centre to provide staff and information for residents

posters in community spaces

6. My Chesterfield publication

My Chesterfield

7. Other

NONE OF THE MONEY WASTING ABOVE

Don't particularly need to be told.

Stop spending taxpayer money on something we can't control and is doing us no harm.

Be open clear and honest

**6. Appendix B Correspondence**

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Two letters were received from local groups. These are detailed in full below. Their responses to the survey are also contained within the survey results.

## **Letter 1**

Please accept this letter as Transition Chesterfield's response to the Council's online survey which closes on 12 December 2022.

Transition Chesterfield exists to provide the encouragement and support necessary for Chesterfield to become a low carbon, sustainable, locally self-sufficient community. We have a new committee focussed on supporting local initiatives to limit climate change and on broadening activity amongst different socio-economic groups in the Borough. We would like to build our relationships with councillors and officers so that together we can form a more effective partnership in meeting shared aims.

As the Council's supporting information notes, it is estimated that local authorities are directly responsible for around 2% of UK emissions. Yet Chesterfield Borough Council has an influence and profile which can impact emissions levels within the Borough on a significantly greater level than by merely reducing its own emissions. Please could the Council revisit its suggested priority activities within each Strategic Theme to take this greater role into account. We have outlined a few suggested areas for inclusion here, but we would be happy to discuss further in a meeting or to provide additional detail regarding our suggestions.

### **1. Building and Energy Use**

- Derbyshire County Council's Climate Supplementary Planning Guidance, which is currently in draft form but due to be published should be adopted as Council policy within the Local Plan.
- In the Council's Local Plan, ensure that all new buildings are carbon neutral or close to zero carbon.
- Work with funding partners and local communities to provide a home energy retrofit advice point, to include insulation and low carbon heating/electricity advice for all home occupiers.

### **2. Travel**

- Actively promote alternatives to road travel and disinvest in carbon-producing means of transport including new roads.
- Lobby sector bodies (including for instance, Derbyshire County Council and Stagecoach) to increase public transport services and reduce emissions. Actively promote public transport in Chesterfield through the Station Master Plan, the planning process, and lobby for new public transport such as the proposed opening of the Barrow Hill Line.
- We are pleased to see the Council seeking to enable active travel. We'd like to see the Council actively opposing planning requests which run contrary to this and publish the Active Travel Supplementary Planning Document.
- In the Council's 2020 Climate Change Action Plan ("the 2020 Plan"), there was reference to ensuring new housing routes were connected to public transport routes – please can this be included in the current plan and rigorously enforced.
- We suggest that items 1-4 from the appendix to the 2020 Plan be replicated in the current list of priorities i.e.:
  - i) Working with DCC to prioritise investment into cycling, walking and public transport, including suitable wildlife corridors and opening up waterways. All new developments must be connected meaningfully to the cycle / walking network. CBC to establish minimum size of development for this to be applied.

- ii) CBC to publish a strategic assessment of Integrated Transport within the Borough to support our communities making the transition to sustainable modes of transport.
- iii) CBC to work with taxi and bus operators regarding the move to electric vehicles within Chesterfield. CBC to consider as part of its wider work in relation to clean air the introduction of a strategic network of charging points.
- iv) CBC to implement a policy whereby fleet vehicles will be moved to electric / hybrid where suitable vehicles exist whenever a vehicle lease expires.

### **3. Green space, land use and offsetting**

- We welcome the planting of additional trees in the Borough. It is critical that planning decisions prevent the removal of existing mature trees.
- The 2020 Plan included plans to undertake a full inventory of all CBC land with a view to maximising carbon capture. Please could this be included within the current plan, or if already actioned please could you confirm the details of this.
- Reinstate the policy to work with DCC of nature-friendly verges and re-wilding. This could include a local engagement plan to explain the rationale for this.
- Take rigorous enforcement action where impermeable surfaces are laid in breach of planning conditions, leading to surface water run-off and exacerbating flooding.

### **4. Communications, Engagement and Training**

- We note from the 2021 Resident Survey that 81% of residents are very or fairly concerned about climate change. We strongly encourage the Council to run a full engagement process involving local residents, groups and businesses in the discussion on tackling the climate emergency. If the Council were to arrange a facilitated discussion programme involving community groups and a series of well-publicised events, this could involve previously unheard voices and raise new ideas for meeting the Council's 2030 and 2050 commitments.
- We would welcome the opportunity to engage with the Council and provide input into the Delivery Plan through regular dialogue. Please could you confirm the expected timeframes for the annual Delivery Plan review process
- In respect of Carbon Literacy Training, please could the Council confirm the percentage of councillors and employees provided with training to date. Given the urgency and gravity of the Climate Emergency, we propose that the Council should include a target to ensure that 100% of councillors and employees receive the training by end of 2023 would be welcome.
- Work collaboratively with local groups actively working towards net zero to leverage influence on Climate Change issues. For instance, further engagement and support with Transition Chesterfield on policy and practical projects would be welcome. Future Transition Chesterfield events in furtherance of the Council's climate emergency motion dated July 2019 could be supported by the presence of councillors and/or officers and targeted publicity.

### **5. Data, Monitoring and Corporate Activity**

- There needs to be an assessment of progress against quantitative (SMART) targets and with reference to baseline data. We suggest that the Council adopts the University of Manchester “Tyndall Budget” set out [here](#).
- Amend the Council’s procurement policy to favour organisations evidencing actions towards attaining to net zero.
- We are concerned that waste and consumption has not been included as a strategic theme. This is a critical, circular theme over which the Council has direct control over. We suggest that the omission is rectified and targets from the 2020 Plan are also added.

## **6. Council Influence and Partnership Activity**

- All council-run events to apply sustainability criteria when granting permissions. For example, at the Christmas Lights Switch On and the Fireworks Display, the Council should not permit the sale of disposable plastic novelty gifts and balloons from street traders.
- The Council has a key role to play in events run by third parties which either require Council permission to operate or use Council premises. The Council could adopt a policy offering to waive premises charges for an existing event if they demonstrate that it will not be using single-use plastics. This could incentivise events such as Chesterfield Pride or Chesterfield 10k to remove single use plastics (the plastics industry contribute 4% of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions).
- We encourage the Council to develop a Social Value and Low Carbon procurement policy (as opposed to a Social value in procurement policy).
- We welcome the reference to climate-focussed partnerships such as the Local Authorities Energy Partnership, Local Government Association networks, local business and Destination Chesterfield. We consider that the Council’s most effective means of harnessing these partnerships is to create an open forum for all groups to work and establish solutions.

Thank you for your consideration of our response to the Survey. We would welcome ongoing dialogue with the Council about its Climate Change Strategy and its implementation. Please could you let us know some suggested dates and time for a meeting with you.

## **Letter 2**

We are writing in response to the Chesterfield Climate Change Strategy Survey.

In particular we wish to respond to the section on travel:

With emissions from transport being one of the major contributors to climate change we fully agree with the strategy to prioritise walking, cycling and public transport.

Sadly this is often not the case with new developments and little 'joined up' thinking. We believe that a more robust stance from CBC planning department would encourage developers to provide infrastructure to enable walking and cycling.

In 2019 we had discussions with the Forward Planning team who were developing Supplementary Planning Guidance which would outline the Borough's requirements for walking and cycling connectivity. Three years later this doesn't seem to have materialised yet.

We would like to see laid down criteria for walking and cycling infrastructure in SPG in line with national guidance Local Transport Note 1/20.

As part of that discussion we had an agreement with Forward Planning that the Cycle Campaign would be involved at an early stage for any major developments. This was one of the outcomes of our complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman that CBC failed to implement the Local Plan (walking and cycling connectivity) when the new leisure center was built at the Queen's Park annexe. Since then we have not been invited to discuss any major developments other than through public consultations.

At the present time local authorities in Derbyshire have minimal control of bus services but there are ways that more control could be taken and we urge CBC to explore that with Derbyshire County Council. A 'travel card' system similar to London with capped fares will encourage public transport use.

One area that is readily controlled by CBC is its own vehicle fleet, as a matter of urgency vehicles should be changed to electric when their current leases are renewed.

Finally we have been somewhat dismayed by the political opposition to new cycling infrastructure in Chesterfield proposed by Derbyshire County Council. Enabling the less confident to cycle segregated from vehicles and providing better walking infrastructure surely has to be part of any climate change policy.

More walking and cycle journeys will reduce the number of vehicles on the roads which means less congestion for those who have to use a vehicle for their journey. The benefits for both mental and physical health by enabling walking and cycling are well known.

Secretary, Chesterfield Cycle Campaign

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