



Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Thursday, 31 October, 2024

Place

Diamond Rooms 1 and 2 - Council House

Public Business**1. Apologies and Substitutions****2. Declarations of Interest****3. Minutes**

(a) To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 September, 2024 (Pages 3 - 8)

(b) Matters Arising

4. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider whether to exclude the press and public for the item of private business for the reasons shown in the report.

5. Climate Change Strategy (Pages 9 - 82)

Report of the Director of the Director of Regeneration and Economy

6. Temporary Accommodation - Lease Renewal of Caradoc Hall, Coventry (Pages 83 - 92)

Report of the Director of Adult Services and Housing

7. Work Programme and Outstanding Issues 2024/2025 (Pages 93 - 100)

Report of the Director of Law and Governance

8. Any other Items of public business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

Private Business

9. **Temporary Accommodation - Lease Renewal of Caradoc Hall, Coventry**
(Pages 101 - 114)

Report of the Director of Adults and Housing

(Listing Officer: J Crawshaw – Email: Jim.Crawshaw@coventry.gov.uk)

10. **Any other items of private business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.**

Julie Newman, Director of Law and Governance, Council House, Coventry

Tuesday, 22 October 2024

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Suzanne Bennett, Governance Services - Telephone: 024 7697 2299 E-mail: suzanne.bennett@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors S Agboola, N Akhtar, M Ali, A Jobbar, L Kelly (Deputy Chair), J Lepoidevin, G Lloyd (Chair), C Miks, J O'Boyle, G Ridley, R Singh and CE Thomas

By invitation: Councillors S Agboola, N Akhtar, Duggins, J O'Boyle, S Gray

Public Access

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Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee held at 11.00 am on
Wednesday, 25 September 2024

Present:

Members: Councillor G Lloyd (Chair)
Councillor M Ali
Councillor A Jobbar
Councillor K Maton (Substitute for Councillor L Kelly)
Councillor J Lepoidevin
Councillor C Miks
Councillor G Ridley
Councillor R Lakha (Substitute for Councillor R Singh)
Councillor R Thay (Substitute for Councillor CE Thomas)

Other Members Councillor P Akhtar (Deputy Cabinet Member Policing & Equalities)
Councillor G Duggins (Leader)
Councillor S Gray

Employees (by Service Area):

Chief Executive: J Nugent

Finance & Resources: B Hastie

Law and Governance: Joy Adams, D Blackburn, A Chowns, E Jones, L Nagle, C Taylor

Public Health and Wellbeing: V de Souza

Regeneration and Economy: A Williams

Others in Attendance: DI Marston and PI Stobbart, West Midlands Police

Apologies Councillors AS Khan, L Kelly, R Singh and CE Thomas

Public Business

30. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

31. One Coventry Plan Bi-Annual Performance Report (April 2023-March 2024)

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing regarding the One Coventry Bi-Annual Performance Report 2023 – March 2024. The Committee noted that the report would also be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 1 October 2024.

The report indicated that the One Coventry approach helped to shape the way the Council worked with its partners to improve the city and improve people's lives. It included the Council's vision and priorities, new ways of working, and core areas of activity to deliver the One Coventry Plan objectives, key strategies, and approaches. A One Coventry approach put the needs of the communities at the heart of the continued vision to improve the health and wellbeing of Coventry's residents.

The last performance report was presented to all Members in February 2024, and it was agreed that performance reporting should be twice yearly going forward. This increased frequency was to provide members, partners and residents with timelier assurance that progress was being made towards the priorities in the One Coventry Plan, and an opportunity to understand more quickly if envisioned impact was not being realised and to review plans accordingly. The data within the report was from April 2023- March 2024 and the next annual report would include data for the year Oct 2023-Sept 2024 and presented in Jan 2025, repeating this bi-annual pattern going forward.

For each objective within the One Coventry Plan, the report set out the trends, actions taken, and performance metrics to provide an assessment of the progress made against previous years and to benchmark against other places. The report also included case studies to capture impacts that were less easy to measure numerically.

The Leader, Councillor G Duggins, welcomed the One Coventry Plan Bi-Annual Performance Report (April 2023 – March 2024) advising this was a good guide to Council's performance and recommended Members focus on the indicators that were not progressing.

The Committee considered the report and asked questions, sought assurances and made comments on a number of issues which were to be reported to the Cabinet meeting to be held on 1 October 2024, as follows:

- The recent collapse of construction firm ISG and what the future plans were for delivery of the Cultural Gateway.
- National data relating to the proportion of neighbourhoods amongst the 10% most deprived in England had not been recently updated. In Coventry, this metric was marked by health and inequalities.
- The decrease in male life expectancy was a national trend however, Council's Marmot approach had been refocused and would be monitored to measure impact.
- Council worked closely with the Marmot team to reduce health inequalities in the city.
- Digital exclusion measures were being developed along with measures for traffic control and the impact on congestion and air quality.
- Council tax end of year collection rate figures had decreased and were being monitored.
- The launch of the Job Shop had seen a positive uptake in employment. An increase in the unemployment rate should improve as the city benefitted from further investment.
- Consultation on the One Coventry Plan was widespread across the city.

- Information on the Household Support Fund was distributed through Customer Services and the community and voluntary sector across the city. Software was in place which targeted eligible residents and this was currently being used to target pensioners eligible for pension credit.
- The average speed enforcement programme was successful. Revenue was collected by the Government.
- The leadership team were actively involved in looking into staff sickness rates and spend on agency staff with a view to it being more tightly managed.

Members requested the following:

- A statement circulated to all Members regarding the recent collapse of ISG.
- Officers to investigate how the City's Marmot status could help increase life expectancy.
- Officers to develop a meaningful indicator for traffic control and impact on congestion and air quality.
- Metrics to be addressed when the Climate Change Strategy comes to Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee, including carbon emissions and council staff inequalities.
- Information to be circulated to Members regarding the UK resettlement scheme and migrant/asylum seekers access to social housing.
- Future reports to be more accessible including standard size 12 font.
- Further comparative information to be built into future reports.
- The effectiveness of Coventry being a Marmot city to be brought back to Members.
- Ward Councillors to be consulted regarding tree planting and residents to be notified.
- Officers to investigate and build into the report how to track direct emissions and carbon footprint for the city.
- Trends to be reported in future reports including Council staff sickness levels and cycling infrastructure.

Councillor Ridley requested a written response regarding Council acceptance of donations of trees.

Following discussion, the Committee highlighted a number of issues to be added to the Scrutiny Board's Work Programmes for 2024/25.

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee:

- 1. Notes the Council's performance as set out in the performance report.**
- 2. Notes that there were no comments/issues to raise with Cabinet.**

32. Proposed Creation of a City-Wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)

The Committee considered a report of the Community Safety Officer regarding the proposed creation of a city-wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). The previous Order had expired. The new PSPO had conditions within it to address the unauthorised use of offroad motor bikes and other specifically mechanically

propelled vehicles (MPV) in the city and it would also seek to control the drinking of alcohol in public places.

Under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014, local authorities must carry out a statutory consultation before implementing a PSPO. A period of public consultation had taken place between 22 July and 19 August 2024.

The Committee noted that the report would also be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 1 October 2024.

Members noted that the Council could only make a PSPO when it was satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activities carried out or likely to be carried out in a public place had a detrimental effect on the quality of life in the area and were persistent, continuing and unreasonable. The Council would also need to be satisfied that the restrictions imposed were justified.

Within Coventry, the previous citywide PSPO addressed the drinking of alcohol in public places, consumption/possession of Nitrous Oxide canisters and nuisance use of MPV.

Under the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014, local authorities were required to review the conditions of the Order before renewing the Order.

The previous Order had a provision regarding Nitrous Oxide however, there had recently been a change in national legislation and the use and possession of Nitrous Oxide for anti-social purposes was now a criminal offence and as such, there was no need to make a provision in this Order.

The creation of the city-wide PSPO provided for the continued use of powers to address the following issues in Coventry: Public consumption of alcohol and the use of off-road motorbikes. It was recognised that both behaviours in public spaces were closely linked with anti-social behaviour. The Order would allow authorised officers to order persons consuming alcohol in public places to stop drinking and also permit them to confiscate or dispose of cans or bottles. The Order would also allow individuals to be challenged when consuming alcohol without the need for officers to wait for an incident to intervene. Specific MPV usage, which includes off road motorbikes were a common problem across the city and this Order would allow people to be challenged for just being in possession of their bikes in public areas.

The Council had undertaken a statutory consultation with the Local Chief of Police, the Police Crime Commissioner, owners and occupiers of land within the affected area where reasonably practicable and appropriate community representatives. The response from West Midlands Police had been previously circulated. The Police and Crime Commissioner was consulted but at the time of publishing this report, a response had not been received. The response had now been received and was tabled at the meeting.

A city-wide 4 week consultation had commenced on 22 July 2024. 294 responses had been received with a large percentage of respondents believing public drinking and off road bikes were issues in the city and over 90% supported the creation of the Order to give officers powers to address them.

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Policing & Equalities, Councillor P Akhtar welcomed the proposed creation of a City-Wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), including the work of the West Midlands Police and Community Safety Officers in the scheme. He emphasised the scheme was about early intervention, improving safety and the quality of life for the residents of Coventry and stressed the importance of reporting offences to the police or to community safety officers.

A comprehensive presentation at the meeting was provided by officers. An Addendum to Appendix 3, Responses from Key Partners was tabled at the meeting.

The Committee considered the PSPO report, asked questions, sought assurances and made comments on a number of issues which were also to be reported to the Cabinet meeting to be held on 1 October 2024 as follows:

- Early intervention and intelligence led targeted responses used less resources and reduced pressure on other services.
- The expiry of the PSPO had seen a decline in good behaviour in the city centre, however, with the new Order in place, an improvement would be seen along with access to help and support.
- Breaches of the Order would be enforced by fixed penalty notices and recording of incidents was undertaken.
- Operation Prosperity was a West Midlands Police and local partner targeted operation in Coventry which identified and held users of illegal e-bikes accountable.
- Partnership working with Trading Standards and others was helping with early intervention in combatting Nitrous Oxide usage.
- The PSPO would be immediately enforceable once approved and recent changes in legislation mentioned in the King's speech would make it easier for local authorities to bring in PSPO's.
- Residents supported the PSPO; shown in the consultation results.
- Frequent monitoring and reporting around the PSPO was in place.
- The Community Safety Plan, currently out for consultation, covered behaviour not included in the PSPO, including rehabilitation of offenders, knife crime and parking.

Following discussion, the Committee highlighted a number of issues to be added to the Scrutiny Board's Work Programmes for 2024/25.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, thanked officers from West Midlands Police and council officers for all their work in this regard and for their attendance at the meeting.

Members requested the following:

- Officers to liaise with public health and education colleagues regarding the supply and use of Nitrous Oxide.
- The PSPO be brought back to Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee prior to expiry.
- Data regarding e-bike confiscation in Operation Prosperity to be provided.

RESOLVED:-

- 1. That the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee noted the report and the Addendum to Appendix 3, circulated at the meeting, and had no comments or recommendations for Cabinet at their meeting on 1st October 2024.**

33. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme and Outstanding Issues 2024/2025

Further to Minutes 31 and 32 above, it was noted that the following items would be added to the following Scrutiny Board's Work Programmes:-

- SB4 – National Highways Satisfaction Survey and rehabilitation of reoffenders (PSPO)
- SB1 – Increased use of agency staff (T&F group) and digital exclusion (26 March 2025)
- SB5 – Increasing life expectancy in Coventry
- Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee – Coventry City Council Transformation Programme
- Fly tipping (maximising fines) to be prioritised.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee notes and approves the Work Programme and Outstanding Issues for 2024/25.**
- 2) That the issues above be included in the Work Programme for the relevant Scrutiny Boards and Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee.**

34. Any Other Items of Public Business

There were no items of urgent public business.

(Meeting closed at 1.20 pm)



Public report
Cabinet

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
Cabinet
Council

31 October, 2024
5 November, 2024
3 December, 2024

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change - Councillor J O'Boyle

Director approving submission of the report:

Director of Regeneration and Economy

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title:

Climate Change Strategy 2024 - 2030

Is this a key decision?

Yes

The proposals in the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will have a significant impact on wards across the whole city.

Executive summary:

The Coventry Climate Change Strategy 2024-2030 sets out how the Council plans to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change, which is central to delivery of the One Coventry Plan. The Strategy sets out the challenges and opportunities to creating a more sustainable city through five key pathways (or themes):

- **Adaptation and resilience** – how we adapt to weather changes caused by climate change and create more resilience in our infrastructure, services and systems.
- **Route to net zero** – how we decarbonise our city including buildings, transport and industry and create a green economy
- **A circular economy** – how we use resources more efficiently
- **Fairer green future** – how we tackle inequalities and deliver a just transition
- **Nature** – how we address the ecological emergency, reverse the decline in nature and create a greener city

We are facing unprecedented challenges to our climate and natural environment, climate change is no longer something happening in the future, we are seeing the impacts now - in Coventry there are over 10,500 properties at risk of flooding and rising. Rising energy costs and energy inefficient homes mean that over 22% of households are in fuel poverty, and the rising cost of living means 20% of the city is in food poverty. There is a global nature emergency, with the UK one of the world's most nature depleted countries. In Coventry over 20% of households live more than 300 metres from green space.

We are moving towards a green economy and need to ensure that local people and businesses are equipped with the right skills to access jobs and opportunities. Tackling climate change can help to address these issues and presents a huge opportunity to create positive change that can improve the quality of life, health and well-being of our residents and a create a more prosperous and vibrant future city.

The Strategy goes well beyond the Council, it is citywide. It has been developed with expert input from the city's independent Climate Change Board and pathway groups which is made up of over 25 public, private and third sector organisations from across Coventry. The Strategy also considers feedback to public consultation undertaken last year and is guided by Coventry's Net Zero Carbon Routemap which was produced to help us better understand the city's biggest sources of emissions and where we need to prioritise action.

There is already a tremendous amount of activity happening across the city to tackle climate change which includes:

- We have created a UK-first Strategic Energy Partnership with E.ON to help us decarbonise our city developing a 15 year programme which supports our net zero ambitions
- We are developing Greenpower Park. With West Midlands Gigafactory as its anchor tenant, it will foster world-leading collaborations between industry, major academic institutions and stakeholders to drive the UK's ambitions in leading the transition to a cleaner, more sustainable energy future
- We are pioneering Coventry Very Light Rail, a net zero affordable battery powered tram system which will help to reduce carbon emissions and provide a comfortable hassle-free means of travel as an alternative to the car
- Coventry will be the UK's first Electric Bus City by 2025 and we have the largest number of electric car charging points outside of London, in the UK
- We have launched a state-of-the-art Materials Recycling Facility 'Sherbourne Resource Park', the first of its kind in the UK, to support a growing circular economy
- We are working with the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent and the Environment Agency in opening up the river Sherbourne, providing benefits to nature and local communities.

Whilst good progress has been made, we need to go much further. The Strategy provides a foundation for how we will work with partners, businesses, organisations and communities to

address climate change. It recognises that the Council has a role as leader and enabler but recognises that we can't do this alone and citywide action is needed. The accompanying Climate Change Action Plan sets out the key actions that we will aim to deliver, in partnership to help meet the significant challenges and opportunities. It should be noted that whilst approval is sought for the Strategy and Action Plan, individual projects will be subject to further governance and approvals in line with the Constitution.

The work of the Climate Change Board and delivery of the Strategy is underpinned by a commitment to ensure a 'just transition'. The impacts of climate change and measures taken to address it can often affect the most vulnerable communities, we must ensure that we use this opportunity to prioritise action to reduce inequalities in our city and improve the quality of life for all.

Recommendations:

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to consider the report and make any comments/recommendations to Cabinet for consideration at their meeting on 5 November, 2024

Cabinet is requested to consider any comments/recommendations received from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and recommend that Council:

- (1) Approve the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan; and
- (2) Delegate authority to the Director for Regeneration and Economic Development and the Director of Finance and Resources, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change, to make variations from time to time to the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

Council is requested to:

- (1) Approve the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan; and
- (2) Delegate authority to the Director for Regeneration and Economic Development and the Director of Finance and Resources, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change, to make variations from time to time to the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1: Climate Change Strategy 2024 to 2030

Appendix 2: Climate Change Action Plan

Background papers:

- Draft Climate Change Strategy 2023 [Coventry's draft Climate Change Strategy – Coventry City Council](#)
- Draft Climate Change Strategy Consultation Response [Climate Change Strategy 2023 - 2030 consultation feedback executive summary – Coventry City Council](#)

Other useful documents

- One Coventry Plan 2022-2030 [The One Coventry Plan – Coventry City Council](#)
Coventry Net Zero Carbon Routemap 2023 [Net Zero Carbon Route Map for Coventry – Coventry City Council](#)
- Strategic Energy Partnership Business Plan summary 2024 [SEP SBP summary](#)
- Cabinet Report, August 2023
- [Coventry Strategic Energy Partnership.pdf](#)
- Economic Development Strategy [Economic Development Strategy 2022-2027 – Coventry City Council](#)

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

Yes – Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee - 31 October 2024

Has it or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes
3 December, 2024

Report title: Climate Change Strategy 2024 – 2030

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 Tackling the causes and consequences of climate change is a key priority for the Council as set out in the One Coventry Plan. The Strategy gives a comprehensive insight into the challenges and opportunities we collectively face in tackling the causes and consequences of climate change. Whilst the challenges ahead are significant, taking positive action to address them brings about real opportunity to create a better future for our city and its residents. The Climate Change Strategy is an important step for Coventry in being clear on our level of ambition, to be a leading city on the global stage, which is innovative, forward-thinking and capable of delivering meaningful change and leading the green industrial revolution. We need to be bold and rise to these challenges; we can't do this alone and the success of how we respond to this will rely on city-wide support.
- 1.2 Climate change has many complex challenges which must be looked at holistically to deliver meaningful and lasting change. The Strategy breaks these down into five key areas or 'pathways':
- **Adaptation and resilience** – how we adapt to weather changes caused by climate change and create more resilience in our infrastructure, services and systems.
 - **Route to net zero** – how we decarbonise our city including buildings, transport and industry and create a green economy
 - **A circular economy** – how we use resources more efficiently.
 - **Fairer green future** – how we ensure the transition to net zero future is fair to all
 - **Nature** – how we address the ecological emergency, reverse the decline in nature and create a greener city
- 1.3 Coventry City Council recognised the importance of this issue well before many authorities were declaring emergencies, the Council were a founding signatory of the Global Covenant of Mayors in 2008, which set a target of achieving net zero by 2050 and the Council published its first Climate Change Strategy in the same year. In 2021 the Council signed up to the the Covenant of Mayors revised interim target of 55-65% reduction in emissions from 1990 levels by 2030. We are committed to working towards the UK government's more recent interim target for a 68% reduction in emissions by 2030. More recently the Council are working towards how we can support government targets to tackle the ecological emergency, whereby 30% of land in the UK should be conserved and managed for nature by 2030. For Coventry, whilst we recognise the importance of targets to give focus, our focus is taking action and being innovative to tackle climate change.
- 1.4 It's important the Council is seen to lead from the front; we are committed to reducing the direct impact the Council has on the environment and climate change, and we have a role to lead and encourage city-wide action. It is for that reason that we helped to develop an independent Climate Change Board in 2021, where the Council in its leadership role representing the interests of its citizens brings together the

leading stakeholders in the private, public and voluntary sectors to take action on climate change and promote sustainability.

- 1.5 The Board is made up of more than 25 partner agencies from the public, private and third sectors. The Board is supported by five pathway groups, focusing on each of the key areas of the Strategy, expertly chaired by professionals in those areas. The Board and pathway groups share ideas and resources to develop solutions to these difficult and complex issues affecting our city and its people and have had an important role in developing this Strategy. We will also continue to engage with residents and help empower community organisations to develop projects on the ground and encourage behavioural change.

A summary of the five pathways is as follows:

- 1.6 **Adaptation and Resilience Pathway** we are seeing more frequent extreme weather events such as flooding, heatwaves and droughts which present major risks to our city, affecting communities, infrastructure, nature and the local economy. Over 10,500 properties in the city are at risk of flooding, and Coventry has been tabled 14th out all English towns and cities with regards to the number of neighbourhoods within the city at high risk of extreme heat. We cannot afford to ignore this, particularly as some of our most vulnerable communities are likely to be most impacted and therefore must take action to adapt to climate change and create a more resilient city. The key recommendation for this pathway is to develop a Coventry Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Plan, to help us better understand the city's exposure to climate risks and develop actions to mitigate risks as far as possible – this work is already well underway. Some of the actions in response to this will include measures such as increasing green and blue space across the city to increase natural resilience to heavy rainfall and provide natural shelter and cooling – this could include more green spaces in neighbourhoods, green roofs, living walls, street tree planting and work to restore and de-culvert rivers.
- 1.7 **Route to Net Zero Pathway** like all UK cities, Coventry is on a journey to net zero. We have reduced our carbon emissions by 48% since 2000, however the remaining 52% will be more challenging to deliver. This pathway focuses on a number of key areas for decarbonisation closely aligned to the city's Net Zero Routemap, with a focus on homes, transport and business, which are the biggest sources of emissions in our city. Some of the key actions that will help address this include retrofit of properties, electrifying the city's bus fleet and providing better walking and cycling infrastructure, developing innovative solutions such as Coventry Very Light Rail and pioneering new technologies such as drones and mobility hubs, delivering on our ambitions to be the UK's first Electric City. The route to net zero is very much underpinned by technology, innovation and behavioural change which are all essential to support our journey to net zero. The city's Strategic Energy Partnership will play a pivotal role in helping us to drive this forward at pace and scale. This pathway also focuses on identifying opportunities to create significant jobs, skills and savings for residents and businesses across the city.
- 1.8 **Circular Economy Pathway** waste is a significant challenge for the city, and currently accounts for 10% of emissions. Developing a circular economy means focussing on re-use, repair and recycling materials to use as a valuable commodity. This pathway

seeks to create opportunities to develop a local circular economy, which will deliver environmental, economic and social benefits across the city.

- 1.9 Coventry has ambitions to be a UK leader in tackling electrical and electronic waste and Greenpower Park is a huge opportunity to help deliver this, developing technologies to support the recycling of batteries and electronic waste. The city is already taking innovative steps with the Battery Industrialisation Centre, Coventry Connects digital recycling programme and the Sherbourne Materials Recycling Facility provides additional capacity that can support an increase in processing of high-quality recycled materials. Part of the work of this pathway focuses on identifying opportunities and addressing challenges of creating a more circular economy, which includes working with businesses to look at how we can make better use of commercial waste, and residents to address low recycling rates across the city.
- 1.10 **Nature Based Pathway** the UK is one of the most nature-depleted nations in the world. There is a vital need to reverse the national decline in biodiversity and support local nature recovery. This pathway focuses on how we can protect local habitats, alongside creating new ones. Currently 11% of land across Coventry is used for conservation purposes, against a government target of 30% by 2030. This presents a huge challenge which many other urban towns and cities also face, but also a significant opportunity to enhance green and blue spaces across the city.
- 1.11 In order to do this successfully we need a better understanding of the existing levels of biodiversity, which is being done through the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. This will enable us to target resources and support a pipeline of opportunities and help attract investment. We need to improve conservation management to support nature recovery, and increase education, awareness and involvement of communities and explore opportunities to increase space for nature in urban areas, as well as opportunities for larger rewilding schemes.
- 1.12 **Fairer Green Future Pathway** The impacts of climate change and measures taken to address it can affect communities disproportionately, often impacting on the most vulnerable communities. Climate change can increase existing risks, such as vulnerability of properties to flooding and impacts of heatwaves will affect communities living in areas with less green space and trees to provide shade. Taking action on climate change can contribute to better health, well-being and quality of life for residents across the city. Our response to the climate emergency will require working with communities across the city to address existing inequalities and deliver a 'just transition'.
- 1.13 Moving towards a low carbon economy will create new job opportunities but will mean a decline in sectors currently dependent upon the use of fossil fuels. It's important that we take a proactive approach in order to avoid creating inequalities in our communities and businesses to support the transition into new jobs, which includes upskilling and training in green technologies. The pathway group have created 'Eight Principles for ensuring a Just Transition for Coventry (listed in the Strategy) which have been adopted by the Climate Change Board members and we are keen for other organisations across the city to follow suit and get resource in place to help coordinate the city's just transition.

- 1.14 The Strategy explores the role of the Council. The Council's emissions only account for 1% of the city as a total, but the organisation is taking significant steps to decarbonise its estate and fleet and to ensure that climate change and sustainability is embedded in all policy areas, from planning to procurement. The Council has an important role in terms of co-ordinating the city's approach to tackling climate change, which includes partnership working, building support and empowering citizens to take action. Key actions in the next 12 months will include training and reviewing resources to build knowledge, capacity and awareness to help us deliver against the Action Plan.
- 1.15 The city's Climate Change Action Plan sets out all of the planned activities and projects, many already in development or underway, or plans we aspire to deliver in response to the Climate Change Strategy, to make a real difference city wide. Whilst a large number of the actions sit with the Council, there are also initiatives that require support from partners, businesses and communities to reflect the citywide action required. The Action Plan will remain a live document and be used to monitor progress and performance to make sure that the actions being taken are delivering against our goals.
- 1.16 We recognise that there is a huge amount to do, and it is important to be aspirational but practical about what can be achieved. We will work hard to raise finance, engage partners and work with communities and organisations across the city to help remove barriers, identify opportunities and make this happen. We must also ensure we consider the risks and impacts of activities and take collective action to deliver a just transition as part this.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1. **Option 1 – Not recommended – Do nothing** – This option is not the recommended option. The UK Government passed legislation in 2019 to committing to reducing greenhouse gases, achieving net zero, by 2050 and Coventry must help contribute towards this goal.
- 2.2. **Option 2 – Recommended – Approve the Climate Change Strategy 2024 - 2030**
The Climate Change Strategy is the Council's direct response to the One Coventry priority 'Tackling the Causes and Consequences of Climate Change'. It is recommended that Coventry approve the Strategy to ensure the city can lead environmental change and create an improved quality of life for all by creating a greener, cleaner city.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1. The Council launched its draft Climate Change Strategy in February 2023 for public consultation, which ran until early July. The consultation sought to understand the views of the people of Coventry on the pathways and key themes within them, to identify which issues are most important to people to help influence the final version of the Strategy and accompanying Climate Change Action Plan.

- 3.2. It was important to the Council to help make the consultation as accessible and wide reaching as possible across the city, therefore the engagement was conducted offering a range of different options for people to participate, with sessions held in person including drop ins and events, online or in meetings in their communities, alongside promotion on social media and in the press.
- 3.3. Data and feedback were captured via a survey on the Council's Let's Talk Platform, alongside more detailed surveys used during focused pathway group sessions, alongside email and letter correspondence. Comments were also captured from public drop-in sessions held at libraries and shopping centres, alongside events including Godiva and Motofest.
- 3.4. There were 1,421 people or organisations engaged in the consultation which took place face to face at various drop ins, events and focus groups, via online meetings, webinars and online surveys. Over 500 written responses were received, with over 1,856 comments from individuals and representatives of organisations providing feedback on the Strategy. We will continue involve and work with local people in our plans going forward to. raise awareness and encourage positive action to be taken.
- 3.5. The majority of the respondents that took part in this survey were between 35-64 years, proportionally larger than the 2021 Census figure of 36% of the Coventry population aged between 35-64 years old. Only 4.5% of respondents were aged 24 and under, again much lower than the Census figure of 15% of the population aged between 16-24 years old.
- 3.6. Of respondents that took part in the survey, 71.5% identify as 'White British', which is proportionally higher than Coventry's total 'White British' population of 66.6%. Responses from Asian groups which make up 16.3% of the city's total population only make up 4.3% of surveys received. This illustrates that the profile of respondents doesn't fully reflect the diversity of the city. Responses were received from all wards across the city.
- 3.7. The majority of respondents (81%) consider the issues around climate change and sustainability to be 'very important' or 'fairly important'. 19% of those that engaged felt it was 'not very important' or 'not important at all'. This is similar to the national picture.
- 3.8. Overall themes in responses included a call for the Strategy to be more ambitious and be clearer on commitments, targets and actions. Communications and engagement was also something people felt strongly about; this is a complex area and it's important that communications are clear and accessible. Community engagement is key to behaviour change, this will only be possible working with communities to find solutions and ways to empower them to take action, rather than actions being 'done to them'.
- 3.9. There wasn't consistent agreement over which aspects people feel are the most important when it comes to tackling climate change, which demonstrates the complexity of what it means to people and the issues they consider to be the most important. The most common responses included taking action to 'ensure a positive future for the next generation' and most responses related to the 'fairer green pathway', related to inequalities, pollution, lack of access to green space and jobs. Nature based interventions also appear to be an important aspect for local people, followed by climate

resilience. People were also keen to find ways to make recycling and reuse easier, to reduce waste.

- 3.10. Following the consultation process, the draft Strategy has been updated to reflect as much of the feedback as possible. This has then been reviewed by partners on the Climate Change Board and pathway groups to help shape the Strategy and Action Plan, which has involved workshops and meetings to feed into the process.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1. The Climate Change Strategy period is 2024-2030 and will be launched upon approval of this report. Updates related to the implementation of the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will be shared at future Cabinet and Scrutiny meetings as appropriate.

5. Comments from the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Law and Governance

5.1. Financial Implications

- 5.2. This report does not request any additional resources. The Strategy has big ambitions and Coventry will need to find significant funds to deliver our vision. The cost of doing nothing will be far higher. Funding for individual projects and or the delivery of the next phase(s) will be brought back to Cabinet or Council as appropriate subject to robust business case, where such decision is required under the Council's Constitution.
- 5.3. The Council has been successful in attracting significant grant funding to support schemes such as domestic retrofit, electric buses, electric charging points and cycle infrastructure and will continue to work in partnership to attract funding into the city, with new opportunities coming through the WMCA Devolution Deal. We recognise that the level of investment needed isn't going to be funded solely from the public purse and are taking more innovative approaches to attracting private investment into the city, through things like our Strategic Energy Partnership to decarbonise the city, and partnership projects with organisations involved in the Climate Change Board and Pathway Group members to develop our local circular economy and developing a natural capital programme for the city to attract funding.
- 5.4. No additional funding is sought at this stage to support delivery. The Climate Change and Sustainability Team (10 FTEs) are funded from a mix of core budget and grant funding. Note that further funding will be required to replace existing grant funding from 2025/26 to sustain the team working to deliver this Strategy, which needs to be identified. It's proposed that the structure of the team is reviewed to ensure that the service has the right skills and capacity to deliver within available budgets.
- 5.5. There is an overarching risk in relation to lack of finance for resources being a barrier to delivering what we aspire to achieve. This is particularly significant in the current financial climate, however, it is incumbent on the Council to find creative and innovative ways to build capacity, which includes the Climate Change Board and

pathway groups, the Strategic Energy Partnership with EON and working more closely with community groups to help support delivery.

5.6. Legal Implications

- 5.7. Delivery of projects within the Climate Change Action Plan will help support the Council meet its legal carbon reduction targets (net zero by 2050, with an interim target of 68% by 2030).
- 5.8. It will also support the increasing legislative requirements for local areas around energy infrastructure, including local area energy planning, the introduction of heat networks and support for increasing the amount of homes in the city to become more energy efficient.
- 5.9. The Climate Change Strategy will help to inform local policy making decisions, such as the Local Plan Review which is seeking an uplift in the energy efficiency of new builds in the city, and installation of renewables where viable.
- 5.10. The Strategy also supports the statutory obligations on the local authority to support local nature recovery through mechanisms such as biodiversity net gain.
- 5.11. While the pipeline of schemes set out in the Action Plan represents the Council's current intentions, this is subject to change and each individual scheme will still be subject to public consultation and political approval, in accordance with the Council's normal governance arrangements.

6. Other implications

6.1. How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/one-coventry-plan>

- 6.2. The Climate Change Strategy contributes to all three core aims of the One Coventry Plan. The core focus is achieving net zero which contributes directly to tackling the causes and consequences of climate change.
 - The strategy will support economic growth through the city's ambitions to lead the green industrial revolution and grow the green economy, helping to attract businesses to the city, creating new jobs and providing new skills to benefit local people and businesses. This will include safeguarding the future employment of those currently involved in fossil fuel dependent activities being phased out with reskilling. It also supports making the city more resilient to the impacts of climate change, helping our preparedness to deal with extreme weather events and reduce shocks to the local economy.

- The Strategy in accordance with the Marmot Principles will improve outcomes and tackle inequalities within our communities by focussing on people who have the lowest incomes and facing the greatest challenges these environmental changes present, such as higher fuel bills and food prices.

In addition to the above, the Climate Change Strategy will help support the Council as a partner and enabler. We will need to work in partnership to achieve the outcomes of the Climate Change Strategy.

6.3. How is risk being managed?

The Strategy and Action Plan are managed by the city's Climate Change and Sustainability Team, who will work closely with teams and partner organisations on the delivery of projects to ensure the risk profile of individual actions is managed robustly. The Climate Change Board and pathway groups will provide an overall assurance and monitoring role, which will include reviewing risks and opportunities. Climate Change and risks around adaptation and resilience are already captured on the Council's corporate risk register. Taking decisive action on climate change will increase preparedness and reduce the city's exposure to risks associated with climate change and moving towards a green economy.

6.4. What is the impact on the organisation?

There is already a dedicated Climate Change and Sustainability team who will oversee delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan, however, to deliver on our ambitions will require support from the whole organisation. The team are already working with services across the Council including Transport, Environmental Services, Energy, Estates, Education, Public Health, Procurement, Planning, Legal, Finance, Communications and Engagement and will continue to build on this. Training will be key to help build knowledge and capacity amongst staff.

The independent Climate Change Board is facilitated by the City Council in its leadership role, helping to secure commitments and lever resources through its partner organisations.

6.5. Equalities / EIA?

An EIA was completed on 12 June 2023. This EIA aims to ensure the strategy, and the more detailed interventions and actions that will result from its roll out (when officially adopted), eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and foster good relations between different groups.

In addition to the EIA, the work being developed around creating a 'just transition' will support delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan, and help to address existing inequalities and inequities in the city, including food and fuel poverty, air quality, access to green space and support with skills to access green jobs.

6.6. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?

The Climate Change Strategy is the key driver for the Council to achieve net zero ambitions and tackle the causes and consequences of climate change. This document supports the One Coventry Plan and sets out the city's ambitions for the journey ahead.

6.7. Implications for partner organisations?

The Strategy provides a foundation for how we will work with partners, businesses, organisations and communities to address climate change. It recognises that the Council has a role as leader and enabler but recognises that we can't do this alone and citywide action is needed. The Council will need to work with other organisations, communities, residents, businesses, schools, colleges and universities to help to work towards a greener and cleaner city. This will require building on the work we are doing with existing partners through the Climate Change Board, Strategic Energy Partnership and through existing projects, and also building new partnerships to maximise opportunities for partnership working and help deliver the goals of the Strategy.

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COVENTRY Climate Change Strategy 2024–2030



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Foreword – by Cllr J. O'Boyle

We are facing unprecedented environmental challenges that threaten the health and prosperity of our planet. Tackling this will require changes enormous in scale and scope, encompassing how electricity is generated, how people travel, how land is used and how buildings are heated.

While the challenges are significant, this is also a major opportunity to create positive change that can improve the quality of life, health and wellbeing of our residents and create a greener, more prosperous vibrant future city.

Coventry City Council has an important role to play in addressing the causes and consequences of climate change. We must take action and be innovative to tackle climate change, support nature and build a green economy. We are also committed to create a more attractive greener city for everyone to enjoy.

This strategy is about people as well as the planet and recognises the need to address inequities where those families from the lowest incomes are facing the greatest challenges because of climate change. Coventry is committed to tackling its inequalities, which includes supporting those living in the lowest quality homes and suffering poor health, lack of access to green space, worse air quality, rising fuel costs and food prices. It's also about ensuring that the city is equipped with the right skills to ensure a just transition to a low carbon economy and that no one gets left behind.

The Council will lead and encourage city-wide action, alongside an independent Climate Change Board where we can represent the interests of residents and bring together stakeholders in the private, public and voluntary sectors to take action. These agencies have had an important role in developing this strategy. We will also continue to engage with residents and empower community organisations to develop projects and encourage behavioural change.

The sustainability and climate change agenda also provides the city with a major opportunity to become the country's leading centre for the Green Industrial Revolution, bringing new skills, jobs and investment. I am proud to spearhead this ambitious work where we are developing innovative solutions ranging from Greenpower Park to battery industrialisation, the UK's first Strategic Energy Partnership, an award-winning state-of-the-art materials recycling facility, Coventry Very Light Rail and a cycle-superhighway network.

This is just the beginning. This strategy focuses on how to create opportunities for the whole city working in partnership with others to address this spectrum of issues. We need everyone to play their part; as residents, businesses, educators and organisations, our action plan sets out what you can do to help drive positive change.

Cllr Jim O'Boyle

Cabinet Member Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change

Coventry's Independent Climate Change Board

I am proud to chair Coventry's Independent Climate Change Board, which I have done since its inception in 2021. We have seen the partnership grow from strength to strength during that short time. The board represents a huge breadth of expertise and passion for making a difference in Coventry, and a contribution to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

We represent a diverse group of almost thirty organisations that represent industry, public bodies, charities and voluntary groups all of whom have a part to play in tackling climate change. All members of the board and the organisations they represent share the same aims with regard to harnessing the opportunities of new technologies and ways of thinking that will impact positively on the climate crisis.

The Board and its Pathway Groups have been instrumental in helping to shape Coventry's Climate Change Strategy, which is an important step for the city in its efforts to tackle the climate and nature emergencies.

We will help shape the city's vision and make key recommendations for how we can improve the environment in Coventry, and play our part in the global fight against the adverse effects of climate change.

We are committed to supporting the Council to implement the Strategy and Action Plan, which will endeavour to create new opportunities for all of the city, as well as engaging all our residents and organisations.

Taking bold action will help create a better future for everyone, and the Board and Pathway Groups will continue to have a key role in ensuring its success. I am most grateful to the members of the board for their work and to the organisations they represent.

Margot James

Former Executive Chair of WMG, responsible for the strategic direction and development of WMG, at the University of Warwick.

Prior to joining WMG Margot served as Minister of State for Digital and the Creative Industries and Member of Parliament for Stourbridge.

Coventry's Climate Change Strategy is an important step for the city in its efforts to tackle the climate and nature emergencies, taking bold action will help create a better future for everyone

Tackling the climate and natural emergencies are arguably two of the biggest challenges we face as a city, and globally. The Council recognise the importance of our role as a leader in tackling the causes and consequences of climate change in Coventry, however we cannot do this alone so in November 2021 the Council led the development of an Independent Climate Change Board Chaired

by Margot James, with Vice Chair Cllr Jim O'Boyle, Cabinet Member for Jobs, Regeneration and Climate Change.

The Board will oversee implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan, as well as continue to generate new ideas and opportunities, alongside establishing effective ways to engage and involve residents and organisations.



Figure 1 – The UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (UN, 2015)

The Board and this Strategy will deliver against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, which provides a holistic approach to tackling the climate and natural emergencies. To do this we have adopted (and tweaked) the principles of the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives Five Development Pathways. Pathway Groups are working as part of the Climate Change Board to identify priorities and opportunities to ensure we deliver lasting and meaningful change through the following goals which this Strategy seeks to address:

-  **Adaptation and Resilience Pathway:**
Reduce the impacts of extreme weather and climate change and enable quicker recovery through creating a more resilient city
-  **Route to Net Zero Pathway:**
Reduce carbon emissions across the city to support our transition to net zero, whilst benefiting local people and businesses through creating warmer homes, cheaper bills, cleaner air, new jobs and skills
-  **Circular Economy Pathway:**
Develop new models of production and consumption to reduce our reliance on natural resources
-  **Nature Pathway:**
Support nature recovery and create better access to green and blue space for wildlife to thrive and communities to enjoy
-  **Fairer Green Future Pathway:**
Ensuring a just transition for all

The work of the Climate Change Board and delivery of the Strategy is underpinned by a commitment to ensure a just transition. The impacts of climate change and measures taken to address it can affect communities disproportionately. All organisations represented on the Climate Change Board are committed to tackling the climate and nature emergencies in a way that helps to address existing inequalities and making sure new ones aren't created as a consequence of the action we take.

We have developed and adopted The Eight Principles for ensuring a Just Transition for Coventry:

1. We will draw on the expertise and lived experience of people living and working in affected sectors, industries, businesses and communities in planning for the future.
2. We will place our young people and the needs of more vulnerable citizens at the heart of our work toward a Just Transition.
3. We will use what we know already about the factors that impact on health and wellbeing in areas of deprivation in the city to ensure that addressing the impacts of climate change in these areas is prioritised.
4. All of our communication about the climate crisis will be clear and accessible.
5. Workers in the city will be supported in training/re-training for a greener future and the unemployed will be trained and supported to seize the job opportunities created by the newly emerging green technologies.
6. Communities will be empowered and supported to take climate and ecological action at a very local level.
7. We acknowledge that while individuals can take action, we do not all have equal power to bring about solutions.
8. We will stand in solidarity with those experiencing the worst climate and ecological impacts across the globe and recognise that our citizens are connected to and affected by these global impacts in a myriad of ways.

The organisations involved in the Board and Pathway Groups have pledged their support to helping to deliver the city's Climate Change Strategy, which are set out below:



The Council would like to formally thank all of the organisations involved for their time, expertise and continued support.

1.0 Introduction

The climate and nature emergency are the single biggest threats facing humanity, but if tackled positively provides a huge opportunity to create a better future for people and the planet

- 1.1** Climate change is not a problem of the future, it is happening now. Temperatures are rising faster than any time since the Ice Age, and we are experiencing more seasonal fluctuation and extreme weather events. In Coventry we have experienced a number of flood incidents this year as a result of periods of intensive rainfall which led to flooding and damage to a significant number of properties, as well as disrupting the road and bus network. Human activity, which includes our dependency on fossil fuels and natural resources is driving up food and energy bills, creating water shortages, rising insurance premiums and worsening air quality which impacts on public health. It has also had a devastating impact on our natural environment, contributing to the rapid decline of species and depletion of habitats – which has resulted in 1 in 6 species in the UK being at risk of extinction.

 - We are developing Greenpower Park. With West Midlands Gigafactory as its anchor tenant, it will foster world-leading collaborations between industry, major academic institutions and other stakeholders to drive the UK's ambitions in leading the transition to a cleaner, more sustainable energy future
 - We are pioneering Coventry Very Light Rail, a net zero affordable battery powered tram system which will not only help to reduce carbon emissions but provide a comfortable hassle-free means of travel as an alternative to the car
 - Coventry will be the UK's first Electric Bus City by 2025 and we have the largest number of electric car charging points outside of London
 - We have launched a state-of-the-art Materials Recycling Facility 'Sherbourne Resource Park', the first of its kind in the UK, to support a growing circular economy
 - We are working with the Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent and the Environment Agency in opening up the river Sherbourne, providing benefits to nature and local communities
- 1.2** Over 80% of respondents to the Council's draft Climate Change Strategy consultation told us they are 'concerned' or 'very concerned' about climate change. Many respondents told us the most important aspect of tackling climate change is to ensure a positive future for the next generation.
- 1.3** Whilst the challenges are significant, tackling them can bring about positive change and benefits for everyone, helping to address existing inequalities and improve the quality of life for all. This Strategy sets out just how factors such as economic growth, energy security, environmental protection and addressing climate change can be complementary and benefit us all.
- 1.4** There is already a huge amount happening in Coventry to tackle climate change:

 - We have created a UK-first Strategic Energy Partnership with E.ON to help us decarbonise our city developing a 15 year programme which supports our net zero ambitions
- 1.5** Whilst good progress has been made, we need to go much further. The Strategy has been developed by the city's Climate Change team, with input from other key service areas across the Council as well as from the city's Independent Climate Change Board and pathway groups, which have given invaluable expertise to shape our collective vision for tackling climate change in Coventry. The Strategy also reflects feedback from public consultation undertaken last year. A Net Zero Routemap has been developed for Coventry, which has also played a key part in helping to develop priority areas for action.

1.6 The Strategy provides a foundation for how we will work with partners, businesses, organisations and communities to address climate change. It recognises that the Council has a role as leader and enabler but recognises that we can't do this alone and citywide action is needed. The accompanying

Climate Change Action Plan sets out how the Strategy will be delivered and how success will be measured, this is intended to be a living document that will grow as new opportunities arise. Whilst the list of actions is extensive, a summary of the highest priority actions is tabled below:

Workstream/ Activity	Status	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery timescales
Adaptation & Resilience				
Coventry Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan including detailed citywide risk assessment and action plan.	Already underway Plan has been developed and is being finalised	Coventry City Council	Climate Change Board Adaptation & Resilience Pathway Group (including Environment Agency and Severn Trent), WMCA, Defra, Met Office, Stakeholders across the city; Consultant support from CAG consulting, Sustainability West Midlands and Slingshot Solutions	Plan to be published 2024/25
Delivery of practical measures to support climate resilience Includes a network of sustainable urban drainage across the city, alongside green and blue space enhancements including rain gardens and river de-culverting.	Already Underway including Palmer Lane de-culverting and citywide sustainable urban drainage schemes	Coventry City Council	Climate Change Board Adaptation & Resilience Pathway Group including Severn Trent & Environment Agency; Nature Based Pathway Group inc Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Canal and Rivers Trust; Developers; WMCA.	2024-2030+
Nature				
Increase the amount of land used for nature conservation in Coventry Deliver the city's Local Nature Recovery Strategy through development of a network of green space & nature-based interventions to support nature recovery and improve access to nature	Early-stage development Local Nature Recovery Strategy is underway, being led by WMCA, interventions are being developed alongside this	Coventry City Council	Nature Based Pathway Group including Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency and Canal and Rivers Trust. Developers	Local Nature Recovery Strategy published 2025 Delivery of interventions 2024-2030+
Delivery of the city's Urban Forestry Strategy, planting 360,000 trees across the city – particularly targeting areas where there is less canopy coverage, including a mixture of street trees and woodland creation.	Already underway	Coventry City Council	Investors, landowners, local businesses, communities and individuals	2022-2032

Workstream/ Activity	Status	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery timescales
Route to Net Zero				
Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP) between CCC and EON, which is focusing on delivery of decarbonisation projects.	Already underway	Strategic Energy Partnership	Housing Associations, Electric Vehicle Charging Providers, Universities, other utility providers	2023-2038+
Increase citywide renewable energy generation and resilience of supply – this will require development of projects including ground-mounted solar farms, solar panels on rooftops and battery storage	Already underway	Council Coventry City Council	Strategic Energy Partnership, public and private sectors, businesses, residents	2024-2030+
Improve the energy efficiency and quality of the city's social housing stock	Already underway to date funding has been secured to retrofit over 2000 social homes, work ongoing to scale this	Coventry City Council & Citizen	Citizen Housing, Orbit, Midland Heart, Strategic Energy Partnership	2022-2030+
Support increase in retrofit of privately owned properties, including private rented below EPC C (approx. 100,000 homes)	Already underway Delivery of grant programmes which support retrofit measures for privately owned properties, alongside developing opportunities for green finance products to make retrofit more affordable for homeowners.	Coventry City Council	Homeowners, landlord associations, Strategic Energy Partnership, banks and building societies, universities	2024-2030+
Develop the city's first net zero neighbourhood which would also include wider net zero benefits (Inc. economies of scale with retrofit)	Early development Funding has been secured to develop initial plan	Coventry City Council	West Midlands Combined Authority, Strategic Energy Partnership, Local community	2024-2026
Delivery of the first Very Light Rail route in Coventry. This includes delivery of the initial city-centre based demonstrator route which will serve as a pilot, and if successful development of the first passenger route	In development Funding has been secured to start work on city demonstrator route in 2026	Coventry City Council	DfT, Transport for West Midlands, WMG and CVLR consortium	2026-2030+
Electrification of the city's bus fleet	Already Underway 140 Electric buses already delivered, with renewable EV charging infrastructure	Coventry City Council, National Express & Stagecoach	TfWM, DfT	2021-2025

Workstream/ Activity	Status	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery timescales
Continue to improve the walking and cycling infrastructure – this includes improved routes and better connectivity, cycle hire and storage and development of citywide walking and cycling improvement plan, alongside training provision	Already Underway Over 9km segregated cycleways delivered to date and further works underway; WM Cycle Hire scheme has expanded across city Installation of more cycle storage is continuing Cycle training for children and adults available	Coventry City Council	Transport for West Midlands, Sustrans, Beryl Bikes	2020-2030+
Development of mobility hubs across the city , providing secure electric charging for cars and e-bikes, with potential to power via renewable energy and supporting accessible charging solutions	Early development Funding secured and work underway to develop business cases for sites	Coventry City Council	Charge point providers, Transport for West Midlands	2025-2026
LED Upgrade – PFI Street Lighting , investing in energy efficient Street lighting LED technology, whilst giving a better quality of light and achieving a significant saving on energy consumption and carbon reduction (1200 tonnes per year).	Early development Business case developed Cabinet decision due 2024/25	Coventry City Council	Balfour Beatty	2025-2027
Commercial property energy efficiency improvements (MEES) – to find a means to enable us to make energy efficiency improvements to property that we own but do not pay the bills for	Already underway	Coventry City Council	Strategic Energy Partnership Charities Tenants Communities	2024-2030+
Develop strategy and action plan for decarbonisation of the Coventry Education Estate toward Net Zero by 2050 . To meet or exceed the interim targets of 50% reduction by 2032 and 75% reduction by 2037 from a 2017 baseline.	Already underway Work underway to decarbonise schools using grant funding but needs to be significantly scaled up	Coventry City Council	All schools and educational institutions across Coventry, Department for Education, Strategic Energy Partnership other partners who can support with training and raising awareness	2024-2030+

Workstream/ Activity	Status	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery timescales
Circular Economy				
Increase household recycling through carrying out a number of targeted campaigns and behavioural change projects	Not yet commenced	Coventry City Council	Sherbourne Resource Park, WMCA, neighbouring authorities	2025-2030+
Increase the range of materials that can be recycled through household waste to boost citywide recycling rates and contribute to increasing the number of markets that recycled materials supply	Already underway Sherbourne Resource Park supports expanded range of recyclables & more high quality sorting	Coventry City Council	Sherbourne Resource Park, WMCA, neighbouring authorities, all households	2023-2030+
Coventry Connects digital recycling project involves donation of surplus digital equipment in the city which is refurbished and donated to communities and individuals to tackle digital exclusion and keep electronic waste out of landfill.	Already underway Over 3000 devices donated to date and external funding secured	Coventry City Council	WMG, local businesses and organisations, community organisations, voluntary organisations, charities	2023-2025 with plans to extend
Establishment of a construction waste re-use hub to reduce construction waste in Coventry (approx. 60% of total waste) and provide lower cost materials to traders and householders.	Early development	Coventry City Council	WMCA, social enterprises, construction sector	2025-2029+
Greenpower Park development of the West Midlands Gigafactory and UK Centre of Electrification to increase capacity and technology in battery manufacturing and recycling, providing up to 6000 local green jobs	In development Work ongoing to secure investors and tenants Infrastructure funding secured	Coventry City Council & Coventry Airport Ltd	Alliance group – West Midlands Combined Authority, Warwick District Council, Warwickshire County Council, Rugby Council, Warwick Manufacturing Group at University of Warwick, Coventry University and the Manufacturing Technology Centre.	2021-2030+

Workstream/ Activity	Status	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery timescales
Just Transition				
Development of a Just Transition Plan for Coventry – setting out key objectives and a framework for how a just transition in the city will be delivered	Early development	Coventry City Council	Fairer Green Future Pathway Group, local businesses and communities	2024-2026
Develop a Green Skills Roadmap for Coventry , to understand green skills gaps and training requirements, alongside sectors that will need to transition to support move to net zero	Early Development	Coventry City Council	Partners from public and private sectors, alongside education and training providers, WMCA	2024-2025
Delivery of Coventry's Air Quality Action Plan – measures include infrastructure improvements, greening and active travel measures, alongside targeted campaigns to encourage behaviour change	Already underway	Coventry City Council	WMCA, Defra	2020-2030+
Coventry Grows Programme pilot to create a network of community growing sites across the city to support food growing and wildlife, alongside improving food security.	Early development	Coventry City Council	E.ON, Grapevine, local businesses, landowners, Garden Organic, Team Springboard, Food Union, Coventry Growthers, Coventry Urban Eden, Coventry Allotments, Coventry University and other community groups	2025-2026+
Council Action				
Developing the Climate Change Team and wider Environmental and Energy Services to ensure there is appropriate resource , expertise and capacity and co-ordination within the organisation and build external support with partners to address any gaps	Already underway	Coventry City Council	Climate Change Board potential for secondments between partner organisations to build knowledge and capacity; Strategic Energy Partnership has provided extra resource	2024-2025
Strengthen Local Planning Policy to place greater requirements and expectations upon developers for sustainable development in Coventry to support delivery of the Climate Change Strategy	Already underway	Coventry City Council	Developers	2025-2041

2.0 Our Approach

Tackling climate change is an integral part of our One Coventry Plan

In 2022 the Council launched its One Coventry Plan.

Three key priority areas were identified: based on feedback from citizens on issues more important to them:



2.1 The Climate Change Strategy is the Council's response to how it will tackle the causes and consequences of climate change, but it plays a significant role in assisting the delivery of all three goals.

2.4 Energy security is key to supporting economic growth. More renewable, locally generated energy supply will provide more resilient and lower cost energy and help to unlock barriers to development to ensure Coventry is a city that businesses want to invest in.

Increase Economic Prosperity

2.2 The UK's Climate Change Committee estimates that the UK will need to invest £1.4 trillion between 2020 to 2050 to reach net zero. Reaching net zero will require significant changes right across the economy.

2.3 The UK's green economy grew by 9% in 2022-23, in contrast to 0.1% of the economy overall. The boom in green companies supported 765,000 jobs and production of £74bn in goods and services (source: Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit and Confederation of British Industry, 2024). Green jobs are on average better paid, more productive and hotspots of activity are taking place in some of the most deprived parts of the country, helping to improve living standards. Estimates suggest that growth in the green economy could grow to between 1.4 and 2.5 million jobs in total in the UK, but investment will be needed to develop skills and maximise opportunities for local people. Taking action to create a more climate resilient city will help to safeguard areas from economic loss.

Tackling Inequalities

2.5 The green economy presents a significant opportunity for local people and businesses, however we must ensure that workers in 'carbon-heavy' industries don't get left behind in the shift to green jobs and skills. We also must ensure we provide the right training and skills to help local people access new green jobs.

2.6 There are a growing number of people in Coventry are living in food and fuel poverty. It is vital that as we strive to address this in a fair and just way, helping to lift people out of poverty, we ensure that those on the lowest incomes are not made worse off by any actions taken to address climate change.

2.7 People living in deprived neighbourhoods suffer higher levels of pollution and are more likely to suffer from respiratory illnesses. An inability to afford better insulation results in fuel poverty and exacerbates health conditions as well as increasing risk of suffering a range of long-term health conditions including cardio-vascular disease,

respiratory illness, hypothermia and impacts on mental health. Over 22% of Coventry households are reported to be in fuel poverty. Retrofitting homes will directly address this, creating warmer homes and lower bills. Grant programmes target the most vulnerable households who can't afford to pay for these measures, to ensure those that most need support benefit.

2.8 20% of Coventry residents are living in food poverty. There is a rising number of food banks and lack of access to green space particularly in our most deprived areas which could be used for food growing. This is something the Strategy seeks to address through developing community growing sites, getting more out of our allotments and linking in with organisations such as the Coventry Food Network and local food banks.

2.9 A lack of accessibility to transport and digital connectivity can contribute to social exclusion. Compared to many other cities, Coventry has a higher percentage of the population that do not have access to a car. This places increasing importance on public

transport, walking and cycling to give access to opportunities. Improvements to our active travel network and new fleet of electric buses will be of great benefit to those who do not have access to a car. The Council is also working with partners to recycle and donate electronic equipment and offer training to combat digital exclusion.

2.10 Coventry is a proud diverse city, made up of communities of many different ethnic backgrounds, with over 100 languages spoken. Language could act as a barrier when accessing and having an awareness of services available, so it is important that we find ways of reaching all communities, allowing people to take positive action and ensuring they have access to key services and information relating to changes we are making in the city. This includes delivering information in different formats and languages and working with community leaders and faith groups to help cascade information.

Tackling Climate Change through the Five Pathways

3.0 Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience

Goal:

Reduce the impacts of extreme weather and climate change and enable quicker recovery through creating a more resilient city

Our Changing Weather Patterns

3.1 2023 was the world's warmest year on record and Europe is warming at twice the global rate, with record breaking temperatures in England reaching 40o C last summer which are set to become more common. The impacts of the changing climate are already being felt in many parts of the world, there has been an increase in droughts and famine, forest fires, tornadoes, hurricanes and major floods causing a significant loss of life, environmental and economic damage. Whilst we aim to limit global warming to 1.5o C, the evidence shows that we must be prepared for warming up to 4o C (UK Climate Risk Assessment).

3.2 Coventry is likely to experience warmer wetter winters, hotter drier summers and more intense rainfall and storms. During the 20th century the average annual temperature for the West Midlands rose by 0.6o C, the growing season lengthened by 30 days and our summers now are 37% drier on average than they were in 1995. Figure 2 below highlights an increasing frequency of rising temperatures over the last few decades.

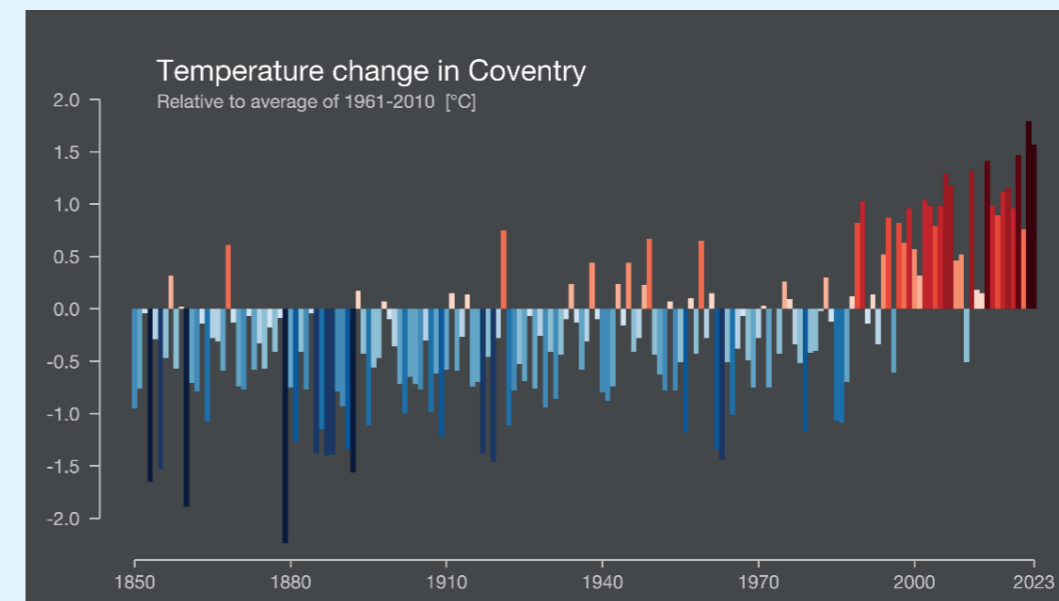


Figure 2 – How Temperature (°C) has changed in Coventry from 1850 – 2023 (Institute for Environmental Analytics, 2023)

3.3 The changes in weather patterns over the last 30 years are highlighted below. This illustrates that temperatures have risen across the whole country, and whilst some areas have become drier overall the majority of the country has become wetter.

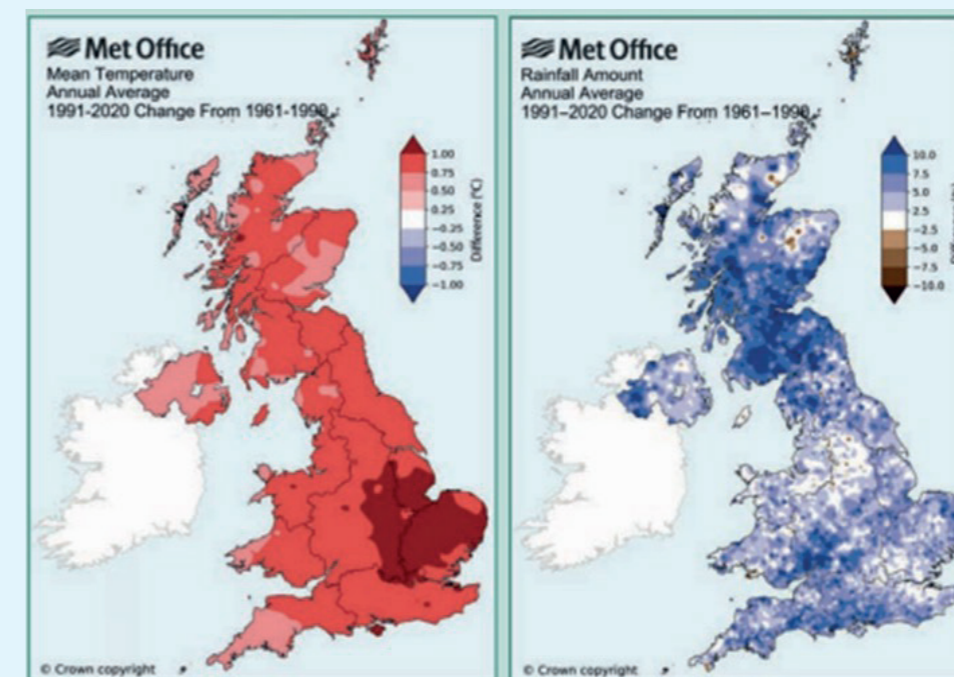


Figure 3 – UK Temperature and Rainfall Changes from 1991-2020, compared to a baseline from 1961-1990 (Met Office, 2020)

3.4 The result of these changes means that 10,560 properties in the city are currently identified at risk of flooding, which can have devastating impacts for communities and businesses and poses a risk of rising insurance premiums. 69 neighbourhoods within Coventry are considered high-risk in terms of vulnerability to periods of extreme heat, posing a serious risk to public health. We can also expect to see more storms and stronger winds, which

are a risk to property and trees. We are also vulnerable to the impacts of climate extremes experienced in other parts of the world, which could cause food and water shortages and drive prices up. Closer to home, periods of drought and pressure on our water supply infrastructure could threaten our drinking water supply which could have significant public health impacts.

- 3.5 The impacts of climate change could affect many areas of our lives, ranging from health, infrastructure, the environment and economy and are likely to most severely impact the most vulnerable in society. This is an important consideration for the wider work the city needs to undertake to address inequalities and deliver a 'Just Transition' and will help to inform where priority action takes place.
- 3.6 Future projections of the impact of climate change on our weather patterns have been developed by scientists looking at concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which directly affect temperature and weather systems. The following sections explore the recent trends and projected changes to our weather systems and likely local impacts, alongside actions we can take to mitigate against them.

Rainfall and Flood Risk

3.7 The West Midlands Climate Change Adaptation Plan identifies areas of flood risk for the region, the East of Coventry is shown to be a high-risk area for vulnerability to flooding and without intervention flooding incidents will increase. We know that prolonged periods of heavy rainfall are likely to become more frequent, which will put more parts of the city at risk without interventions being put in place to increase resilience.

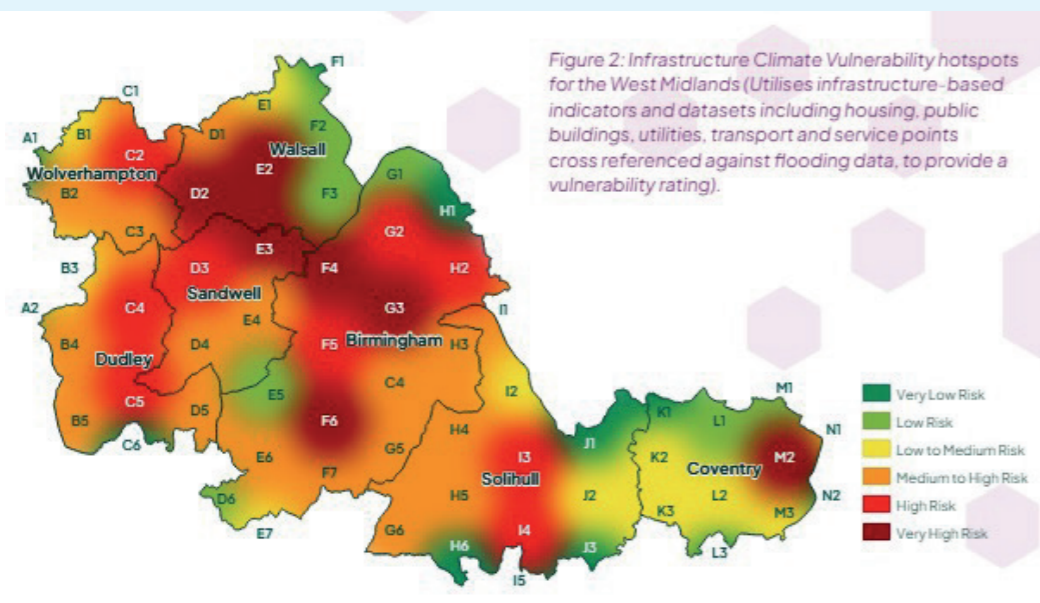


Figure 4 - Infrastructure Climate Vulnerability hotspots for the West Midlands (West Midlands Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2026)

- 3.8 There are two main types of flooding with different levels of risk and impacts attached to them. Fluvial flooding is when a river overflows onto the floodplain following periods of sustained or intense rainfall. Surface water flooding occurs when the sewer and road drainage system is unable to cope with the high volumes of water from intense or prolonged rainfall.
- 3.9 The two main rivers that feed Coventry, the Sherbourne and Sowe have what is described as 'flashy' catchments, meaning these show a rapid response to rainfall. Flooding incidents are likely to arise with little warning, sometimes as little as 30 minutes resulting in limited time to implement emergency

measures and flood defences. Fortunately, the volumes of water involved are considerably less than long regional rivers so the flooding incident will be easier to recover from.

3.10 Coventry has an obligation to meet the goals of the Government's River basin management plans (2022) to protect and improve the quality of the water environment and to ensure consistency with the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England. The city has responded to this through the Coventry Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2022).

- 3.11 Flooding in urban areas like Coventry has been made worse by decades of development, paving over permeable surfaces and loss of green space, removing an important source of natural filtration which slows water entering the drainage network. The Council and its partners are working to take steps to address this, which includes collaboration with Severn Trent on flow separation projects to reduce the storm water in combined sewers with the use of retrofit sustainable urban drainage systems within highways, public realm and pocket parks throughout the city to help reduce sewage spills into Coventry's rivers.
- 3.12 There are aspirations to create a network of new natural green spaces throughout the city to support sustainable urban drainage and climate resilience alongside boosting biodiversity. Nature-based engineering solutions such as rain gardens and bio-swales can be delivered across neighbourhoods and involve creating shallow areas of ground

with soft landscaping that collect water run-off from surrounding areas. They provide a method of capturing rain and surface water and slowing down water run-off, filtering the water and utilising it to water plants and trees in the process. This reduces the strain on existing drainage infrastructure and the risk of surface water flooding by absorbing and slowing the flow of water. Detention basins are larger scale interventions that can serve as mini-wetland areas in urban environments, which are great for attracting wildlife.

Heat and Drought

3.13 The following graph illustrates the local projections for rising summer average temperature from the Meteorological Office. There is also an identified trend of more frequent and hotter summer heatwaves, which coupled as increased intensity of rainfall but overall reduced level of rain across the year presents significant risks to our city.

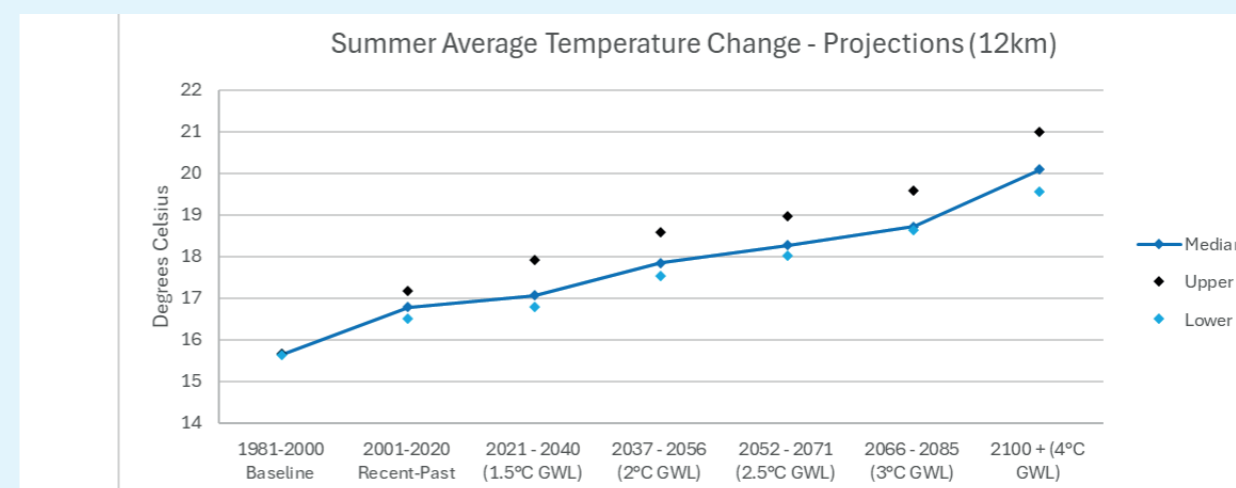


Figure 5 - Temperature change projections and ranges from 1981 to 2100 (Met Office)

3.14 We know that the density of concrete buildings and road surfaces in cities are absorbing and radiating heat creating what is referred to as an Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect where the city is considerably hotter than the surrounding countryside. The figure 6 below shows a marked difference in temperature within the city centre in comparison to the surrounding areas.

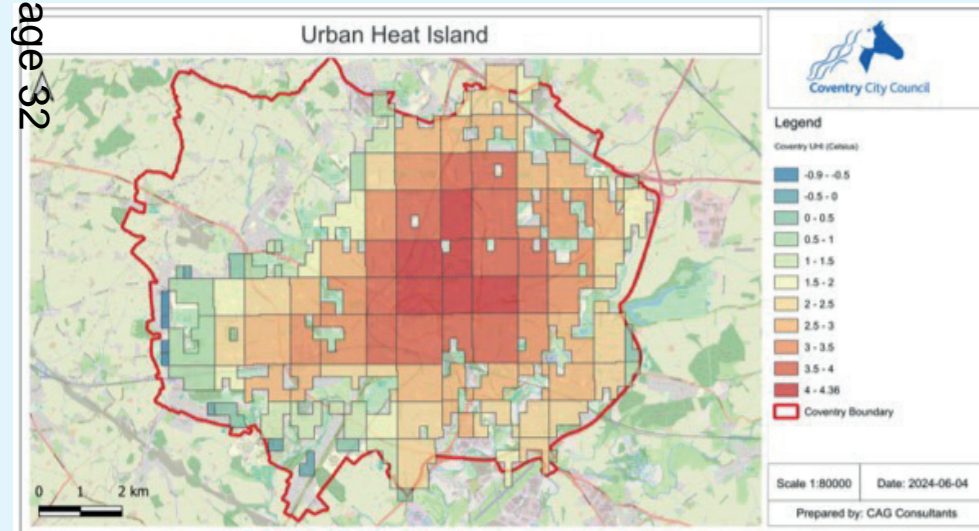


Figure 6 – Heat map of Coventry (CAG Consultants, 2024)

3.15 Coventry ranks 14th out of all English authorities for the number of neighbourhoods deemed high-risk from extreme heat. A University of Manchester Study (2022) identified 69 neighbourhoods across the city as most vulnerable to extreme heat that should be prioritised for climate change adaptation. Older people and young children fall into the most high-risk groups for heatwaves, but other factors including the amount of nearby green space, type of housing, access to health facilities and transport can also impact on the vulnerability of local communities. The health impacts of hotter periods could be exacerbated by water shortages, Coventry is in part of the country that is classed as seriously water stressed, adding to our risk exposure – particularly the impact on drinking water supply. We must involve communities in planning for climate change adaptation, prioritising those areas identified as most vulnerable to the impacts.

The role of nature in adaptation

3.16 Unpredictable seasons and extreme weather events are pushing UK wildlife out of sync, causing chaos for our natural ecosystems and contributing to wildlife decline. Prioritising nature-based interventions is important not only to create a more resilient city, but also to support nature recovery.

3.17 The use of natural vegetation and planting of trees helps to cool urban areas and reduce flood risk. This could include an ecologically sensitive approach through Sustainable Urban Drainage schemes (SUDs), with measures such as rain gardens and wetlands to hold water and slow the rate of flow into drains and sewers. This provides a natural filter that assists the improvement of water quality, reduces flood risk as well as supports habitats for wildlife. Increasing tree cover and green spaces across the city will have a significant impact in helping to create more attractive and climate resilient neighbourhoods, particularly in areas deemed most vulnerable.

3.18 We also need to consider more drought-resistant planting and tree species that can cope with hotter temperatures. This is going to be an increasingly difficult challenge, and we will need to ensure that new trees and plants are more climate resilient and consider tree pit designs and watering regimes to ensure they thrive.

3.19 Green roofs and living walls not only make buildings interesting and attractive but help to insulate buildings in winter and keep them cool in summer. Living walls can reduce the energy needed for air conditioning systems by as much as 33% as well as absorbing gaseous pollutants and buffering sound. We are already rolling these out in Coventry (figure 7) and are seeking to deliver more.



Figure 7 – Living Wall, Pepper Lane Coventry (2024)

Impacts upon infrastructure

3.20 The changing climate is impacting on our key infrastructure. Many of the city's 143,000 homes are not designed to cope with more extreme temperatures. We will need to work with communities to plan for this change and empower them to adapt their homes whenever possible. This is also a key concern for new developments, ensuring that homes are designed and built to be fit for the future which will be addressed by the Local Plan Review.

3.21 Climate change is already impacting on our transport network, with an increase in potholes and road failures as a result of extreme temperatures and heavier rainfall. To mitigate this, we need to consider the types of road surfacing used in the future which will be capable of withstanding increased temperature levels. Highways England is already adopting French standards where their road surfaces are subjected to higher surface temperatures. We are also used to seeing UK rail services impacted by extreme weather events, resulting in speed restrictions and cancellation of services. This is a key issue that Network Rail are addressing to create a more resilient rail network of the future (Climate change adaptation – Network Rail).

3.22 Extreme temperatures will put a strain on the city's digital infrastructure, which has the ability to significantly impact the delivery of essential services and business. Data Centres are normally designed to operate at upper temperatures from 35 to 38°C. They will need to be designed to adapt to cope with considerably higher temperatures.

3.23 Climate change also threatens our energy and water infrastructure, which could have big impacts on us all if outages occur. It's important that we have emergency systems in place to mitigate this. A local resilient energy supply will help to reduce our risk exposure, which could include more local renewables and energy stored in batteries to provide supply to meet demand and critical back up supply if national infrastructure fails.

Impacts upon health

3.24 Climatic impacts upon food production both locally and globally are affecting the availability and cost of fresh produce, with implications to health and wellbeing particularly for those living on lower incomes. There are particular risks around depletion of soil nutrient quality for growing as well as the working conditions for people and the safe storage of food in hotter temperatures. The need for local food production, such as community food growing initiatives will become increasingly important and to help us become more resilient as a city.

3.25 Rising temperatures will require adaptation of public buildings and workplaces to be equipped to deal with more extreme heat. This will be particularly important for more vulnerable members of the community, and require prioritisation of schools, NHS facilities and care homes. This is a chance to improve the quality of facilities across the city, as well as increase green spaces and trees, particularly for those areas identified as most at risk.

3.26 Temperature and humidity have a significant effect upon the incidence of gaseous pollutants (e.g. Nitrous Oxides and ground level Ozone) and their impact upon human health, particularly people who suffer from respiratory diseases like asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). We will need smart systems in place to alert people who have such conditions by issuing warnings when the levels of pollutants exceed

certain levels where it may be safer for them to remain indoors. This is something that could be developed as part of our Smart City approach to increase use of on–street smart sensors such as on lighting columns, to provide real–time data on air quality.

3.27 Front line staff delivering services will be key to supporting the most vulnerable and training for these staff is really important as they may need to change the way they deliver a service to respond to extreme weather events.

3.28 The Government's Health Effects of Climate Change (HECC) Report in 2023 identifies projected climate change having a significantly increased risk to human health and increase vector–borne diseases (such as biting insects, mosquitos, midges, gnats, sand flies and ticks). This will result in the incidence of diseases currently known to tropical areas notably Dengue Fever and Zika Virus. This requires increased awareness amongst health practitioners and the public to look out for symptoms.

Impacts upon the Economy

3.29 On our current trajectory, the London School of Economics estimates the total cost of climate change damages to increase from the present 1.1% of GDP to 3.3% by 2050 and 7.4% by 2100.

3.30 The growing risks from climate change are likely to increase the costs of insurance premiums Insurance companies are likely to introduce certain protective measures for properties deemed at risk, all of which will in turn have a cost implication.

3.31 Climate change could impact on productivity, with people going off sick as a consequence of climate change or being delayed or prevented from getting to work as a result of disruption to transport services. This has the potential to generate significant economic losses and exacerbate the UK's existing challenges around productivity. To tackle this, we need to be more flexible in our ways of working, as well as adapting workplace environments to increase resilience.

3.32 There is a clear 'invest to save' case which will require significant investment to protect essential utilities e.g. water supply, energy and transport infrastructure from the impact of extreme climatic events or face higher costs down the line dealing with the impacts of lack of preparedness. This will require detailed planned priorities for investment, ensuring interventions respond to the short–, medium– and longer–term risks.

Planning for Climate Change Adaptation

3.33 We need to take steps to adapt to climate change and ensure communities, infrastructure and livelihoods aren't disrupted by increasingly frequent and severe shocks and prioritise action to ensure our approach involves and supports the city's most vulnerable communities in planning for their future. The Council will play a leading role in mobilising partner agencies and organisations in the development of an Adaptation and Resilience Plan for the city, alongside working with communities so that they are better prepared for events that cannot be prevented so they recover quicker. Our planning approach will aim to build back better, wherever possible.

3.34 As part of increasing our resilience we need to better understand our exposure to short, medium and long–term climate risks and identify practical measures to addressing them. We also need to be clear on the costs of being underprepared, as well as identifying the opportunities taking action presents to improve lives, deliver more robust infrastructure and help promote nature recovery.

3.35 West Midlands Combined Authority has already carried out a high–level study West Midlands Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021–2026, which gives a useful regional overview. The developing Coventry Adaptation and Resilience Plan will build a better understanding of more localised risks and will develop a detailed action plan to support the city's long–term planning approach and complement the existing City Emergency Plan.

3.36 There are also challenges around planning policy, including land management and building design for new developments, as well as consideration for how existing buildings will need to be retrofitted. This was seen as lowest priority in the feedback to the draft Climate Change Strategy which could be due to a lack of understanding of the issues and risks, particularly as much of the work on adaptation and resilience focuses on future scenarios. There is a need to raise public awareness and to work with residents, businesses and organisations, particularly those located in areas that are the most vulnerable to the impacts.

Recommendations

3.37 Adapting to climate change and making communities more resilient is crucial in order to reduce our exposure to climate risks, and protect our communities, infrastructure and natural environment, and our economy. Recommendations for key action from the Adaptation and Resilience Pathway Group are:

- In order for Coventry to become more climate resilient there is a need for physical interventions, which could include changes to building design, materials used and nature–based solutions, alongside raising awareness of the issues and risks to ensure as a city we are more prepared to deal with incidents.
- Significant investment will be needed to support the city's efforts to adapt to climate change over time. Taking timely action in priority areas will create opportunities to improve the city for all, create more attractive neighbourhoods, healthier communities, support nature recovery and protect lives and livelihoods.
- This all needs to be brought together through the development of a Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Plan. This will be used to underpin and influence Council policy documents going forward, including the Local Plan Review, citywide risk planning forums and embedded into operational service planning.

4.0 Route to Net Zero

Goal:

Reduce carbon emissions across the city to support our transition to net zero, whilst benefiting local people and businesses through creating warmer homes, cheaper bills, cleaner air, new jobs and skills

4.1 We have reduced our carbon emissions in Coventry by 48% (compared to 2000 levels) but have a long way to go to get to net zero. This pathway explores where we need to focus our efforts to decarbonise the city, and to ensure we maximise the benefits for and with local residents and businesses, as well as encourage investment into the city.

4.2 To better inform our priority areas for reducing emissions, the Council commissioned an independent Zero Carbon Routemap for Coventry.

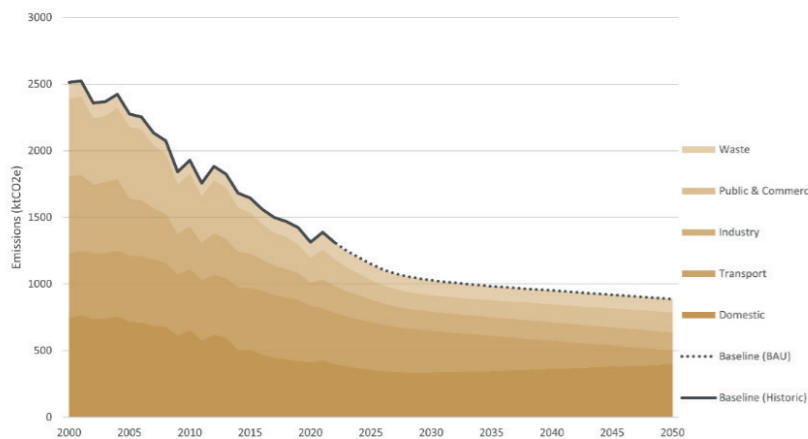


Figure 8 – Coventry's carbon footprint past, present and projected (Source: Coventry Net Zero Routemap, 2023)

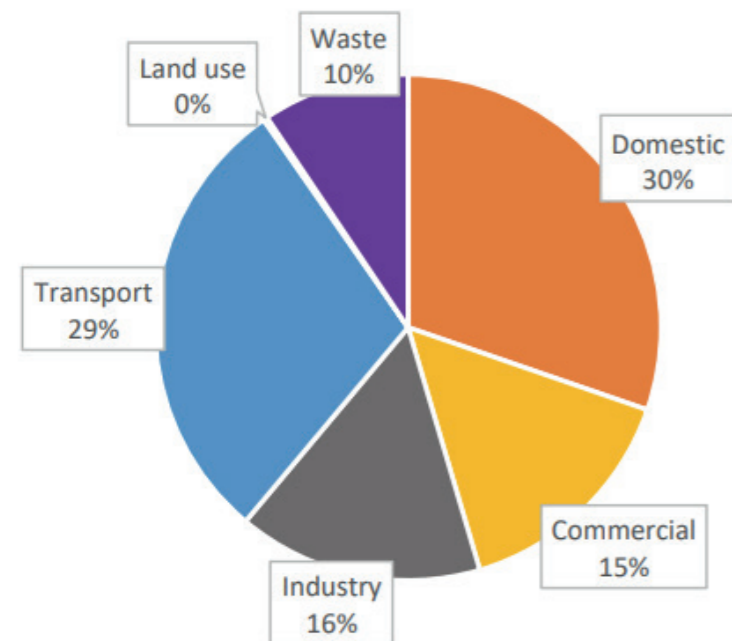


Figure 9 – Coventry's carbon footprint broken down by sector – scope 1 and 2 (Source: Coventry Net Zero Routemap, 2023)

Figure 8 shows Coventry's past, present and projected emissions. Domestic accounts for emissions from homes, whilst commercial accounts for emissions from commercial and public buildings. Figure 9 shows the current picture, broken down by sector. The Routemap tells us:

- Further reductions, assuming business as usual, will not reduce emissions in Coventry to net zero by 2050. The Routemap predicts Coventry's carbon footprint will be just 65% lower in 2050 than it was in 2000 unless action is taken.

- Homes and transport are the two biggest sources of emissions, followed by industry, commercial buildings and waste.
- An average Coventry household spends £2,813 a year on energy (inc. costs of transport based on 2023 estimates) and this is predicted to rise further.

- It estimated that citywide spend on energy in 2023 was £635m – but adopting widely available measures could save the city £327m a year and create significant new job opportunities.

Climate Action at a local, national and global level

4.3 The government's 2021 Net Zero Strategy sets out a series of policies and commitments designed to enable the UK to reach net zero by 2050. The timeline shows some of the key targets and milestones towards achieving net zero:

- **2008** We were a founding signatory of the Global Covenant of Mayors which set a target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.
- **2019** The UK government passed legislation committing it to achieving 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. It more recently introduced an interim target of 68% reduction by 2030. Achieving net zero will require changes that are unprecedented in their scale and scope, including changes to the way electricity is generated, how people travel, how land is used and how buildings are heated.
- **2021** Council leader Cllr George Duggins signed the Declaration Covenant of Mayors interim target of achieving a 55–65% reduction in carbon emissions from 1990 levels by 2030
- **2030** We will strive for a 68% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 in line with government targets.
- **2050** Government commitment for UK to 'Net Zero'. UK government passed this legislation in 2019.

4.4 We are an ambitious and innovative city, and we will use this to drive action towards achieving net zero. There is already a huge amount happening in the city to reduce carbon emissions and support the aim of achieving net zero, which includes establishing a Strategic Energy Partnership.

Strategic Energy Partnership

4.5 The Council's partnership with E.ON has been established to support the city's journey to net zero, bringing together the public and private sectors to help find new ways to deliver cleaner, greener energy and help drive the local green economy that will bring jobs and skills to the city, across four key themes as set out in the partnership Strategic Business Plan:

- clean local energy
- jobs and skills
- innovation and scale
- community benefit

4.6 Social Value is an overarching principle and commitment of the partnership to ensure that through projects we improve outcomes, tackle inequalities and increase economic prosperity.

Example projects delivered in the first year include a domestic retrofit programme, roll out of more EV charges and supporting Council building decarbonisation, including schools.

4.7 A key piece of work during the partnership's first year has been the development of an energy masterplan for Coventry, which provides a strategic long term energy vision, reference point and prioritised pipeline of energy projects for the partnership to take forward. Focus will be on areas where the partnership can add most value. One of the main areas of focus will be heat decarbonisation of buildings.

4.8 There are huge potential investment opportunities in some of the larger scale projects and the related social value benefits will bring even more value into the city. Further updates on the energy masterplan, investment opportunities and related project delivery will be provided on the SEP webpages.

Homes

4.9 There are over 143,000 homes in the city, which account for approximately 30% of the city's emissions. This presents a huge opportunity to decarbonise which would lead to warmer more efficient homes, helping to reduce bills. It also provides a significant chance to grow the local economy through scaling up retrofit skills and building materials and installer supply chain capacity.

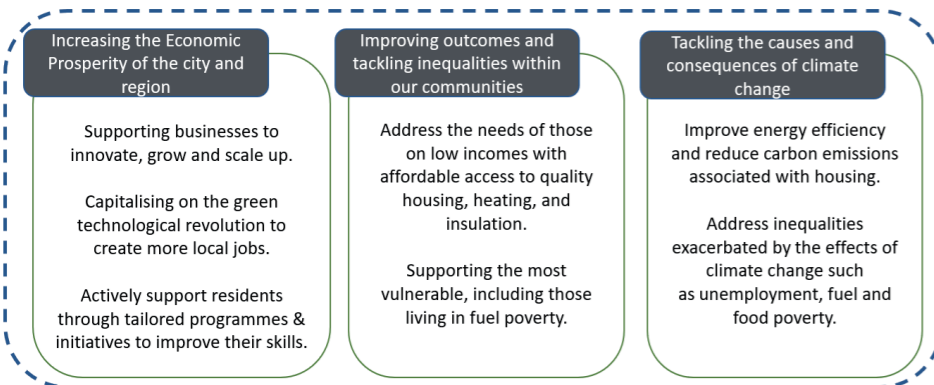


Figure 10 – Benefits of domestic retrofit on our economy, communities and climate

Scope of domestic retrofit programmes

4.10 The Routemap identified that a business-as-usual scenario will likely only reduce housing emissions by 0.2% by 2050. We are taking a proactive approach, working with partners to explore innovative solutions to this citywide challenge and have secured over £30m since 2022 to support domestic retrofit programmes in the city.

EPC	Number of Coventry Properties
A	137
B	7,620
C	36,781
D	75,560
E	20,336
F	2,111
G	363

Figure 11 – Overview of Energy Performance of Domestic Properties in Coventry. The data is from the 'Pathways' tool (Pairty Project and Core Logic). Pathways is an energy model of all housing in local authority areas, and built from open source EPC data, Ordnance Survey data and LiDAR topography data. The accuracy of the EPC data is often outdated, therefore these figures are more for an illustrative estimate rather than a complete and fully accurate record. The existing EPC data covers information for around 92k properties, meaning there's also a gap of approx. 50k properties that have had to be modelled.

4.11 There are a number of programmes we are working on to support retrofit of domestic properties, however this is challenging area with some key barriers to delivery. Part of the challenge is funding, the majority of households in the city aren't entitled to any grant for home energy upgrades and the outlay costs can be expensive with long payback periods. We are working to address this through exploring opportunities for green finance products and scaling programmes to make costs more affordable for householders. Another key challenge is that residents fear

the works could be disruptive; even when there is grant available to cover the costs there can be a lack of take up. We are working hard to try and debunk some of these concerns to help residents know exactly what to expect when it comes to their home being retrofitted and help sell the benefits which are a reduction in bills and a warmer home, alongside cutting carbon emissions. We want to work closely with communities and involve the public in this information campaign.

4.12 We are working in partnership with Citizen Housing as part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2. This is a fabric-first scheme, focussing on improvements to insulation, glazing etc, which will lead to the improved energy efficiency of over 2,000 Citizen properties across the city, one of the largest schemes in the country. We will continue to work with social housing providers to speed up the scale of energy efficiency improvements with the aim of improving all social housing stock to an EPC band C by 2035, and all 'fuel poor' households by 2030. Currently the Strategic Energy Partnership is delivering the Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) Phase 2, improving the energy efficiency of off-gas homes across the city. We are also, working to maximise investment and uptake of ECO4, an obligation placed on energy companies to invest in domestic energy efficiency.



Figure 12 – Properties retrofitted in Coventry by the Social Housing Decarbonation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2

4.13 We will also support people in privately owned and privately rented properties to improve their energy efficiency and make residents aware of programmes which they could benefit from, through our 'Home Energy and Warmth' web pages and via involving affecting communities in planning for the future. This will be with the aim of supporting those who qualify for grant funded programmes. We will also devise programmes to support those who rent privately.

4.15 We are committed to developing green skills in the city to help local people access new green jobs. We have established a Green Skills Subgroup, a multi-organisational public-private sector team working with business to identify skills gaps and opportunities to support the city's transition to a low carbon economy and create jobs for the future.

4.14 The Council are also working with the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to develop a Net Zero Neighbourhood (NZN) in the city. The NZN will involve working closely with the local community to address energy needs at a more local level leading to warmer homes, installation of renewables such as solar PV, more low carbon/net zero transport options, and other measures including creation of more green space and trees. This will create more attractive neighbourhoods, help to lower energy bills, reduce air pollution and make streets more resilient to climate change. The NZN aims to attract finance, which could enable us to replicate NZN's across other areas of the city.



Case Study

Collaboration to grow skills as part of Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2

Collaboration on skills has also enabled skills training in the construction sector. Using the SHDF Wave 2 multi-year funding as a catalyst, Westdale Midlands Ltd has converted their Coventry-based office and warehouse into a bespoke facility for training unemployed people from Coventry. The Academy has been in operation since April 2023 and has been a useful enabler in developing the external wall insulation(EWI) supply-chain necessary for the growing scale of work to be conducted in the coming SHDF wave. The training academy is supported by Coventry College (who run 2-week bootcamps prior to those attending the academy), Citizen housing and the Council, demonstrating real collaborative working across the city.

The Council is currently undertaking its review of the city's Local Plan, which provides the opportunity for updated policies to reduce carbon emissions from new developments. This is an important chance to set the standard for sustainable new development and promote that that new buildings in the city are built to high environmental and energy standards and won't require retrofit in the future. Recommendations for the Local Plan Review include:

- A fabric first approach, ensuring all new buildings are well insulated.
- All new homes to be powered by renewable energy where viable, which includes rooftop solar.
- We will also ensure the use of energy to create the materials in the construction of buildings is considered when balancing out refurbishments against demolition and new build, alongside exploring innovative low carbon methods of construction.

Transport

- 4.17** Decarbonisation of transport is another priority, accounting for 27% of emissions across the city. The Routemap identifies that under business-as-usual, transport emissions are estimated to reduce by 73% by 2050. Significant efforts are required to go further to reach net zero.
- 4.18** Our Transport Strategy sets out plans to bring about a fundamental change in travel behaviour. Our aim is to encourage people to travel by active travel modes and public transport wherever they can, and to use an electric vehicle if they need to travel by car. Our role is to put the infrastructure in place to make this transition as easy as possible for local people. We are doing this through introducing:
- The first all-electric bus fleet in the country, by 2025, complemented by new on-demand bus services
 - Significant improvements to walking and cycling across the city, including developing a network of segregated cycle routes, supported by increased training, hire bikes and storage facilities, introducing measures to create more attractive and safer streets

- A first-of-its-kind Very Light Rail system – a new form of mass transit, similar to trams seen in other cities but with smaller, electric-powered vehicles (see figure 13)
- Better accessibility to rail, including increasing station capacity, supporting the development of new local stations and increasing the frequency of services



Figure 13 – Coventry Very Light Rail Prototype (2023)

- 4.19** Recognising that some journeys will still need to be made by car, the Council is also encouraging residents to switch from petrol and diesel to electric. We have installed over 2000 charge points across the city, – the largest public electric vehicle charging infrastructure outside of London. Many of the charging points are on residential streets where households don't have driveways to install private chargers. and our Electric Charging Strategy sets out a range of measures to increase EV take up, including:
- Create super charging hubs and a multi-fuel hub, service station style facilities providing rapid charging/refuelling facilities for owners of zero emission vehicles
 - Encourage local businesses to switch to electric vehicles via travel planning support and rental of EV cars and vans for trial periods
 - Pilot innovative methods of electric vehicle charging, including static induction (wireless) charging and dynamic charging (charging of a moving vehicle). These technologies could help to support operators of larger, higher mileage vehicles to switch to zero emission alternatives, as well as provide more accessible charging to address equalities
 - Piloting new ways to help residents charge electric vehicles at home using kerbo charge gullies to safely connect home chargers to kerbs via pavements, benefitting households without driveways.

We recognise that whilst EV infrastructure is important to support an uptake in EVs, this alone won't help households who cannot afford an electric car. We need to find ways to make EVs more affordable, which will involve working with private sector providers to expand the range of car club/car sharing services available to hire, as well as boost the second-hand EV market.

Business & Industry

- 4.20** The third key sector highlighted within the Routemap relates to businesses and it identifies that under a business-as-usual scenario, industrial emissions will go down by just 35% by 2050.
- 4.21** In 2023, there were 10,335 enterprises in Coventry, the majority of which are SMEs. There are significant benefits for businesses to decarbonise, lowering bills and improving profitability and sustainability, as well as marketability.
- 4.22** We recognise the significant challenges for businesses to decarbonise and are committed to supporting businesses of all sizes across the city. The Council run webinars, events and podcasts for the Green Business Network of over 3,500 businesses in the Coventry and Warwickshire sub region and is now expanding the Network with new categories of business from a wider geographical area.
- 4.23** We are delivering the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), Decarbonisation Net Zero programme and the Business Energy Advice Service (BEAS) programme, helping small to medium sized businesses make energy and resource efficiency improvements.
- 4.24** We also work with businesses on travel planning to encourage active travel as well as promote the use of electric vehicles. This includes helping businesses implement EV charging points and working with them to promote commuter travel plans and car sharing schemes.
- 4.25** There is also opportunity to support business and industry decarbonisation through the Strategic Energy Partnership and working in partnership with key organisations such as the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce and Coventry and Warwickshire Growth Hub.

Energy Generation and Security

- 4.26** As part of the city's plan to decarbonise, we need to move towards more local renewable energy generation to reduce emissions and increase the resilience of our energy supply.
- 4.27** The Council owns one of the largest district heating systems in the Midlands, the Heatline network currently provides heat from waste to power council buildings and other major buildings in the city centre. There is scope to increase the buildings it supplies to maximise benefits, such as to the new City Centre South development. If we can minimise heat loss, and encourage heat exchange between neighbours, this could lower bills across homes and businesses.
- 4.28** The Council has been involved in a pilot programme to introduce legislation for Heat Network Zoning (HNZ) in England by no later than 2025. Zones will be designated geographic areas within which heat networks are expected to offer the lowest cost means of decarbonising heat for a significant number of buildings.
- 4.29** We must also continue to explore opportunities for the roll out of more renewable energy generation across existing buildings, such as rooftop solar. We need developers to include renewables as part of new buildings too and consider new ways to store energy locally through batteries to capture energy to supply local demand.
- 4.30** This will go a significant way to providing more clean local energy, but to meet demand it is essential that the city also secures more significant sources of renewable energy supply through measures such as solar schemes and large battery storage. These will need to be balanced with land use requirements and involve close community engagement.

The Council's Estate

4.31 Significant progress has been made towards the decarbonisation of Council buildings and since 2021, over £7m of energy projects have been funded, making Council buildings greener and costing us less to run. This has included the installation of Solar PV (see figure 14) insulation, LED lighting, air source heat pumps and battery storage, amongst other measures. Over 39% of energy used in Council buildings is from renewable sources, and in 2022-23, 16% was 'locally sourced' (district heat and solar PV).



Figure 14 – Solar panels on the roof of Central Library

4.32 The Council is currently working with Balfour Beatty on a project which will see streetlights across the city upgraded to energy efficient LED lighting, which will save 1200 tonnes of carbon every year, as well as improving lighting levels and safety, as well as reducing running costs.

4.33 As well as continuing to access funding to decarbonise its estate, the Council will work to establish ways of securing finance for independent organisations occupying Council owned buildings, this will help to reduce the energy costs for tenants and reduce carbon.

Recommendations

4.34 Whilst there are major challenges for Coventry in its decarbonisation and net zero journey, the opportunities are significant. It requires a city-wide approach with the Council, residents, community groups and businesses working together to achieve a shared vision. The Strategic Energy Partnership will have an important role to play, but so will all other organisations that operate in the city.

4.35 The city needs to be bold in its action, using innovation to try new methods and leveraging investment to allow delivery at scale and push through initiatives to support the target of reducing emissions by 68% by 2030 and 1C by 2050.

4.36 The key areas we need to focus our efforts supported by recommendations of the Road to Net Zero Pathway are:

- Supporting all housing tenure types with retrofit (including able to pay, willing to pay and fuel poor)
- Encouraging active travel and modal shift across the city to create lower carbon journeys, involving local communities in planning for these changes
- Work with key organisations to support businesses in their net zero journey
- Link with universities, schools and colleges to increase uptake and delivery of green skills.
- Work with invested organisations in the development of renewable energy solutions in the city.

4.39 In order to support the delivery of practical interventions we will need to ensure a focus on communication and public involvement, promoting behaviour change and engagement with climate change projects across the city.

5.0 Circular Economy

Goal: Develop new models of production and consumption to reduce our reliance on natural resources

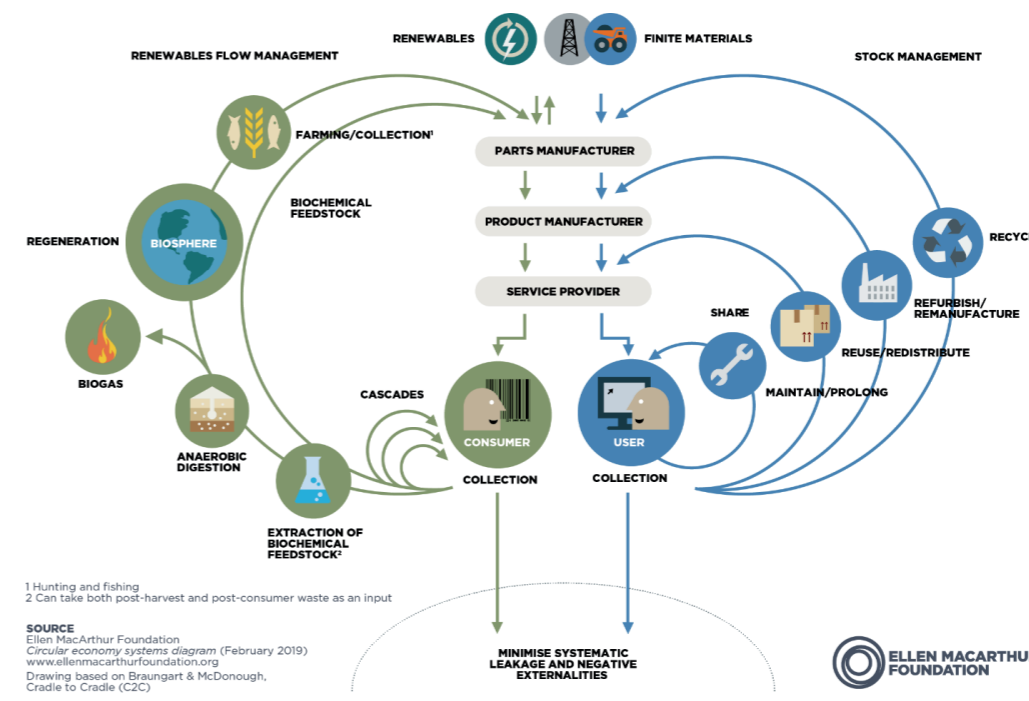


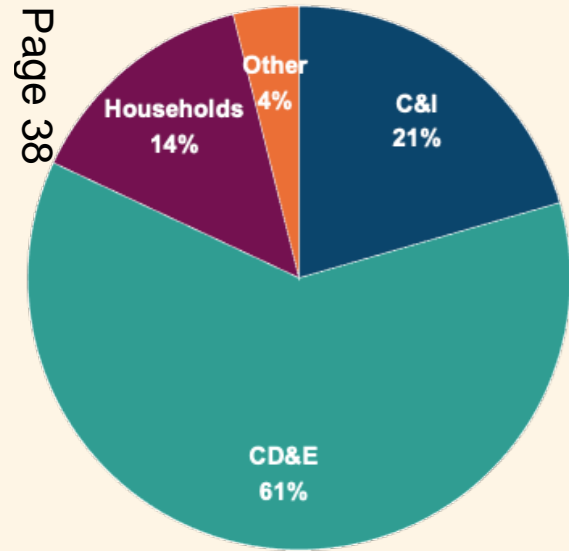
Figure 15 – Circular Economy Systems Diagram (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2019)

5.1 A circular economy is a system where materials never become waste and nature is regenerated. In a circular economy, products and materials are kept in circulation through processes like maintenance, reuse, refurbishment, remanufacture, recycling, and composting. The circular economy tackles climate change and other global challenges, like biodiversity loss, waste, and pollution, by decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources, as shown in figure 15. In our current economy, we take materials from the Earth, make products from them, and eventually throw them away as waste – the process is linear. In a circular economy, by contrast, we stop waste being produced in the first place.

5.2 Developing a circular economy is essential for climate change but these market changes will benefit businesses by reducing costs. A move to models involving sharing, renting and leasing as well as extending the life of products by promoting repair and re-use wherever possible will create new skills and local jobs.

5.3 Coventry has always been a centre for innovation, and we are keen to showcase new environmental technologies alongside developing new manufacturing techniques that will grow the circular economy, including:

- West Midlands Gigafactory will be located at Greenpower Park, with a focus on battery manufacturing and recycling;
- Sherbourne Resource Park, a newly opened state of the art recycling facility for household recycling;
- Finding innovative ways to re-use materials, such as recycling lighting columns as part of the proposed LED replacement scheme, reducing carbon and saving raw materials.



Key
CD&E Construction, Demolition & Excavation
C&I Commercial and Industrial
Households – domestic waste
Other – includes agricultural

Figure 16 – Waste generated in the UK, split by source (Defra, 2020)

5.4 The UK generated 191.2 million tonnes of total waste in 2020, with England responsible for 85% (162.8 million tonnes) of the UK total. As figure 16 shows, the most significant source is from construction, demolition and excavation (61%), followed by commercial and industrial waste (21%), household waste accounting for 14% of the total, whilst the 4% other waste includes sectors such as agriculture and forestry. The re-use/recycling rates for each sector varies, but there are challenges and opportunities in terms in creating a circular economy. We must transform our current system: how we manage resources, how we make and use products, and what we do with the materials afterwards. This will create a thriving circular economy that is good for people, business and the environment.

5.5 The UK Government’s Resource and Waste Strategy (2018) sets out long-term commitments and ambitions to eliminate avoidable waste by 2050, with a focus on prevention, achieved by adapting a waste hierarchy approach as shown in figure 17.

How can we develop a circular economy in Coventry?

5.7 Coventry is uniquely placed to take a leading role in showing the UK how to develop a vibrant circular economy, as home to the world’s first AI-powered Materials Recycling Facility at Sherbourne Resource Park. Opened in 2023 it uses state-of-the-art technology to process residential recycling in the most sustainable and efficient way possible. It serves eight local councils and their 1.5 million residents and is fully flexible and can respond to changes in waste patterns, policy and legislation. The use of specialist AI technology leads to higher volumes of quality materials being sold to market to support a growing circular economy, which along with the other credentials set out in figure 18 demonstrate the city is at the forefront of residential recycling facilities. This is a good example of where AI can be useful and helps to speed up processes beyond human capability. The application of AI needs to be considered more widely in the context of replacing workforce jobs as part of the work to deliver a just transition.



Figure 17 – Outline of the different circularity levels (Environmental Challenges, 2023)

Figure 18 – Sherbourne Recycling summary

5.8 Waste accounts for 10% of the city’s emissions. We know that household waste alone generated 122,000 tonnes of waste in 23/24 – around 10 million bins. Only 34.2% of Coventry’s household waste was recycled or composted last year, compared to 43.4% (2022, Defra) nationally. The city’s recycling rate is comparable with many other similar sized cities in the UK. The majority of the remaining waste incinerated for energy

recovery, and a small minority sent to landfill. There is a huge chance for residents to play their part to divert waste for reuse, recycling and to create new products and generate new markets.

5.9 A typical breakdown of household waste is shown in figure 19. Many of the materials shown can either be re-used, recycled or composted.

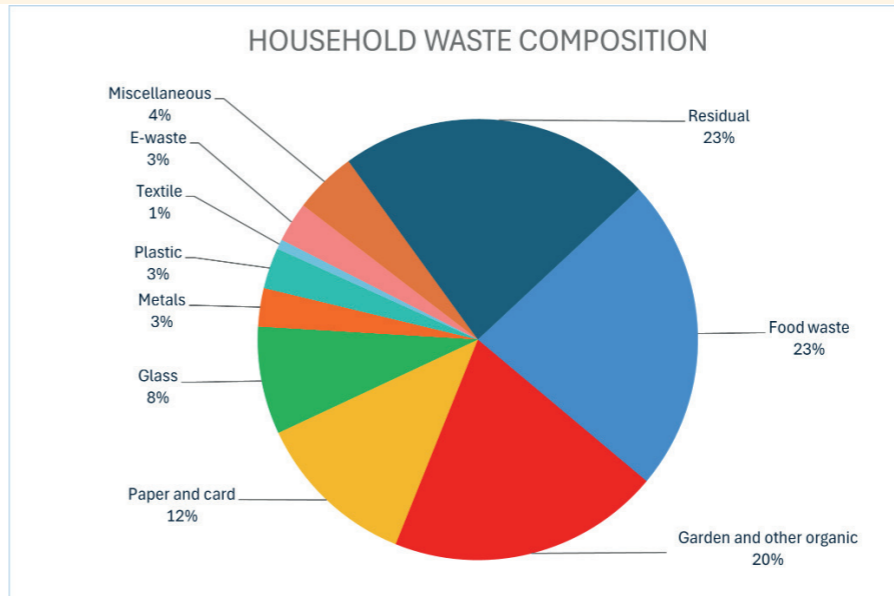


Figure 19– Breakdown of the total household waste composition in England 2022, collected by Local Authorities (Defra Statistics, 2024)

5.10 Action is needed in Coventry to increase recycling participation. The Council tries to make it as easy as possible for residents to recycle – people are not required to separate out the recyclables. But this has not translated to higher recycling rates so it’s important to better understand the barriers to recycling experienced across the city and to involve the public in planning for the necessary change in behaviour.

5.11 Feedback to the consultation included requests to make recycling easier, including more clarity on what materials can be recycled or re-used and where to take it, alongside better access to household recycling facilities. People also raised the difficulty of storing recyclables in flats and high-rise apartments.

5.12 Involving communities in addressing this problem will help the Council understand the barriers to recycling and help increase the quality of recyclable materials and supply to the Materials Recycling Facility, directly helping to grow the circular economy.

Food Waste

5.13 Another important area to target is the collection of food waste. Government research on Food Waste in the UK reports that in 2021, total food waste in the UK amounted to 10.7 million tonnes. By weight, most food waste comes from households (60%), followed by farms (15%), manufacturing (13%) hospitality and food service (10%) and retail (2%). The value of the edible parts of household food waste (including waste to the sewer and home composting) in 2021 amounted to £17 billion. This is equivalent to £250 per person each year, or £1,000 for a family of four.

5.14 In Coventry just under 16% of household waste was composted last year. Government is providing funding to Local Authorities to introduce a weekly collection of food waste from households by March 2026. This will help to prevent contamination of other waste which could be usefully recycled and ensure food waste can be sent to anaerobic digestion facilities rather than landfill. This commitment is a really important step to tackle climate change as food waste releases gases including methane from its breakdown in landfill.

5.15 The volume of food waste collected in Coventry is currently low, which has been the case even before recent changes came into place for brown bin collection which potentially presents a barrier to increasing this. Evidence has shown that as people collect and separate out their food waste, they become increasingly aware of the levels of waste they produce, and they take steps to reduce their levels of waste by reducing unnecessary consumption and saving money. There are lots of resources available including cookbooks and websites with inventive recipes to use up whatever is left in the fridge, as well as cooking lessons offered at community centres. Action is also being taken by industry, with changes to packaging to help fresh food last longer switching to 'best before' and removing dates altogether on some products.

5.16 Only a small percentage of the city's household waste goes to landfill (1.8%). Like 49% of local authority waste in the UK, the majority of Coventry's non-recyclable waste is incinerated at a facility at Bar Road which was built in 1975 and serves four local authorities. It supplies heat to a number of buildings in the city via the Heatline network, including the Council estate, The Wave, Cathedral and will soon expand to provide heat to Coventry University campus. Options will need to be explored in terms of future waste management solutions in the city when the incinerator will need to be replaced (15–20 year's time), giving consideration to how this can best support the city's circular economy.

Commercial and Industrial Waste

5.17 Commercial waste provides an even greater opportunity for developing a circular economy. It is estimated that England generated 33.9 million tonnes of commercial and industrial (C&I) waste in 2021. The West Midlands Circular Economy Routemap recognises the very important role Coventry has to play, particularly in promoting the decarbonisation of the manufacturing sector, which will provide a major chance for the development of new products and services and support job creation.

5.18 Greenpower Park and the Gigafactory will grow the circular economy for battery manufacture and recycling and is expected to generate up to 6,000 new highly skilled jobs, as well as thousands more jobs in the supply chain.

5.19 Centres of Excellence in the West Midlands are carrying out research into the innovative management of waste and the potential to develop symbiotic relationships between companies, where one company's waste becomes another's raw material.

5.20 There are over 10,000 businesses in Coventry, the majority are small to medium enterprises. This is a huge untapped area of potential waste and resources that can be used more effectively to encourage a more circular approach. Figure 20 outlines the eight business cases that should compel businesses to adopt a more circular business model:

ACCELERATE GROWTH	ENHANCE COMPETITIVENESS	MITIGATE RISK
<p>Gener8: Create additional revenue from existing products and services</p> <p>Innov8: Spur innovation of new products and services</p> <p>Moder8: Reduce operating costs</p>	<p>Captiv8: Enhance customer and employee relationships</p> <p>Differenti8: Distinguish from competition</p> <p>Integr8: Align corporate strategy with mission</p>	<p>Acclim8: Adapt business models and value chain relationships</p> <p>Insul8: Mitigate linear risk exposure</p>

Figure 20 – 8 Business Cases for the Circular Economy (World Business Council for Sustainable Development, n.d.)

5.21 Support is needed to help local businesses develop new models and encourage more partnership working and symbiosis. There are some inspirational case studies of businesses already doing this that others can learn from. Through the Decarbonisation Net Zero programme and the Business Energy Advice Service (BEAS) programmes, the Council is helping small and medium businesses achieve more efficient use of energy, water, and waste. Business Sustain also provide support to medium and larger businesses locally and across the country.

5.22 The Council has a strong working relationship with local Universities, working to enable local businesses to access specialist support and advice supporting innovation in green technologies.

5.23 There is no specific data held on commercial waste at a city level, this is something that needs to be addressed to help develop circular economy opportunities.

Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste

5.24 The construction, demolition and excavation sector are the largest producer of waste and is growing. There is an ongoing challenge to minimise the amount of waste being generated, improve productivity and reduce the environmental impacts of waste. Construction 2025 is a joint strategy between the British government and the construction industry setting out four key goals: reducing the initial and whole life costs of construction by 33%, reducing the time from inception to completion by 50%, reducing the greenhouse gas emissions in the built environment by 50%, and reducing the trade gap for construction products and materials by 50%.

5.25 There are a number of ways to we can take action to address this locally, through the design process, setting out procurement requirements to reduce construction waste at source and creating networks for re-use of surplus materials locally. We also need to explore innovative construction technologies, including modular buildings which can contribute to significant savings in waste.

Electrical Waste

5.26 The UK is responsible for 3.2% of the worlds electronic and electrical waste, often this waste can be kept in service through direct reuse or repair. The government is targeting zero e-waste to landfill by 2030. This is a particular area of interest for Coventry, where there is potential significant opportunity for business growth including Greenpower Park, which will be the first of its kind, offering an all-in-one solution for battery research, industrialisation, manufacturing, testing, recycling and electrified logistics designed to foster the UK's growing battery ecosystem.

5.27 Addressing electrical waste can also lead to wider socio-economic benefits as well as environmental as demonstrated by the #CovConnects project.



Case Study

The #CovConnects Device Bank

The project has been developed through a partnership model between the Council, Warwick Manufacturing Group and organisations across Coventry to establish a citywide initiative, whereby end-of-use devices such as laptops, smartphones and tablets are donated by local organisations to be refurbished. In turn, the devices are gifted (following an application process) to members of the community who are digitally excluded.

We recognise that we need to have a supply of digital stock, to further support closing the city's digital divide. In 2020 alone, the UK generated approximately 24.9 million discarded mobile phones, highlighting the sheer scale of electronic waste resulting from the turnover of these devices. However, we know that we need to source our digital stock in an economically and environmentally friendly manner.

This is accompanied by training to help boost digital skills, which in turns helps residents as beneficiaries to access online tools and services, improving their wellbeing and quality of life. So far, the Device Bank has benefitted over 200 voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations, Council and NHS services. Funding has been secured to further develop the project and build on its success.

Going forward, the project is exploring additional partnership opportunities to build the Device Bank. Other innovative ideas, such as holding more local repair cafes and digital waste amnesties, providing more opportunities and options for residents to get rid of e-waste in a socially beneficial way, are areas which #CovConnects hopes to explore more

5.28 The improper disposal of laptops and other electronics leads to the loss of valuable materials like gold, copper, and aluminium, costing the UK over £370 million annually in lost resources. Going forward, Coventry holds a longer-term ambition to become the nation's leading city for waste electrical and electronic recycling.

Further Opportunities for Growth

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The Council has an important role to play in supporting the development of a more circular economy in Coventry, through its purchasing power, its energy and waste management roles and work it does with businesses and organisations across the city. There is scope to include circularity criteria in contracts for future projects, alongside embodied carbon to encourage more suppliers to adopt a more circular approach to waste and energy. This is something that could be adopted by other organisations across the city.

- 5.2 A great example of this innovative approach to circularity being explored is looking at recycling old street lanterns across the city as part of the LED upgrade project. Through saving carbon by avoiding producing new lamps and recycling existing, 2.5 tonnes of various materials such as porcelain, Nickel, Aluminium, Stainless Steel, Copper, non-Ferrous Alloys and plastics, can all be avoided.
- 5.3 There is an opportunity to use the city's waste recycling facilities as a platform to form partnerships with material manufacturers to help ensure that responsible material recycling is managed as an end-to-end process and allow emissions reductions to be calculated at each stage. Partnerships like this are potentially unique in the UK and can support local and national business, keeping jobs in the UK and providing a market for circularity of material.
- 5.4 Heat zone networks are due to be rolled out as part of government legislation in 2025. This will require surplus heat to be captured from identified buildings across the city to supply those with demand. This will help to bring down energy bills and reduce energy wastage and carbon emissions.
- 5.5 There is significant scope to increase re-use and repair hubs in the city, where resources can be donated, exchanged or mended to be kept in circulation. There are a number of charities and social enterprises across the city which address the circular economy especially for those families on limited incomes who cannot afford to buy new goods and services. This includes furniture recycling, white goods repair, toy libraries, tool stores and also advisory services like Act On Energy. Support for the development of social enterprises in this sector will address the needs of those on

low incomes and keeps waste out of landfill. As part of this, we could explore how re-use and repair hubs could be developed as part of a meanwhile strategy for City Centre South.

Recommendations

- 5.6 Tackling waste in Coventry is essential to support the transition to net zero, as waste accounts for 10% of the city's emissions. Coventry is finding innovative new ways to tackle waste, and there are opportunities to open up more markets to support a circular economy, creating jobs, skills and new businesses to benefit local people. Key recommendations from the Circular Economy Pathway Group are:
 - Corporations and businesses need to lead on reducing waste at source, through manufacturing, packaging and logistics. There is already significant support and expertise in the city to develop this to really benefit local businesses. The public sector has a role to play in ensuring that the circular economy is considered in procurement and promotes a more sustainable supply chain. Consumers can vote with their feet and opt for products with less packaging, as well as recycling and composting waste resulting in less waste going to the incinerator or landfill.
 - In Coventry we need to build on and expand already existing reuse / repair / recycle projects and encourage responsibility for reuse, repair, remanufacture and recycling. This must be supported by building partnerships, using local expertise, involving the public in the delivery of these initiatives and being driven by innovation to enable Coventry to provide a place for circular businesses to develop, helping to grow the local economy.
 - Coventry should aspire to be the nation's leading city for electronic and electrical waste recycling, which provides an opportunity to create new markets and support business growth. Support must continue to grow digital recycling within the city to prevent electronic waste being crushed. Keeping ICT equipment in service will also help to address digital inequality, improving access to digital information needed for essential services. Greenpower Park provides a unique opportunity to scale up the city's ambitions, particularly around battery manufacturing and recycling.

6.0 Nature

Goal:

Support nature recovery and create better access to green and blue space for wildlife to thrive and communities to enjoy

- 6.1 Climate change is directly contributing to the global decline in nature, resulting in a nature emergency and it will be impossible to address one aspect without the other. Species extinction is occurring at 1,000 times the pre-human rate, and the UK is one of the most nature depleted nations in the world, with one in six species at risk of extinction. For Coventry, we have seen impacts on species such as hedgehogs, water voles and swifts.

Biodiversity is the variety of all life on Earth. It includes all animals and plants, including humans, other organisms and the habitats that support them. Ecosystem services are the direct and indirect contributions ecosystems provide for human life.

- 6.2 There are vital links between nature, our health, wealth and security, which presents huge value to our economy – a recent report by Natural England (2024) estimates the UK's natural wealth is just over £1.5 trillion. This has been calculated based on the ecosystem services nature provides including fresh water, air and food, building materials, places for people to relax and mitigation of climate change. The benefits of nature are shown in figure 21 below:

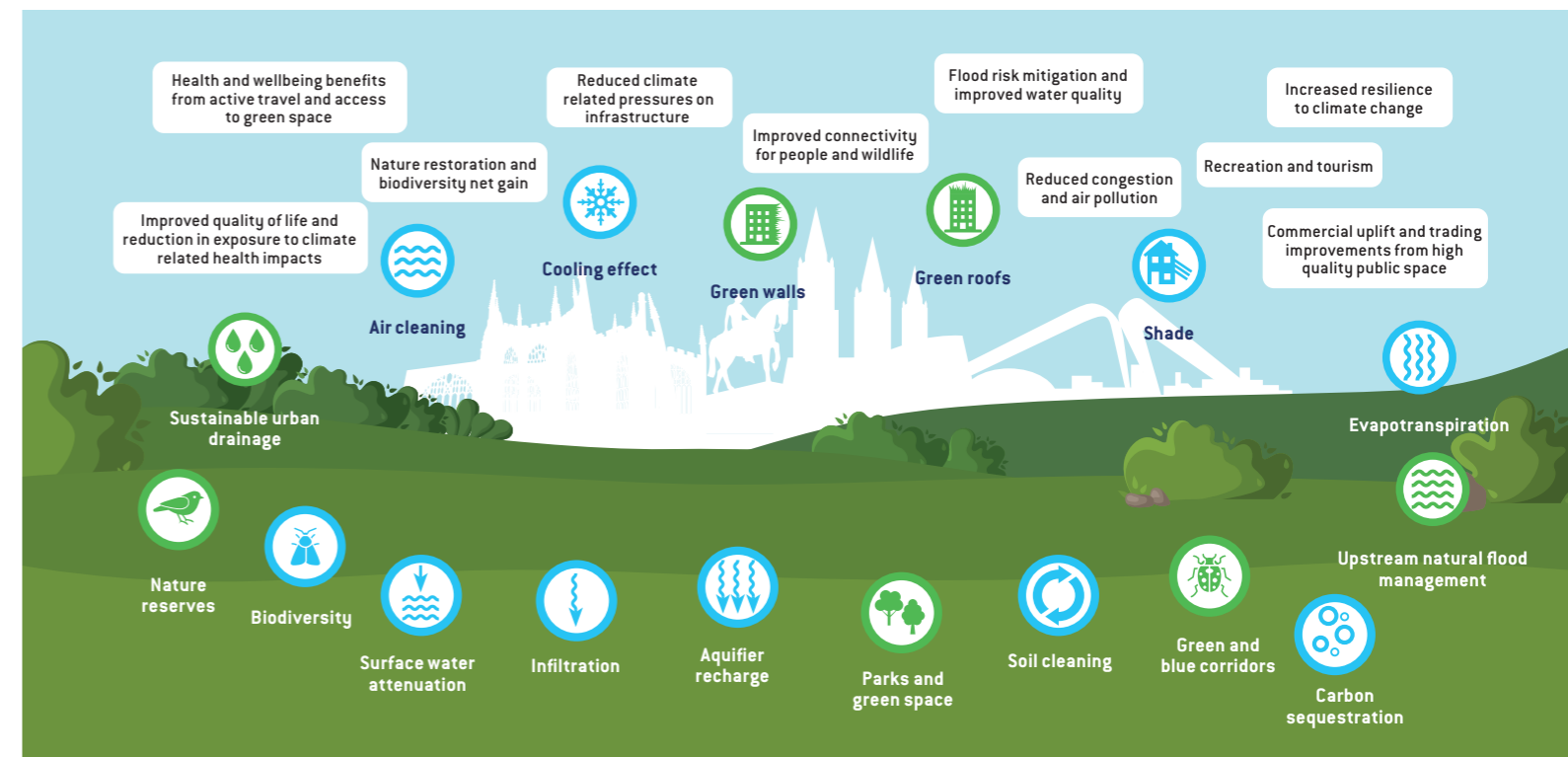


Figure 21 –The social and economic value of nature (Coventry City Council/West Midlands Local Investment in Natural Capital 2024)

- 6.3 However, changes in land and sea use, exploitation of natural resources, global heating, rising pollution and the spread of invasive species are all contributing to a significant decline in biodiversity. Research by Green Finance Institute and University of Oxford (2024) has found that the damage to the natural environment is slowing the UK economy and could lead to a 12% reduction in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the future, larger than the impacts from the global financial crisis.
- 6.4 The UN Biodiversity Conference of the Parties 15 (COP15) agreed a set of goals to halt the extinction of threatened species and reverse nature loss with the effective recovery and conservation of habitats, with a critical target being to conserve and manage 30% of land, inland waters, coasts, and oceans by 2030. This goal is referred to as '30 by 30'. For Coventry, this currently stands at around 11% and a key challenge is to identify where the extra 19% (or 1874 hectares) is going to be found, given the city's urban geography and limitations on available land. This will require a step change in current land use planning, with far more focus on integrating nature in urban areas to support nature's recovery, alongside creation of new habitats and improving the quality of existing ones.
- 6.5 Although the 11% baseline is low, Coventry does contain many biodiverse rich areas including seven green flag world class urban green spaces, parks and University of Warwick campus. The city also has lots of parks, woodlands, river and canal corridors, allotments, street trees and private gardens, which link together to form part of a wider network of green and blue infrastructure. There is a significant challenge for us to better understand the habitats and biodiversity that exists across the city in order to protect and enhance them, as well as identify opportunities for creating more joined up green and blue corridors across the city.

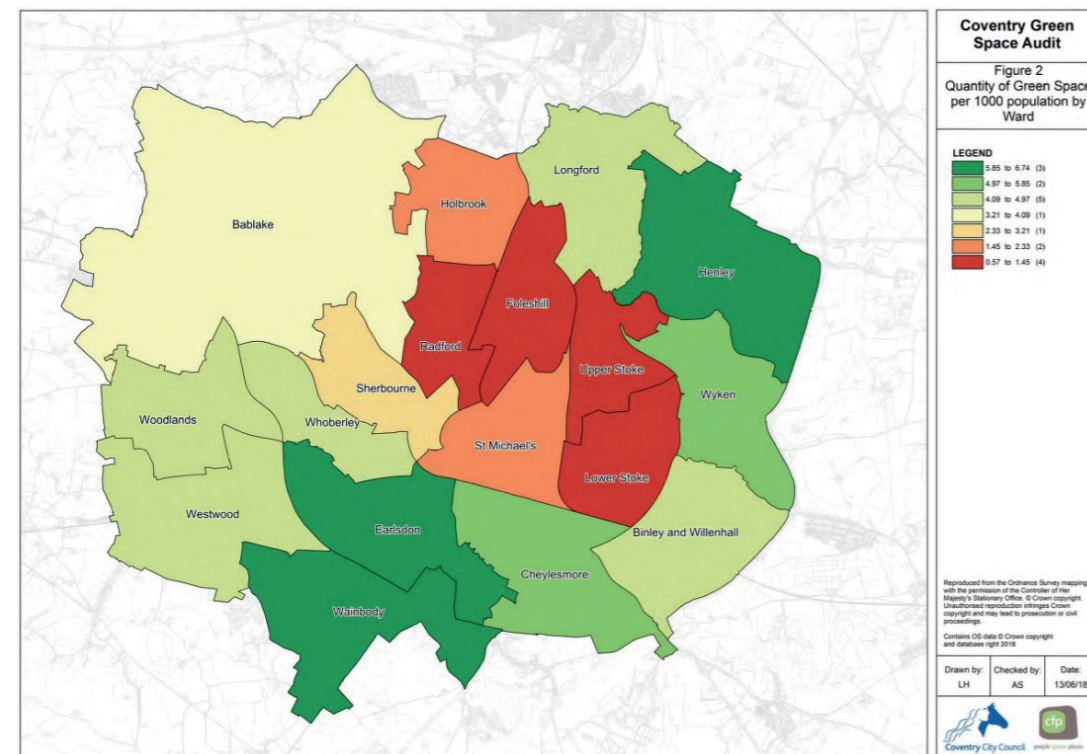


Figure 22 – Quantity of green space per 1000 population by ward, areas in ha

6.6 However, there are big disparities in terms of green spaces across the city as illustrated in figure 22, with the wards highlighted in red being in some of the highest areas of green deprivation in the country. As a result, Coventry has been found to be one of the least green cities in England. An ENDS Green Cities Index 2023 survey out of 55 primary urban areas in England, ranked Coventry as the 54th greenest. This is backed up in the consultation, where local people told us they want to see better access to nature, more parks and open spaces and more trees to increase biodiversity, improve air quality and wellbeing. This presents a huge opportunity for taking citywide action.

Coventry isn't unique in terms of the extent and access to green space for a city of its size; this presents an opportunity for the UK's towns and cities to take action and finding innovative and creative ways to boost nature's recover. This will help to transform the look and feel of our city, and deliver widespread environmental, social and economic benefits. Restoring nature provides a solution to many of the challenges set out in this Strategy:

Integrating more spaces for nature and restoring habitats across Coventry will:



We need to balance enhancing existing green spaces to support nature, with introducing new ones including within urban areas that may be on smaller scales but support biodiversity alongside addressing green deprivation.

6.6 We also need to be realistic that Coventry is a densely populated urban area, with land in short supply. Whilst we will strive to deliver as much of this in the city boundary as possible, using Council-owned land and working with partners and land holders, it is likely that we will also need to explore opportunities outside the city, using Council owned land and working with neighbouring authorities and landowners.

6.7 Key challenges to tackling the nature emergency also relate to funding, skills, knowledge and resource. The benefits of investing in nature are becoming far better understood and the recent creation of a natural capital market provides huge opportunities to attract private investment to support local nature recovery, which will deliver practical interventions as well as increasing conservation management skills and capacity. Coventry needs to ensure preparedness to attract natural capital investment in local nature recovery going forwards.

Tackling climate change through nature

6.8 Nature-based solutions provide an important opportunity for carbon sequestration and offsetting. Restoring and creating carbon-capture habitats, is identified in the Net Zero Carbon Routemap as an increasingly important option in terms of offsetting carbon emissions, as per figure 23 below. The consultation feedback on the draft Climate Change Strategy showed that local people feel very strongly about trees and nature in the city and want to see more focus on conservation as well as creating new ones. Natural habitats ranging from trees, wetlands and wildflower meadows have multiple benefits – as well as absorbing carbon dioxide they contribute to their environment by providing the oxygen we breathe, improving air quality, provide shade and reduce temperatures, increase water filtration building resilience, preserve soil and support wildlife. Action needs to be taken now to restore habitats and create new ones, to enable them to develop and thrive to maximise carbon captured. Key to delivering this is ensuring that the right species of plants and trees are planted in the right place in order to thrive, alongside protecting and maintaining the city's existing habitats.

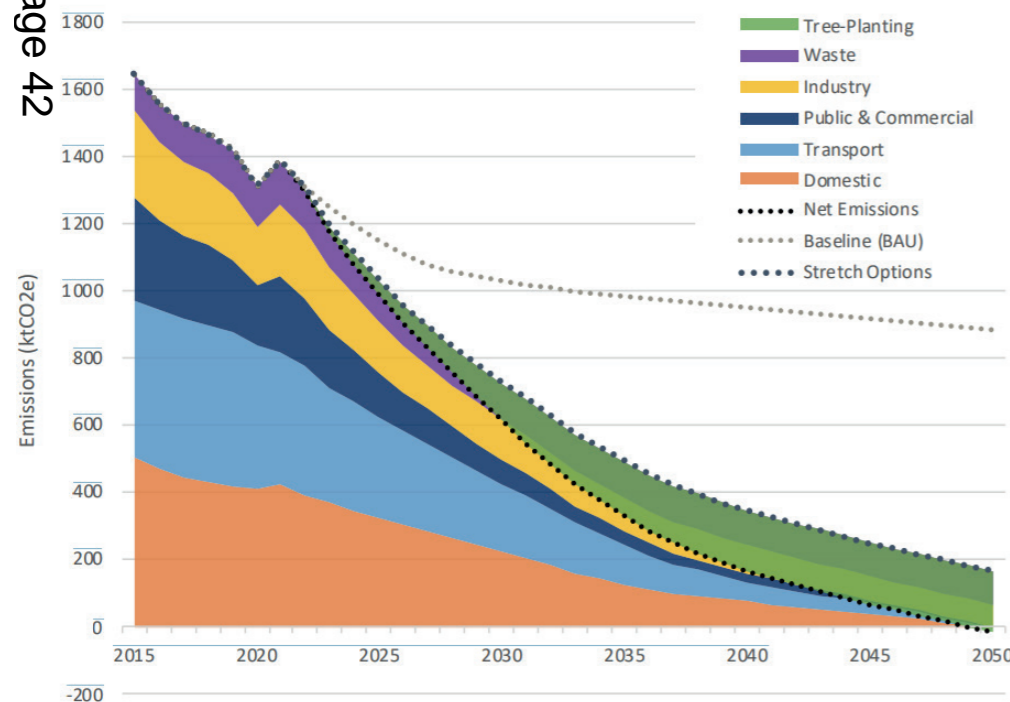


Figure 23 – Coventry's Carbon Reduction Potential; Stretch Options and Offsetting Potential (Net Zero Carbon Route Map, 2023)

The role of policy

- 6.9** There have been many approaches to managing and reversing biodiversity loss through global and national policies, perhaps most importantly the COP15 '30 by 30'.
- 6.10** The UK Environment Act's (2021) introduced a requirement for developments to contribute a minimum 10% biodiversity net gain, which became a legal requirement in February 2024. Coventry, Warwickshire, and Solihull have required biodiversity net gain for several years, as supported by Coventry's Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document. This national legislation will expand upon our work by creating a national register of sites where offsite biodiversity net gain offsetting will be directed; this will result in the creation of new natural spaces in the city. Whilst it must be acknowledged that biodiversity net gain is triggered by loss of biodiversity as part of a development site and it will take time for new sites to establish, it provides a unique opportunity to improve the equitability of green space and biodiversity distribution across Coventry and help reverse current trends, particularly in areas of deprivation. We will work to find innovative ways to create Biodiversity Net Gain units to benefit enhancing our green spaces, alongside creating new ones, particularly in urban deprived areas.

- 6.11** The Council will explore whether our targets could be more ambitious, aiming for 20% biodiversity net gain instead of 10%. We will also consider integrating approaches more targeted at urban regeneration, such as the Urban Greening Factor and Access to Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGST), to reduce green space deprivation and ensure everyone can access green space in a 5 minute walk from their doorstep. These ambitions should be influenced by a comprehensive baseline data set that explores issues such as the distribution of green space, habitat qualities and opportunities for new green and blue infrastructure. Opportunities for new green and blue infrastructure should emphasise creating community-led spaces, for example, urban growing areas like orchards, community gardens and outdoor education spaces. Policies and strategies should also reflect national guidance such as the Environmental Improvement Plan, Natural England's Green Infrastructure Framework and DEFRA's Plan for Water.
- 6.12** The Environment Act 2021 also introduces Local Nature Recovery Strategies as a way to manage regional improvements in green infrastructure. In Coventry, this Strategy is led by the West Midlands Combined Authority and will build upon previous Local Biodiversity Action Plans produced by the Warwickshire, Solihull, and Coventry Local Nature Partnership. Local Nature Recovery

Strategies will agree priorities for nature recovery and propose actions in the locations where these priorities could be achieved.

- 6.13** Coventry's Local Plan 2011–2031 and its nature conservation policies must reflect the strengthened national legislation and the ever-increasing need to reverse biodiversity loss. We will pursue ambitious approaches to ecological enhancement, including mandating species-specific enhancements such as bird and bat boxes on all developments to encourage biodiversity as well as features designed to mitigate issues like flooding, pollution, and the urban heat island effect.
- 6.14** Coventry's Green Space Strategy 2019–2024 recognises and promotes the multi-functional nature of green spaces and aims to ensure that they are well managed and maintained, accessible and contribute to cross-cutting agendas. The revised Green Space Strategy 2025–2030 will give increased priority to enhancing and creating biodiversity in our open spaces and consider opportunities to enhance biodiversity alongside roads and cycle lanes, verges and on streets.
- 6.15** This is complemented by Coventry's Urban Forestry Strategy 2022–2032, which recognises the importance of urban trees and forests in serving an ecosystem services function and proposes to plant a tree for every citizen, amounting to 360,000 trees by 2032. These tree planting efforts will combine the rejuvenation and expansion of our existing woodlands to sequester carbon and create wild spaces for people and nature, with tree planting in green spaces and along streets in order to improve air quality, create shade and mitigate urban heat island effects. We will need to be innovative in our approach to increasing the number of street trees across the city, overcoming challenges around utilities and parking.
- 6.16** It is important that existing policies and strategies are joined up to support a robust and coordinated approach to local nature recovery, which translates to practical delivery of interventions across the city.

Planning for Nature's Recovery

- 6.17** To deliver at the scale required, we need to change our approach to how we use land to support local nature recovery. This will be developed via a Green and Blue Infrastructure Plan which could include areas given for habitat restoration and creation, biodiversity net gain, tree planting, rain gardens and flood management, identifying 'wildbelt' strategic locations for key links or corridors to support development of nature corridors. We are also keen to work with landowners, farmers as well as our residents and businesses to find ways of better supporting nature and developing new habitats.
- 6.18** We recognise that there are many competing land uses in Coventry, and this could serve as a constraint, but we need to rethink our approach to land use planning to ensure that nature recovery can co-exist with other land uses. We will explore how we can maximise opportunities to integrate nature across the city and create new habitats as part of new developments, including housing, industrial, transport and energy schemes and will seek to be innovative in our approach with an ambition to create exemplar projects for nature restoration. We will prioritise opportunities for restoring nature within the city boundary but will also explore how we can use land we own outside the city boundary to support reaching our 30% target, which could include larger re-wilding schemes.
- 6.19** The Local Nature Recovery Strategy will provide more detailed mapping that can be used to better understand our local habitats and opportunities for habitat restoration and creation. The Natural Capital Assessment Partnership (formerly the Habitat Biodiversity Audit) surveys habitats across Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull, focusing on our Local Wildlife Sites which can support this, but we will need to be supplemented with rich data from across the whole city to develop a comprehensive strategy for enhancing biodiversity and providing habitats and natural places across Coventry. This will help us identify what interventions are required to support nature recovery and be fully costed in order to inform implementation plans.

Investing in Nature

6.20 Coventry is working with the West Midlands Combined Authority as one of four national pilot programmes focusing on Local Investment in Natural Capital. Part of this work will involve production of a Natural Capital Investment Prospectus, which will require development of a natural capital pipeline for the city, identifying opportunities for investment in ecosystem services. This could help to unlock ambitious landscape-scale rewilding projects which could provide a vital source of income to the Council through biodiversity net gain, carbon sequestration, natural capital units and tourism to help fund nature recovery, which includes creation and restoration of natural habitats as well as the resources to manage sites for long term conservation. This should be combined with improved accessibility to sites to ensure the benefits are felt by all across Coventry. This could include projects along the River Sowe, or in areas such as the Meriden Gap or the Coombe Abbey to Brandon Wood corridor.

Integrating Nature across the City

6.21 To boost nature across the city, we must work to conserve existing habitats alongside creating new ones. This means enhancing our existing green and blue spaces to support more nature-rich habitats and taking an innovative approach to find new ways of embedding nature in areas deprived of green space. Greening our urban areas is important to provide connectivity to enable greater movement of wildlife throughout the city, but has much wider benefits such as helping to address flooding, pollution, and urban heat issues as well as increase an area's sense of place, community, and wellbeing.

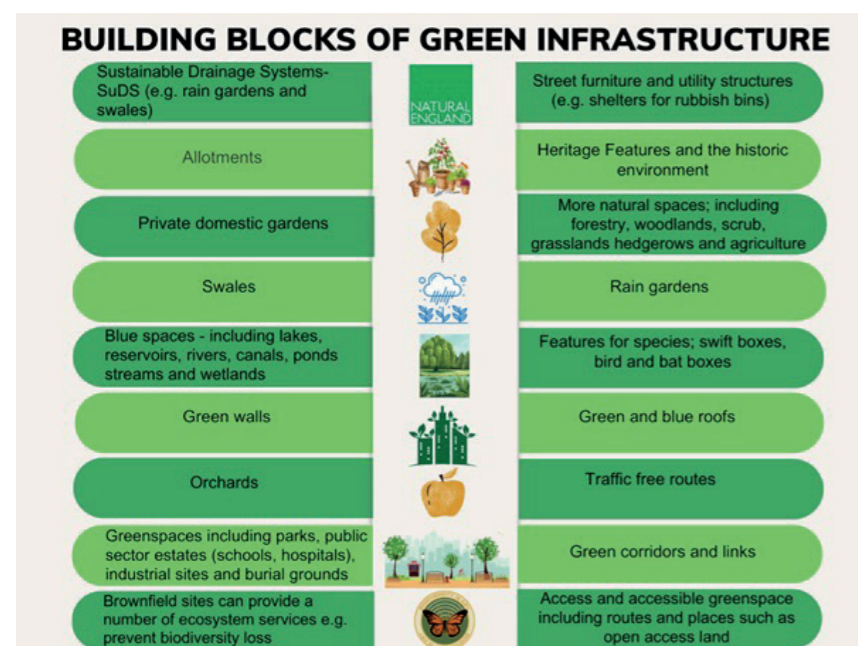


Figure 24 – Natural England Building Blocks of Green Infrastructure (2023)

6.22 Figure 24 demonstrates the different interventions that can be delivered to create green infrastructure in an urban setting, which are set out in more detail in the Natural England Green Infrastructure Planning and Design Guide 2023. We will work to deliver these measures in neighbourhoods across Coventry, developing pilots and identifying new ways of working to integrate nature into the fabric of our city.

6.23 There is a need to review the way areas are managed and maintained across the city in order to maximise wildlife. We need to increase capacity and specialist training and skills development for staff and volunteers to improve standards of conservation management to benefit wildlife. The management of amenity grassland presents opportunities to change grass mowing practices to create wildflower meadows to attract more wildlife and add colour and

variety to the urban landscape. Tree planting and careful development of new wetlands in parks can provide increased habitat diversity and a more interesting landscape for people to enjoy, encouraging interactions between people and nature. The Council already has a policy to use peat-free compost, but we need to work towards reducing and removing the use of herbicides and pesticides that can be damaging to wildlife.

6.24 Coventry is fortunate to have 45 allotments across the city, which are important habitats for wildlife providing food, shelter and breeding sites. The scope to make more use of this valuable network across the city presents a huge opportunity for boosting biodiversity, climate resilience and food security, as well as an important resource to communities to support well-being. There is scope to work more closely with the city's Allotment Association to make them more accessible and generate wider benefits. This could include creating more community group plots and linking up with the Food Network and local food banks to provide fresh seasonal produce to those most in need.

6.25 Our watercourses are an extremely valuable and often overlooked resource for ecology, climate resilience, and wellbeing. We must continue to tackle waste and pollution issues while enhancing these areas by de-culverting underground watercourses such as at Palmer Lane and Abbots Lane, improving river corridor habitats, and supporting flood risk management. The £3.4m Sherbourne Valley Project, led by the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust in partnership with the Council and a number of other key organisations within the city could be replicated in other areas including the River Sowe, to improve water quality and flood management as well as improving access to nature for people in a deprived area.

6.26 The canal runs through the city, providing a unique green blue corridor. The Canals and River Trust is always working to improve biodiversity, whether that is through the use of coir rolls to create a soft vegetated bank, or planting fruit trees which will provide food for people and wildlife. There is an opportunity to connect Sustainable Urban Drainage to drain into the canal network and we continue to look at new ways to unlocking the potential for heating and cooling too.

Working together for nature's recovery

6.27 There are clear links between all of the themes in this Strategy. A coordinated approach which actively seeks ways to incorporate nature into all elements of our work and city planning will be vital.

6.28 To support this joined up approach, the Council have established an officer working group that captures both Green and Blue Infrastructure to ensure we are coordinated in our approach to planning and managing our green and blue space. The role of the group is to identify opportunities and develop ideas and projects to help enhance our green and blue space and maximise the benefits they generate for biodiversity, climate resilience and well-being. This work feeds into the Nature Based Pathway Group, where organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Canal and River Trust, Environment Agency, Garden Organic and the city's universities are working with the Council to drive forward this agenda, projects and funding opportunities.

6.29 We have a long history of successful collaboration with organisations and communities, and we will build upon existing relationships with stakeholders to help develop projects that support local nature recovery. This includes small scale habitat protection and creation initiatives, to large scale projects such as the £3.5m River Sherbourne restoration project, led by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. We also want to work with businesses and organisations looking to invest in nature, whether that's through funding in our Natural Capital Prospectus or volunteer time to support projects on the ground.

6.30 We want to increase community involvement in managing and maintaining natural green spaces, this includes Friends of Parks groups, tree wardens and other conservation volunteers, as well as allotment holders and similar third-sector groups. Their work can help promote biodiversity and build pride in the quality and beauty of our open green spaces as well as creating opportunities to grow green jobs and provide training opportunities to help support a just transition.

Supporting nature at home

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1 Local people can help support nature at home and in their local area. This is really important to help create wildlife corridors across the city and our residential areas have a huge role to play in this. There are a number of practical measures residents can take depending on space they have available, this could range from a balcony, window box or container filled with bee and butterfly friendly plants, installing a bee hotel, bird feeders and providing water for wildlife. Measures such as swift bricks and nest boxes provide important nesting space in urban areas to support bird and bat populations. For those with more outside space they could leave long areas of grass and plant wildflowers to support habitats and create small spaces in boundaries to help wildlife to move about gardens. Those with gardens could also consider what materials are used, with grass and gravel being better for planting supporting nature and climate resilience than paved areas. There are lots of useful resources to get more ideas and inspiration here:

#TeamWilder | Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

Garden Organic – Discover organic growing



Recommendations

It is clear that investing in nature will deliver significant benefits to Coventry, not only boosting biodiversity but helping to tackle climate change, making the city more climate resilient, create more attractive neighbourhoods with better access to green space, benefiting our citizens and nature. The recommendations developed through the Nature Based Pathway Group are:

- To support the development of a Local Nature Recovery Plan for Coventry, a richer database needs to be developed of the city's land assets and potential nature conservation value, which includes a city-wide in-depth species and habitat survey
- In order to work towards '30 by 30', the city must focus on conserving existing habitats and creating new ones, and use natural capital as a tool to increase investment in nature and support conservation management of sites
- Develop new ways to integrate nature across the city, creating new corridors within urban areas and exploring opportunities for larger scale re-wilding projects which may involve working cross-border with other authorities and landowners, alongside partner organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust
- Improve habitats along river and canal corridors across the city, supporting initiatives to improve water quality and flood risk management
- Upskill staff and volunteers in the management of green spaces for nature, including developing training programmes which teach conservation management skills, which can be implemented in parks and areas of open space.

7.0 Fairer Green Future

Goal:

Ensuring a just transition for all

- 7.1** Tackling the climate and nature emergencies presents a huge opportunity to address current inequities improving the quality of life for all. However, without a considered approach this could have the opposite effect. We are facing a green industrial revolution moving away from fossil fuels, and this will impact on jobs and sectors. Coventry wants to ensure a just transition, so no one is left behind. This underpins the whole Strategy.
- 7.2** The Green Industrial Revolution provides considerable opportunities for future employment to offset potential jobs losses and to grow the local economy. Creating good quality, skilled jobs is an important way of reducing inequities. Net zero jobs are on average better paid, more productive and hotspots of activity are taking place in some of the most deprived parts of the country, helping to improve living standards in those areas. Growing these industries locally will increase economic prosperity, in order for local people to directly benefit they need to be equipped with the right skills, for this reason training and upskilling is really important to ensure we get the local benefits as part of a just transition.
- 7.3** The issue of a just transition also extends to the changes we are going to need to make to our everyday lives. We will need to improve the energy efficiency of homes, move towards low carbon travel, prioritise space for nature and food growing, and create more climate resilient infrastructure as part of our holistic approach in this Strategy. These all could contribute to tackling existing inequities in the city, resulting in lower bills, improved accessibility to facilities and green space and improved physical health and mental well-being. We need to involve communities and work with them to understand barriers or there is a risk that opportunities won't be felt by everyone, and existing social injustices could widen.
- 7.4** Issues relating to this pathway was where most feedback was received during the consultation, showing that local people are worried about being left behind.
- ### Planning for a Just Transition
- 7.5** We need to better understand what a just transition looks like for Coventry, in order to plan for one. The Fairer Green Pathway Group commissioned an independent study to examine examples of best practice in overseeing the delivery of a Just Transition approach to sustainability. The Just Transition Report highlighted the need for all of the Pathways to acknowledge and identify practical solutions to ensure that inequities are addressed and that no one is excluded or disadvantaged because of an action or recommendation when driving forward changes to address sustainability and climate change.
- 7.6** We need an in-depth understanding of which sectors, jobs and communities in our city are likely to be affected, alongside the opportunities new sectors will bring and develop a route map to establish how we develop green skills and jobs to match growing demand. This will include considering how we can support sectors where there are likely to be job losses with training and skills to transition to new sectors.



Figure 25 – Making Transition Plans (Just Grantham Research Institute, 2022)

7.7 The success of this will rely on involvement of affected people across the city. As figure 25 shows, it is important to involve those impacted by the necessary changes brought about by our transition to net zero in planning for the future. This will require a fully coordinated approach, with collaborative working across sectors and communities to build support and develop a plan that is deliverable.

7.10 Transport accounts for 27% of emissions in Coventry but one in three households doesn't have access to a car, rising to one in two in more deprived areas. Although people living in more deprived areas have lower car ownership, the impact of cars and traffic in terms of noise and air pollution is worse in these areas. More positively, this also means that many households are already walking, cycling or using public transport as their main way of getting around the city – this presents an opportunity for shared knowledge and when we look at how to encourage others to consider other modes of travel over the car.

7.11 Coventry has the most electric charging points of any city outside of London, and whilst electric car use is slowly increasing, there needs to be a citywide drive to find ways to incentivise the uptake of electric vehicles and make them more affordable and accessible to residents and businesses. This could include introducing electric car clubs, supporting second hand markets to bring down costs, salary sacrifice and try before you buy schemes alongside a move to electric fleets. The Council is also seeking ways to improve access to charging points for households without a drive – which includes citywide on street charging points and a new Kerbo charging pilot using gully channels to connect chargers directly from homes to kerb.

How a Just Transition can reduce existing inequalities and inequities in Coventry

7.8 The landmark Fair Society Healthy Lives (The Marmot Review) 2010 outlined the scale of health inequalities in England and the actions required to reduce them. In response, Coventry became the first UK city to adopt Marmot City status in 2013 and set up the Coventry Marmot Partnership to strategically address inequalities. The city's environment impacts the health of our residents. Tackling the causes of climate change will help to improve environmental conditions, reduce inequity across the city, and improve health, wellbeing and quality of life for all.

7.9 It is important that we use existing research to help make evidence-based decisions and develop the evidence base in relation to the triple win of health, health equity and environmental sustainability through research collaborations with Coventry's Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC).

7.12 In 2021 Coventry was named as one of 28 towns and cities in England where Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) levels in the atmosphere from cars and the burning of fossil fuels in wood stoves were forecast to exceed legal limits. The city has developed an Air Quality Action Plan, focusing on delivering infrastructure work which avoided the need for a charging zone which could have had a harmful impact on residents and businesses

7.13 Work is still needed to support households that use wood burning stoves, which are a significant source of local air pollution that can be harmful to health.

7.14 22.2% or nearly 31,000 of Coventry households are in fuel poverty, based on 2022 data. This figure has increased by over 2% since 2020 due to the cost-of-living crisis and energy insecurity resulting in a significant rise in bills. The impact of living in cold, damp, poorly insulated homes can be really harmful to physical health and mental well-being. This can be addressed through home retrofit, where there is often grant funding targeted at low-income households helping people out of fuel poverty which can have a huge benefit to improving overall quality of life.

7.15 The Council provides an Affordable Warmth Programme, currently working with 'Act on Energy' a locally based charity to provide advice and support to households affected by fuel poverty. A vital area of work is to ensure the most vulnerable in society are involved in planning for the future and provided with practical advice and support for accessing funding from the Council and government retrofit grants.

7.16 There has been a slow uptake in retrofit grants, highlighting a significant challenge in gaining involvement from local residents and property owners in investing in energy efficiency measures, even when at no cost to the household. Coventry's Net Zero Carbon Routemap identified that six out of the top ten most effective measures for carbon reduction related to domestic retrofit so involving communities in addressing the retrofit challenge is a top priority and key to delivering a just transition.

7.17 Green spaces help to cool cities down, provide habitats for nature and are an important amenity for local people. Coventry has some of the highest areas of green deprivation in the country, as identified in a 2021 New Economics Foundation Study, which means that in some parts of the city people have poor or limited access to high quality green space. Action is needed to prioritise areas of the city which have the poorest access to quality green space and lowest levels of tree canopy cover and to involve local residents in planning for the greening of their areas.

7.18 Over 20% of the city is in food poverty, with a growing reliance on food banks and charities to provide support. The Council is a member of and works closely with the 'Coventry Food Network' whose Food Charter highlights the following principles for action:

- 1) proclaims the universal right to food
- 2) promotes a community food culture
- 3) enables food producing environments and reduces food waste
- 4) supports ethical business and social enterprise
- 5) works for food justice



7.19 Coventry was awarded Sustainable Food Places Status thanks to the number of ways it supports communities with a discounted food scheme, school holiday hunger projects, community cafés, social supermarkets, food growing projects and cooking programmes. This activity needs to be expanded particularly in deprived areas to provide more opportunities for local food growing, supplemented by training in gardening and cookery skills. This will help to provide more fresh seasonal produce to families who need it most.

Engaging and involving stakeholders

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A just transition cannot be delivered without the involvement and support of those affected. The first step is people need to understand what a just transition is and what it could mean to them. We need to identify and work with affected stakeholders (which could be individuals, communities, workers, unions etc) to develop an understanding of the issues and opportunities that affect them and work collaboratively to identify action to be taken. This will require strong leadership, and the relevant skills and resource so that the Council and other stakeholders can involve the people of Coventry in planning for positive change.

Recommendations

To deliver a just transition we must acknowledge all inequalities and how the steps taken towards net zero can simultaneously increase equity across the city, ensuring no one is left behind. Whilst there are many existing challenges across the city, taking a just transition approach provides significant opportunity to address these and create a fairer, brighter future increasing quality of life for all. The Fairer Greener Pathway Group recommends:

- We need greater understanding of the sectors, industries, businesses and communities affected by the climate crisis and the city's transition to Net Zero by doing research to show us where and how we risk creating/worsening inequality and where the opportunities are for positively improving the lives of people in the city through climate action in the city.
- The drive, focus and co-ordination of efforts across the city to achieve a Just Transition for all must be ensured through adequate resourcing. This means finding the funds and/or the people with the time, capacity and skills to ensure that everyone in the city who wants to can work together to ensure a Just Transition, which should be overseen by the Council.
- The 'engagement' elements of the Coventry Climate Change Strategy must be delivered according to the 'eight principles for a just transition for Coventry'. Engagement must be with people in affected sectors, industries, businesses and communities, and must be creative and innovative in the ways that they are involved in the planning for a more sustainable future for the city.

8.0 Council Action

Changing the way we work to create a more sustainable city

- 8.1** Whilst the Council's carbon footprint as a proportion of the city is only 1%, the Net Zero Route map highlights the citywide picture and scale of the challenge ahead. We know that homes, transport and industry are responsible for the highest levels of carbon emissions and significant investment is needed to address this. It is not viable to expect this to be all publicly funded. However the Local Authority does have a key role as a leader to drive our response to this challenge and help develop wider opportunities and lever investment, which this section explores.
- 8.2** The Council has been working hard to improve its environmental credentials and reports performance annually through the globally recognised Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP).

Reporting helps a city demonstrate how it is acting on climate change and provides data to improve these actions year-on-year. The Council achieved an A- rating in 2023 (second highest score available), indicating strong leadership and having demonstrated best practice standards across climate change adaptation and mitigation, and recognising we have set ambitious goals made good progress towards achieving these.

- 8.3** In the consultation for the draft Strategy, lots of people told us that they want to see the Council taking a leadership role and be more ambitious in terms of tackling climate change. The Council's policies can shape future development as set out in the figure below:



Cultural Change of workforce

- 8.4** Tackling the causes and consequences of climate change is a core commitment in the Council's One Coventry Plan. In order to drive meaningful change, sustainability needs to be embedded at the heart of our working practices and become business as usual. Some recent changes include making Climate Change part of a Cabinet Member portfolio, and a Strategic Lead – Green Futures officer position has been created to help drive organisational change.
- 8.5** To create cultural change across the organisation, we need to ensure that staff and councillors are equipped with the knowledge and skills to identify opportunities and changes required to create more sustainable working practices. Training and development will be a key part of this and help support councillors and officers to become stronger advocates for sustainability.

8.6 The Council also has an important role identifying issues, barriers and proposing practical solutions to address and using its lobbying, campaigning and advocacy role at a regional, national and international level proposing new policies, practices, standards and frameworks which will help to build a more sustainable future.

8.7 The Council is committed to achieving more equality, diversity and inclusion in its workforce. A study commissioned by the Equality Trust, National Union of Students and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) revealed that in the UK only 3% of environmental professionals are from minority backgrounds and environment professionals are the second least diverse profession in the UK. The Climate Change and Sustainability Team will be actively exploring ways of attracting people from minority backgrounds.

Innovation and Partnerships

8.8 A key role for the Council is how we develop partnerships and empower change. This is an area that has been particularly successful for the Climate Change Board, where partnerships forged have helped drive opportunities and collaboration, and provided us with expertise to help develop our Strategy and Action Plan.

8.9 One of the biggest challenges that the Council is facing in terms of tackling climate change is capacity and resource. Whilst Coventry is fortunate to have a dedicated Climate Change team, we are limited in terms of people power, expertise and funding which is a barrier to delivering at scale and pace. However, what we do have is extensive local knowledge and assets. The Strategic Energy Partnership that the Council entered with E.ON in 2023 is a pioneering model and approach to addressing this challenge. This has effectively doubled the size of the climate change team and brings significant expertise and investment opportunities for net zero projects.

8.10 The state-of-the-art Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) that opened in 2023 was borne out of a need to address challenges around recycling, including rising costs, changing legislation and a volatile resale market. Coventry, alongside 7 other Local Authorities collaborated to form 'Sherbourne Recycling

Ltd'' to address these challenges. This innovative approach has resulted in creation of the most advanced MRF of its kind in the UK.

8.11 The Council has helped develop many other partnerships, including a 'Citywide Innovation Board' which brings together the public and private sector alongside academia to explore creative solutions to some of the city's challenges, including climate change and decarbonisation. Some of the exciting opportunities coming out of this work include exploring drone and autonomous technology, and the city is keen to trial new technologies and act as a living lab.

Driving change through Policy

8.12 The Climate Change Strategy is intended to help influence policy development by setting out the key areas we need to address to create a sustainable future city.

8.13 Perhaps the most influential policy to inform future development in Coventry is the 'Local Plan', a significant policy and land use planning document that dictates the nature of land uses and future development of buildings, infrastructure and the public realm. As part of the Local Plan Review process the Council is considering where it could place greater emphasis on specific policy areas – such as those which address a number of climate change and sustainability issues to help deliver our priorities across all five pathway areas.

8.14 It is also important that policy gap areas are addressed, such as introduction of an adaptation and resilience strategy which is a significant gap in current policy and will influence service delivery and operations. Also, we need to ensure that policies are consistent and joined up, which requires regular reviews to be undertaken to ensure that our collective policies reflect the ambitions and principles of the Climate Change Strategy and broader One Coventry Plan.

Sustainable Procurement and Social Value

8.15 The Council works with a very broad supply chain to purchase both goods and services. This is a great opportunity to encourage suppliers to take more action on climate change and sustainability, alongside social value.

8.16 The Council recently adopted a Social Value Framework and recent changes in legislation with the introduction of the National Policy Statement for national procurement under the Procurement Act (2023) strengthens the requirement to address environmental sustainability and climate change. There is opportunity to further strengthen procurement policy, ensuring that all five pathways are embedded so that suppliers support delivery of the Strategy.

Communication and Involvement

8.17 The feedback from the Council's draft Climate Change Strategy consultation contained a call for improved communication and engagement around climate change and related projects. The Council is developing an engagement plan for this, and already taking action in response to this through the publication of a new Climate Change Newsletter and more regular communications to help raise public awareness, be more transparent and build trust.

8.18 People also wanted to ensure that communications and engagement are inclusive and promote equality and diversity. This is something the Council are working hard to improve, offering materials in multiple languages and formats and supporting ways to address digital exclusion. The Council collected over 500 responses and 1855 comments and the report can be found here [Climate Change Strategy 2023 – 2030 consultation feedback executive summary – Coventry City Council](#). Whilst the feedback received was really valuable, the demographics of the responses received show there is more engagement work to do to involve key parts of the population, particularly in relation to low response rates from younger people and ethnically diverse communities.

8.19 Consultation on the Draft Climate Change Strategy was important to help understand the views of our communities across the city and how the Council can support and involve people in making positive changes. The exercise helped us to gather feedback on the Strategy and key themes within it and to understand resident and organisations' priorities as well as highlighting any gaps.

8.20 81% of respondents to the Council's Climate Change survey are 'concerned' or 'very concerned' about climate change. People told us the most important aspect of tackling climate change is to ensure a positive future for the next generation.

8.21 It is important for us to understand what needs to be done to win the hearts and minds of the 19% of the respondents who don't consider sustainability and climate change to be an issue of concern. A number of comments from this group reflected some cynicism, with concerns about people's freedoms being reduced, scepticism of the science, a feeling that it is too vast an issue to worry about and that individuals can't make a difference when faced with major polluting countries and corporations. Some fed back that they had bigger worries related to the cost of living. The collective impact of 'a business-as-usual approach' from the 19% (which could be higher as it's likely people who don't consider climate change an issue are less likely to respond to a consultation on this issue) could be significant on the city and its ability to address the issues facing the population.

8.22 In order to engage those that feel apathy or disagree with climate science and the need for a Climate Change Strategy, the Council will need to look at ways to identify opportunities that will benefit people, regardless of whether they consider climate change an issue or not, and work in a transparent way to build trust and buy-in to projects.

8.23 The Climate Change Strategy cannot be delivered without citywide support and involving and empowering our communities is vital to create change. There is a need to build a closer working relationship with communities and the voluntary sector working at the neighbourhood level to help drive progressive action. It's very important that people don't feel like changes are being done to them and instead they can play a positive role in influencing change and being part of the journey.

4 An overarching Communications and Involvement Strategy will provide a template for all projects delivered through the Climate Change Action Plan. As part of this, the Council will consider a range of different tools for improving community engagement to ensure this aligns with our Just Transition principles. Communication will be clear and accessible and we will consider a range of creative and innovative ways to engage working closely with community and faith leaders to get a broader reach into communities, more targeted engagement for under-represented groups, community panels to explore local issues and test ideas, using the arts and culture as a tool for engagement, alongside conducting research into market segmentation to help us better understand our communities, barriers to involvement and ways to overcome these.

Recommendations

The Council has a leading role to play in tackling the causes and consequences of climate change. We are being bold in our approach, but there is still a lot more to do. This requires wider organisational and cultural change, with the right levels of resource and knowledge in place to support the changes we need to make to lead from the front:

- Review the structure of the Council's Climate Change and Sustainability Team to ensure enough levels of resourcing, whilst increasing the equality, diversity and inclusivity of the workforce

9.0 Finance

9.1 This Strategy has big ambitions, but Coventry will need to find significant funds to deliver our vision. Part of the mix of opportunities for attracting funding and investment will include joint ventures in partnership with third parties including the private sector, local communities, higher education, private charitable trusts and foundations, which may unlock funding opportunities that the Council would otherwise be unable to access.

9.2 Green finance models are rapidly evolving, unlocking new finance and funding opportunities, and we will need to be creative and innovative in our approach to secure investment. There will be an increasing need to secure investment from the private sector and find innovative ways to raise funds. Not all projects in our action plan have yet been costed but the Net Zero Routemap provides a useful guide to the potential scale of investment required to achieve net zero by 2050.

- Develop and deliver climate change training to increase education and awareness and embed this knowledge into the delivery of services. Work across Council departments to help drive and develop policies that embed sustainability within all areas of the organisation
- Continue to be at the forefront of innovation, seeking out best practice, generating ideas, pursuing funding and research opportunities and forming consortiums and partnerships to tackle key challenges and pilot new technologies and initiatives in the city
- Build on existing partnerships and create new ones, using the Climate Change Board as a vehicle for bringing together key organisations to collectively work together to help deliver the Climate Change Strategy, monitor performance and continue to generate new ideas and opportunities
- Develop a Climate Change Communications and Involvement Strategy to be used as a template for all projects, incorporating monitoring and evaluation frameworks to ensure a consistent approach which is accessible and inclusive, providing opportunities for meaningful community engagement according to our Just Transition Principles.

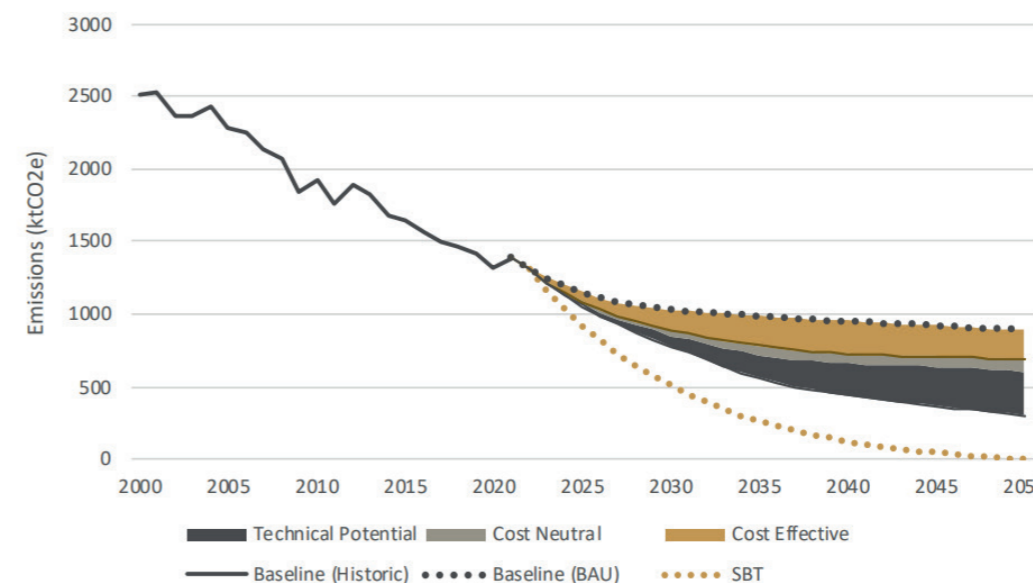


Figure 26 – Coventry's Carbon Reduction Potential Options (Net Zero Route Map, n.d.)

9.3 The Route Map independently assessed levels of investment required to achieve the necessary carbon reductions illustrated in figure 26, which are summarised below:

Option	Annual Investment Required (for 15 years)	Reduction in city's annual energy bill	Carbon reduction
Cost-effective	£53m	£114m	23%
Cost-neutral	£165m	£122m	32%
Technical potential	£654m	£185m	66%

9.4 The modelled actions illustrate that there is still a gap in reaching the 2050 target and the huge scale of investment needed. This gap will need to be addressed by future innovations and advances in technology. The introductions of taxation and financial incentives from the Government in future years may render more of the current technically viable options into more economically viable ones, especially if they create jobs and stimulate the economy. Carbon offsetting is also considered, which would require planting 44 million trees across the UK to close Coventry's gap to net zero! This illustrates that the scale of the challenge goes well beyond Coventry's boundary and will require leadership and investment in infrastructure at a national level to support the transition to net zero by 2050.

9.5 Whilst the huge investment costs are beyond any grant funding or resource the Council and city partners can access, it does demonstrate that there is an 'invest to save' case and wider benefits generated by a significant reduction in energy bills and job creation. This requires an approach to financial business case accounting which takes into account

the whole lifetime costings of investments and assets, and that considers the wider economic value to the city of the investment which can't be captured in direct returns. This must be developed further to also consider the costs of environmental impacts, to reflect fully the costs of the energy and materials used and their impacts in manufacture and construction the impacts during the lifetime of a product or building's use and the final costs of re-use and/or responsible recycling/disposal. We will be faced with choices that will need to account for the whole cost during the lifetime of an asset including an assessment of the costs of doing nothing.

9.6 The Council and partners will need to consider all environmental investment opportunities to work out not only the potential investment and levels of return, but also the delivery strategy to inform financing arrangements and benefit realisation. Opportunities may exist to reinvest financial returns from more commercially viable projects into less financially sustainable programmes to support delivery of measures where it is more difficult to attract finance.

9.7 It's vital that the Council develop collaborative partnerships to share the financial and delivery burden, such as the Strategic Energy Partnership with E.ON. The Council is keen to work with partners that can bring expertise to develop commercial business opportunities to deliver the necessary services and infrastructure to support a low carbon economy and delivery of the wider Strategy.

Funding Opportunities and Options

9.8 Both government grant and private sector investment will be required to support the transition to net zero. To date, Coventry has already benefitted from securing significant investment for domestic retrofit, public sector building decarbonisation and low carbon and active travel transport initiatives, which have helped to lever in further private match investment, but the scale of investment needs to increase significantly in order to deliver the scale of change required.

9.9 Bidding for government funding is often resource intensive and fiercely competitive, with no guarantee of success. This isn't helpful for building local market confidence as limits the ability to plan longer term programmes. Through the West Midlands Trailblazer Devolution Deal, funding will be awarded via a multi-year Single Settlement which seeks to simplify current funding arrangements and give more flexibility and longevity of funding that will benefit local authorities from 2025 onwards, which will be an important source of funding for the Action Plan.

9.10 The Council is working in partnership with WMCA on a strategic approach to secure investment for Coventry's socio-economic and environmental priorities through the Single Settlement. Through this, we have identified the key areas for investment for Coventry over the next 5+ years, with key priorities including securing new investment in and accelerating the growth of green industries and ensuring a "just transition" to net zero. This will include securing investment in energy and retrofit, circular economy, adaptation and resilience and nature, as well as developing the green skills within local businesses and the local workforce.

New financial and investment models will be key to supporting the mix of funding and securing investment going forwards. Coventry is fortunate that the West Midlands

Combined Authority is part of the Department for Net Zero and Energy Security's Low Carbon Accelerator Programme, which is bringing together a consortium of experts to develop blended finance models to support decarbonisation activity, which includes Net Zero Neighbourhoods.

9.12 The West Midlands Combined Authority has been selected as one of just four areas in the UK to deliver Local Investment in Natural Capital (LINC) programmes, which link to the Government's Green Finance Strategy (2023) to support a green industrial revolution and transition to a climate resilient, nature-positive, net-zero economy. The LINC programme seeks to enable the public sector (and their third sector partners) to become more market-facing with their nature-based projects and programmes and to attract private finance. The programme will help to build capacity, develop effective governance arrangements, and capability of local leaders and partner organisations.

9.13 It's essential that the Council has the resource, capacity and capability to ensure we are innovative in our approach to seeking investment opportunities and maximise the benefits from the evolving green finance markets, as well as continue to bid into grant funding opportunities. Also, there are lots of smaller grants available for communities, so it is important that community groups are given support with funding bids and that the Council and partners highlight and signpost funding opportunities.

9.14 The Council's own Treasury Management Strategy, which sets the framework for its own borrowing and investment activity, will need to consider and accommodate the Climate Change agenda, striking an appropriate balance between financial stewardship, return on investment and environmental benefit.

9.15 Part of the mix of opportunities for attracting funding and investment will include joint ventures in partnership with third parties including the private sector, local communities, higher education, private charitable trusts and foundations, which may unlock funding opportunities that the Council would otherwise be unable to access. Also, there are lots of smaller grants available for communities, so it is important that community groups are given support with funding bids and that the Council and partners highlight and signpost funding opportunities.

10.0 Monitoring Progress

How do we know what effect we are having and whether it is working?

10.1 Data collection will be important to inform the impact of implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. Some of the key targets will include:

- The current interim target for net zero from the Covenant of Mayors is a minimum 55% reduction of 1990 levels by 2030 with a UK Government target now set for a 68% reduction and a 100% reduction of 1990 levels by 2050;
- Increasing the area of green space managed to protect nature across the city from 11% working towards 30% by 2030;
- Local accessible green space of at least 2ha within 300 metres of the doorstep of residents;
- Increase tree canopy cover across the city, striving to plant 360,000 trees by 2032;
- Increase rates in recycling up to at least national average 45%, striving to aim above this.

Further targets will be developed around key areas including adaptation and resilience and the green investment, jobs and skills.

10.2 It is important that the Council are transparent around the progress we are making as a city to tackle climate change. The Climate Action plan developed alongside the Strategy sets out the practical actions that the Council, as well as our partners, businesses and communities need to take to meet net zero and create a more sustainable future city. The city's Climate Change Board will help to hold it accountable. It is a live document, which will evolve to reflect the growing programme of activity around this agenda.

10.3 Progress on tackling the causes and consequences of climate change will be reported publicly in the Council's One Coventry Performance Indicators Report, which will identify whether targets and goals have been achieved or on track to do so, as many of the actions are longer term than a year.

10.4 The Action Plan, like the Strategy is divided into the five Pathways alongside a section on Council action. The actions include existing, planned and aspirational projects, looking over the short, medium and long term. It defines the delivery lead, alongside partners, potential funding and resource requirements and gives a priority rating to identify the highest impact projects. Whilst the Council is assigned the role of project lead on many of the actions, there are a number of projects that rely on others taking a lead or supporting role in delivery, which includes individuals, communities, businesses and organisations across the city, emphasising that action is required on a citywide level.

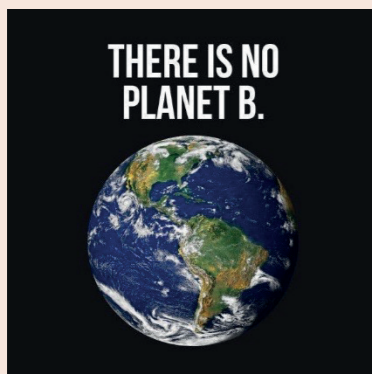
10.5 It is also important that we consider how pathways and projects in the action plan interconnect. There will be many instances where the delivery of one action impacts upon another. It is important to understand the relationships between the five pathways, and how some actions could benefit or potentially hinder another. We will aim to ensure activities across these different areas is closely monitored and encourage cross-partner and project working. Opportunities for actions in one area may also present new opportunities for other areas of activity, we will encourage this too.

10.6 We will continue to lead with strong governance to manage the action plan, with the city's Climate Change Board and pathway groups providing an important assurance role to support delivery.

11.0 Conclusion and next steps

This Strategy gives a comprehensive insight into the challenges and opportunities we collectively face in tackling the causes and consequences of climate change. Whilst the challenges ahead are significant, taking positive action to address them brings about real opportunity to create a better future for our city and its residents. This is a fantastic chance for Coventry to make its mark on the global stage as an innovative, forward-thinking city capable of delivering meaningful change and leading the green industrial revolution. Everyone has a part to play and together we can create positive and lasting change to benefit the city now, and for future generations.

- 11.2** The city's Climate Change Board and pathway groups will continue to provide an independent role in steering the successful delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan and governance and resources at the Council will be organised to support successful delivery.
- 11.3** The Council and its partners will continue to lobby regional and national governments for change and support. We will seek out best practice from around the world, be bold and innovative in our approach and listen to feedback and reflect on lessons learnt.
- 11.4** We recognise that there is a huge amount to do, and it is important to be aspirational but practical about what can be achieved. We will work hard to raise finance, engage partners and work with communities and organisations across the city to help remove barriers, identify opportunities. We must also ensure we consider the risks and impacts of activities and take collective action to deliver a just transition as part this.



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REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
1. Adaptation and Resilience						
<i>Objective: To create a more climate resilient city</i>						
AR1	<p>Adaptation & Resilience Strategy & Plan Creation of a Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy for the city, including geospatial mapping of risks and a detailed risk assessment and action plan which assesses how prepared the city is to deal with the impacts of climate change and puts in place a plan in order to create a more climate resilient city.</p> <p>This will give us detailed actions that will be reflected in this Action Plan to set out what activity will need to happen on the ground.</p>	Already underway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation of Action Plan in response to key recommendations within the Adaptation & Resilience Plan; 2. A geospatial map of climatic risk factors including a meteorological profile of the City from the Met Office; 3. Funding secured for adaptation and resilience projects 	Coventry City Council (Climate Change & Sustainability Team) with consultant support from CAG Sustainability West Midlands and Slingslot Solutions & Met Office	Climate Change Board Adaptation & Resilience Pathway Group, Stakeholders across the city	Plan to be published 2024/25 Recommendations and key actions to be incorporated in Action Plan with a view to developing specific projects to provide mitigation and increase resilience which will be ongoing 2024–2030+
AR2	<p>Data analysis & reporting Establish links with other local authorities and government to gain a better understanding of local, regional and national climate change adaptation and resilience challenges and responses, benchmarking Coventry, learning from best practice.</p> <p>This includes participation in Defra's national Resilience and Climate Adaptation Reporting Power (ARP4) pilot authority to establish Coventry's baseline and planned activity with regards to climate change adaptation and resilience in comparison to other towns and cities across the UK, and learn best practice from other areas</p> <p>We will also participate in WMCA's Climate Change and Adaptation Working Group</p>	Already underway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Through gathering information, data and tools that will help to inform our local Adaptation and Resilience Action Plan 2. Development of Using Defra's ARP4 reporting to benchmark Coventry's preparedness and exposure to climate risks 	Coventry City Council (Climate Change & Sustainability Team)	Defra, WMCA, other local authorities	ARP 4 Report to be concluded and submitted to DEFRA By End of December 2024
AR3	<p>Flood Prevention Measures Seek ways to secure investment in flood prevention measures to reduce vulnerability of city's homes to flooding.</p> <p>This includes bidding for funding and working with partners to help access investment for the city.</p>	Already underway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flood prevention investment delivered 2. Reduction in number of properties at risk of flooding, and flooding incidents of properties 3. Establish approaches which promote biodiversity using SUDs, natural vegetation, rain gardens and avoid the use of hard engineering approaches. 	Coventry City Council (Highways Drainage Team)	Environment Agency, Severn Trent	2024–2030+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
AR4	Improvements to water courses River and canal improvement projects building on the success of the River Sherbourne project, which could include the River Sowe, wetland creation and restoration of other parts of the Sherbourne, including daylighting culverted parts of the river	Palmer Lane deculverting in delivery – with further schemes in early development stage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of completed schemes; 2. Investment attracted in improvement projects; 3. Number of metres of watercourse restored/improved 4. Uplift in water quality 5. Reduction in flooding events 	Coventry City Council (Highways Drainage Team)	Environment Agency, Canal & Rivers Trust, Severn Trent, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	2024–2030+
AR5	SUDs Implementation of the Council's Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDS) Policy across Coventry to help manage surface water run off and reduce flood risk, which includes incorporation of SUDS in new developments.	Already underway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of Sustainable Urban Drainage schemes implemented 2. Investment secured for Sustainable Urban Drainage systems 3. Reduction in flood incidents 4. Reduction in nutrient levels in rivers and watercourses 	Coventry City Council (Highways Drainage & Planning Teams)	Severn Trent, Environment Agency, Developers	2024–2030+
AR6	Greenspaces for cooling down the City Development of a network of Green space & nature-based interventions to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events including heatwaves and heavy rainfall.	Early stage development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of trees planted; 2. Number of rain gardens/bio-swales or detention basins delivered; 3. Increase in area of green space; 4. Investment attracted to support nature-based solutions 5. Green Roofs 6. Living walls 	Coventry City Council (Climate Change, Ecology, Highways Drainage and Environmental Services Teams)	Climate Change Board Adaptation & Resilience Pathway Group inc Severn Trent, Environment Agency, Nature Based Pathway Group inc Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Canal and Rivers Trust. Developers	2024–2030+
AR7	Flood Management Strategy – further develop the city's Flood Management Strategy with Partner organisations contributing commitments with identified roles and responsibilities where appropriate.	Early stage development	A clear Strategy with an Action Plan identified resources for specific geographical location known to be at risk.	Coventry City Council (Highways Drainage & Planning Teams)	Severn Trent, Environment Agency	2024–2025
AR8	Integrating our plans with the NHS Plan The Warwickshire Healthcare Partners are working on an adaptation and resilience plan to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) address the needs of the most vulnerable including the elderly, young infants and people with long term health conditions when extreme weather events place particular strains on the healthcare system and b) to ensure Hospital Trusts and primary care facilities and the services provided are protected from extreme weather events, notably heat waves, cold snaps or when gaseous pollution levels are high. 	In development expected to complete Plan by December 2024	Better integration between the various agencies in reducing the exposure of people with specific health needs and enhancing their preparedness and resilience to the impact of extreme weather events particularly those with the most vulnerable health conditions. Reductions in the number of admissions to hospital of people with particularly vulnerable health conditions during extreme weather events	Warwickshire Healthcare Partners (NHS Hospital Trusts and NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board) & Emergency Response agencies	NHS, Coventry City Council (Public Health). Ambulance Service, Fire Service, Police	2024–2025
AR9	Explore development of smart sensors and alert systems to help communicate extreme weather and pollution risks – link to LED lighting project.	Not yet commenced	Roll out of alert system; number of people signed up to system; monitoring how system works during events and a reduction in the number of admissions to hospital during extreme weather events	Coventry City Council	Coventry University, University of Warwick, NHS, ambulance service, fire service, police	2025–2027

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
2. Route to Net Zero						
Objective: To reduce the city's emissions to net zero by 2050 (working towards interim target of 68% 2030)						
Workstream/Activity			Measure of Success	Who		When
Energy Generation and Decarbonisation Projects						
RNZ1	Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP) – as a delivery mechanism for other actions within Route to Net Zero pathway of the Climate Change Strategy and other pathways and workstreams as appropriate. Project activity to be prioritised through the SEP energy masterplan and SEP annual business plan. Social value will be delivered against all SEP projects (links to Fairer Green Pathway)	Already underway	Number of projects delivered Carbon savings Scale of projects and programmes Innovation, including pilots projects in Coventry Local jobs and skills directly attributed to SEP projects Level of social value achieved measured by TOMs framework	Strategic Energy Partnership	Housing Associations, Electric Vehicle Charging Providers, Universities, other utility providers	2024–2038+
RNZ2	Energy security – Increase citywide renewable energy generation and resilience of supply – this will require development of projects including ground-mounted solar farms, solar panels on rooftops and battery storage	Early development	% of city's energy that comes from renewable sources, MW of renewable energy generated from new infrastructure	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, public and private sectors, developers, businesses, residents	2024–2030+
RNZ3	Heat Networks – Identify opportunities to extend the development of heat networks across the City, in line with heat network zones that have been identified across the city	Early development	MW of Available Heat Capacity MW of Connected Heat Capacity	Coventry City Council – Climate Change Team and Energy Management Services	Strategic Energy Partnership, CDEC, private and public sectors, developers	2024–2030+
RNZ4	Improve grid infrastructure – To support the deployment of electrical infrastructure projects to meet the future demands for power in the City.	Not yet commenced	Available Power Capacity meets Development Demands.	National Grid, Energy Management Services	Strategic Energy Partnership, Developers	2024–2030+
Energy Data						
RNZ5	Citywide Scope 1 and 2 reporting – Develop a citywide scheme to encourage and support all Coventry-based organisations to publicly declare annual Scope 1 and 2 emissions.	Not yet commenced	Number of Organisations Declaring Scope 1 & 2 emissions	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team and Energy Management, The Chamber	Climate Change Board	2025–2027
RNZ6	Improve citywide data and reporting – Add City Energy and Emissions reporting to Citywide Intelligence Hub using DESNZ data as minimum to support wider awareness and trending of energy consumption and emissions.	Not yet commenced	Carbon emissions to reduce year on year	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team and Energy Management	Strategic Energy Partnership	2025–2027

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
MNZ7	Development of Green Skills Hub – work with key partners to promote the development of skills and training in the construction sector including the building related trades e.g. heating engineers for the advancement in the use of the latest renewable zero carbon and more energy efficient technologies in the retrofitting of existing properties and new build developments of zero carbon homes. Ensure link in with the Green Skills sub group.	Already underway	Number of training courses available, number of apprenticeships/students that benefit from training, number of students that go on to get jobs in the sector.	Coventry City Council – Skills and Adult Education teams, Economic Development, Climate Change Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, Coventry College, Dyson, Westdale, WMCA, schools, other training providers and employers	2024–2027
Housing						
RNZ8	Improve energy efficiency of social housing stock Work with key partners such as Citizen Housing to improve the energy efficiency of the city's social housing stock. This includes the continued delivery of Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2, which is to support over 2,000 properties by September 2025. Plan to build on this via Wave 3 and beyond.	Already underway	Number of homes improved with energy efficiency measures & Increase in homes to an EPC C or above. All social housing stock to be EPC Band C by 2035 and all fuel poor social housing stock to be EPC Band C by 2030	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team & Citizen	Citizen Housing, Orbit, Midland Heart, Strategic Energy Partnership	Aim for all social housing stock to be EPC C by 2035 and all 'fuel poor' social housing stock to be EPC C by 2030.
RNZ9	Deliver citywide retrofit programmes Deliver existing government funded grant programmes which support retrofit measures for privately owned properties, including both owner-occupied and private rented (e.g Home Upgrade Grant 2).	Already underway	Funding secured and homes improved. Properties increased to EPC band C.	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team & Strategic Energy Partnership	Housing Associations	2022–2038+
RNZ10	ECO4 and GBIS Programme Work with companies and contractors to maximise uptake of ECO4 and GBIS across the city. Ensure supporting of marketing for ECO4 and signing off ECO Flex declarations to increase amount of people able to access the schemes.	Already underway	Homes supported via ECO4 / GBIS. And ECO Flex declaration signed off by the Council.	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team	E.ON, Agility Eco, other energy providers, contractors	2024–2025
RNZ11	Develop long term funding and investment and delivery models to support citywide retrofit programme Work with local government partners across the region to identify solutions to domestic retrofit and access additional funding. This includes working with West Midlands Combined Authority and Midlands Net Zero Hub, as well as working in collaboration with other local authorities across the region.	Already underway	Funding secured through WMCA devolution deal and through MNZH Other public/private investment secured	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team	West Midlands Combined Authority, Midlands Net Zero Hub, other local authorities	2024–2030+
RNZ12	Develop the city's first net zero neighbourhood which would also include wider net zero benefits (Inc. economies of scale with retrofit)	Early development	Residents engaged and homes retrofitted as part of the net zero neighbourhood.	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team	West Midlands Combined Authority, Strategic Energy Partnership, local community	2024–2027

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
RNZ13	Develop green finance initiatives for retrofit Development of programmes that are able to support those 'willing to pay' who are not eligible for the government funded fuel poverty programmes, which could include innovative finance products to enable households to install retrofit measures	Early development	Homes supported (who are not eligible for fuel poverty programmes)	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, Banks and building societies	2024-2030+
RNZ14	Retrofit of private rented homes Working with housing enforcement, letting agents, and the private sector landlords forum to promote retrofit improvements into tenanted housing stock.	Not yet commenced	Numbers of private rented sector properties where retrofit improvements are made	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team, Housing enforcement,	Private Sector Landlords, Letting Agents	2025-2030+
RNZ15	Affordable Warmth Programme Provide an affordable warmth/energy advice service to promote domestic retrofit and direct residents to the most appropriate retrofit grants for their homes as to complement Fairer Green Futures actions.	Already underway	Number of residents accessing service and number of homes treated with retrofit measures.	Coventry City Council Climate Change team	Act On Energy, Fair Green Futures Pathway Group,	Ongoing
RNZ16	Energy Saving Campaigns Raise awareness of how residents can use less energy, and what programmes could support them. We will do this by keeping an up-to-date website, and promote through a full range of marketing and promotional activity and seek innovative ways to raise awareness.	Already underway	Number of residents receiving advice	Coventry City Council Climate Change team	Strategic Energy Partnership, Act on Energy, Low Emissions Pathway Group	2024-2030+
RNZ17	Retrofit Market Segmentation Research Work with universities and organisations across the city to raise awareness of retrofit and insulation, and to ensure residents are aware how they can use less energy. Continuation of the St Augustine's School Pilot to develop a teaching pack for schools across Coventry and to establish two further school pilots with market segmentation analysis of two identified schools	Early development	1. Numbers of people engaged in campaigns and programmes. 2. Increase in uptake of households in targeted retrofit programmes	Coventry City Council Climate Change team	Low Emissions Pathway Group, Strategic Energy Partner, Coventry University, University of Warwick, Act on Energy, community groups, housing providers	2024-2026
RNZ18	Develop an exemplar new low carbon housing development in the city, which achieves EPC A or ideally passivhaus, with provision for low carbon transport and active travel, to be complemented by high quality green and blue space creation to increase biodiversity and be climate resilient.	Not yet commenced	Delivery of low carbon housing development, number of dwellings delivered with EPC A or passivhaus, active travel measures and green and blue space delivered	Private Sector	Coventry City Council, Strategic Energy Partnership	2026-2030+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
Business & 3rd sector						
RNZ19	Business Support Energy Business Advisors continue to work with businesses through the Council's Business Support Team to provide free sustainability consultancy & delivery energy efficiency audits, providing recommendations to small and medium businesses in Coventry to implement energy efficiency measures within their businesses.	Already underway	Energy audits delivered Carbon abated	Economic Development Service	Pro-Enviro, Aston University, WMG, The Chamber, Destination Coventry	By end March 2025 with plan to extend
RNZ20	Business Grants Programmes team within EDS continue delivery of funded programmes to support businesses with grants towards energy efficiency improvements. There are energy efficiency grants available from £1,000-£100,000 up to 50% intervention rate. There are two grant programmes ; UKSPF - Net Zero Grants & BEAS Energy Efficiency Grants (Both Capital grants, which can be applied for following the completion of a energy efficiency audit.	Already underway	Number of businesses supported and amount of grant provided Carbon abated	Economic Development Service	Pro-Enviro, Aston University, WMG, Birmingham City Council	By end March 2025 with plan to extend
RNZ21	The Green Business Network continues to build on success of current membership of 3500 local businesses through running seminars, training events, podcasts, webinars to further expand network and participation	Already underway	Number of Green Business Network	Economic Development Service	Pro-Enviro, Aston University, WMG, other West Midlands Local Authorities	By end March 2025 with plan to extend
RNZ22	Business Sustain Continue work of trading arm Business Sustain to provide environmental services and support to large businesses all over the UK and beyond	Already underway	Number of businesses supported	Economic Development Service (Business Sustain)	Other Local Authorities nationally	Ongoing
RNZ23	Supporting non-domestic properties To establish ways of securing finance for Non-Domestic Owner/Occupiers and Long Lease Holders to improve the energy efficiency of the buildings they occupy or meet the requirements of Heat Network Zoning.	Not yet commenced	Number of properties supported Investment secured Carbon abated	Climate Change Team, Strategic Energy Partnership, Facilities Management	Strategic Energy Partnership	2024-2030+
RNZ24	MEES To establish ways of securing finance for Commercial Property Landlords to deliver on the requirements of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards and Heat Network Zoning.	Not yet commenced	Investment secured Investment secured Carbon abated	Climate Change Team, Strategic Energy Partnership, Facilities Management	Strategic Energy Partnership	2024-2030+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
Transport						
RNZ25	Active Travel Continue to deliver significant infrastructure improvements to promote walking and cycling across the city. This will be supported by development of a local walking and cycling improvement plan to help deliver better connectivity, accessibility and to provide a focus on behavioural change promoting the benefits of cycling as a mode of transport including public health.	Already underway	% of trips made by walking and cycling; Area of infrastructure upgrades delivered (including kms cycle routes, new crossings)	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Transport for West Midlands, Active Travel England, Sustrans	Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) to be published by 2025, with timelines for individual schemes also set out in the Coventry Transport Strategy
RNZ26	All Electric Bus City Complete delivery of the All Electric Bus City project	Already underway	100% of buses operating in the city to be electric	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Transport for West Midlands, National Express, Stagecoach	By end of 2025
RNZ27	Public Transport Improvements Continue to deliver significant improvements to the city's public transport system - including bus and rail and more on demand services. Explore how opportunities of West Midlands bus franchising strategy can support delivering improvements in Coventry.	Already underway	% of trips made by bus, rail and on-demand	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Transport for West Midlands, bus and rail operators	Timelines for individual schemes as set out in the Coventry Transport Strategy
RNZ28	Coventry Very Light Rail Delivery of the first Very Light Rail route in Coventry. This includes delivery of the initial city-centre based demonstrator route which will serve as a pilot, and if successful development of the first passenger route	Early development	Successful pilot of CVLVR demonstrator, delivery of first route, CLVR patronage	Coventry City Council Transport Team	DfT, Transport for West Midlands, WMG and CVLVR consortium	Demonstrator project by 2026 Full first route to follow post 2027
RNZ29	EV Charging Network Expansion Continue to expand the city's network of publicly available electric vehicle charge points, to accelerate the transition from petrol and diesel powered vehicles	Already underway	1. Number of electric vehicles registered in Coventry 2. kWh of charge dispensed via rapid and residential charge points	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, other chargepoint providers, car dealerships, businesses	Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy to be published by end of 2024, with timelines for individual schemes also set out in the Coventry Transport Strategy
RNZ30	EV Charging Infrastructure at Home Deliver innovative solutions to support electric vehicle charging at home, such as using kerbside cable gullies to support on-street charging	Early development	Number of households supported on installs of electric charging infrastructure	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, other chargepoint providers	Pilot project by 2025
RNZ31	Campaigns involving communities and businesses to encourage behaviour change Take steps to encourage and incentivise residents to change their travel behaviour, including through the use of 'Mobility Credits'	Already underway	% of trips made by sustainable modes Take up of Mobility Credits	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Transport for West Midlands	Ongoing activity

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
RNZ32	EV Mobility Hubs – Local electric vehicle infrastructure programme Development of mobility hubs across the city, providing secure electric charging for cars and e-bikes, with potential to power via renewable energy where appropriate to install a solar canopy	Early development	Number of hubs delivered, usage of hubs by the public	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Charge point providers Transport for West Midlands	Initial pilots to be delivered 2025–26
RNZ33	Improve accessibility to charging infrastructure Increase opportunities for more accessible charging infrastructure for disabled car users, which includes piloting new solutions such as wireless technology and working with Motability to support drivers in the city	Early development	Number of accessible electric charging points installed, use of accessible charging points	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, other chargepoint providers, Transport for West Midlands, Motability	Initial pilots to be delivered by 2025
RNZ34	Undertake the decarbonisation of the Council Operational Fleet	Already underway	% fleet which is net zero	Coventry City Council Environmental Services	Strategic Energy Partnership	2024–2027
RNZ35	To promote the use of electric vehicles by the provision of rental electric vehicles for trial periods and to promote the development of EV Charging points on business premises.	Not yet commenced	Number of trials of rental electric vehicles & Number of EV charging points on business premises	Coventry City Council Transport Team	Strategic Energy Partnership, other chargepoint providers, car dealerships, businesses	2025–2027
RNZ36	Travel Planning To support initiatives which advise and assist employers to promote commuter plans and car sharing schemes for commuting to work to reduce carbon emissions	Already underway	Number of businesses/organisations with Travel Plans	Coventry City Council – Climate Change Team, Transport Team, HR	Transport for West Midlands, Growth Hub, Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce, Strategic Energy Partnership	Ongoing
RNZ37	Support measures to grow and promote local second hand electric vehicle market	Not yet commenced	Number of second hand electric vehicle dealerships in the city, number of secondhand electric vehicles purchased, number of households with an electric car, number of businesses using electric vans	Coventry City Council – Climate Change, Transport, Communications	Car dealerships, businesses	2025–2030+
Public Sector Estate						
RNZ38	Develop strategy and action plan for decarbonisation of the Council Operational Estate toward Net Zero by 2050. To meet or exceed the interim targets of 50% reduction by 2032 and 75% reduction by 2037 from a 2017 baseline.	Already underway	Council Operational Estate Decarbonisation Action Plan Developed and delivering on target requirements	Coventry City Council Facilities Management	Strategic Energy Partnership	50% by 2032
RNZ39	LED Upgrade – PFI Street Lighting. investing in energy efficient Street lighting LED technology, whilst giving a better quality of light and achieving a significant saving on energy consumption and carbon reduction (1200 tonnes per year).	Early development	Number of street columns replaced, carbon and energy savings, number of street lamps re-used	Coventry City Council	Balfour Beatty	2025–2027

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
RNZ40	Commercial property energy efficiency improvements (MEES) – To find a means to enable us to make energy efficiency improvements to property that we own but do not pay the bills for electricity and gas and to find way to stimulate investment in other private sector property owners including examining the potential of using blockchain technology.	Already underway	% of Commercial Properties EPC B or better	Coventry City Council – Commercial Property (CPM) Energy Management Services and Climate Change team	Strategic Energy Partnership	2028 (provisional)
RNZ41	Develop strategy and action plan for decarbonisation of the Coventry Education Estate toward Net Zero by 2050. To meet or exceed the interim targets of 50% reduction by 2032 and 75% reduction by 2037 from a 2017 baseline.	Already underway	Education Estate Decarbonisation Action Plan Developed and delivering on target requirements	Coventry City Council – Education, Facilities Management	Strategic Energy Partnership	50% by 2032
RNZ42	Support the development of decarbonisation strategies of the wider Public Sector Estate towards Net Zero by 2050. To meet or exceed the interim targets of 50% reduction by 2032 and 75% reduction by 2037 from a 2017 baseline	Already underway	Public Sector Stakeholders have decarbonisation plans in place and are delivering on target requirements	Coventry City Council Climate Change and Energy Management Teams	Climate Change Board, Strategic Energy Partnership, CDEC	50% by 2032
RNZ43	Continue to source at least 15% of Council Energy Use from locally sourced renewables	Already underway	% of Energy Demand sourced from Local Renewables meets or exceeds target	Coventry City Council Energy Management	Strategic Energy Partnership, other energy providers	Ongoing
RNZ44	Aim to include Water Related Emissions to CCC Operational Estate Scope 3 Reporting	Not yet commenced	Water Related Emissions added to Operational Estate Annual Reporting	Coventry City Council Energy Management	n/a	2024
RNZ45	Scope 2 reporting To identify opportunities and methods to broaden the range of Scope 3 emissions to be reported for CCC Operational Estate and other Public Sector Estate Reporting.	Not yet commenced	Development of more robust Scope 3 reporting, which will help to inform future decarbonisation plans	Coventry City Council Energy Management		2026–2028

3. Circular Economy

Objective: To minimise waste and increase re-use and recycling of materials to create a successful local circular economy

Workstream/Activity	Measure of Success	Who	When	
General				
CE1	New Waste Strategy Production of new Waste Strategy for Coventry, setting out more detail of how the city will support development of a circular economy and tackle challenges to minimise waste and boost repair, re-use and recycling including promoting behavioural change to promote recycling and re-use.	1. Formal adoption of new Waste Strategy with clear commitments to follow the waste hierarchy promoting re-use etc.	Coventry City Council WMG, Tom White Waste, Circular Economy Pathway Group	2025–2026

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REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CE2	Waste campaigns To carry out a number of campaigns and behavioural change projects and initiatives at the Citywide and neighbourhood level to encourage an increase in recycling participation rates and greater support for re-use and repair.	Not yet commenced	1. Number of campaigns/behavioural change projects; 2. Socio demographic market segmentation Analysis of the levels of participation across the city Increase in recycling participation in target areas	Coventry City Council	Sherbourne Resource Park, WMCA, neighbouring authorities	2025–2030+
CE3	Improve data collection and reporting, including working with the private sector to collect commercial waste data which is essential to support business case development for local circular economy projects	Not yet commenced	1. Establishing a reporting mechanism for collecting citywide commercial waste data	Coventry City Council	Private sector, Defra, West Midlands Combined Authority, Local Universities	2026
Repair & Re-Use						
CE4	#Coventry Connects – electronic device bank to support communities and individuals who are digitally excluded. This involves donation of unwanted devices from local organisations, refurbishment of equipment and distribution of equipment and digital training. Programme has been running successfully over a year, there are plans to build on this through increasing donations and the amount of participants in the programme.	Already underway	1. Number of devices donated by organisations; 2. Number of devices refurbished; 3. Number of refurbished devices donated; 4. Number of people undertaking digital training; 5. Environmental benefits of diverting electronic waste from landfill (CO2 and water)	Coventry City Council	WMG, local businesses and organisations, charities, communities and individuals	2023–2025 (with plans to extend)
CE5	Development of a citywide construction waste re-use hub	Not yet commenced	1. Creation of re-use hub; 2. Amount of materials donated; 3. Amount of materials purchased; 4. Amount of waste diverted from landfill; 5. Environmental benefits of diverting construction waste from landfill	Coventry City Council	WMCA	Develop a viable Business Plan for securing investment for a construction waste re-use hub 2025 – delivery 2026–2029
CE6	Commercial waste To develop links and new products and services with the Council's commercial waste arms length company Tom White Waste, Business Support Team and Business Sustain services, engaging new partners and building industry support.	Not yet commenced	1. Number of businesses engaged; 2. Number of new products and services delivered	Coventry City Council	Tom Whites, wide business community	2026
CE7	Develop research-led circular economy pilot/showcase initiatives with businesses to develop new markets and opportunities for management of commercial waste,	Not yet commenced	1. Number of projects piloted; 2. Reduction in commercial waste of businesses involved 3. Amount of commercial waste diverted from landfill/incineration for those businesses involved	Coventry City Council	Universities, Local businesses	2025–2030+
CE8	Develop circular economy resources To develop an online resource promoting re-use and repair with advice on how to extend the life of products combined with a media and comms strategy	Not yet commenced	1. Publication of online resource; 2. Funding secured to develop resources and tools; 3. Number of people accessing resource	Coventry City Council	WMCA	2026

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CE9	Promoting reuse of community resources to reduce financial pressures on families (eg furniture EMAUS)	Not yet commenced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of campaigns/behavioural change projects; 2. Number of social enterprises supported; 3. Number of new social enterprises in Coventry; 2. Increase in reuse/repair of community resources 	Coventry City Council	Charities and social enterprises, voluntary sector, local businesses	2025–2030+
CE10	Increase citywide re-use and repair To develop and further enhance existing neighbourhood based and citywide re-use, hire and repair services across the city, including social enterprises.	Not yet commenced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in uptake in people accessing services in city 2. Number of new services offering hire and repair 	Coventry City Council	Communities, WMCA, other local authorities, C&W Chamber of Commerce	2026
Recycle						
CE11	Increase the range of materials that can be recycled through household waste to boost citywide recycling rates and increase supply of materials to the Materials Recycling Facility, which will contribute to increasing the number of markets that recycled materials supply	Already underway	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in range of materials recycled 2. Increase in citywide household recycling rates 3. Increase in recycled materials processed by the MRF 4. Increase in amount of recycled materials the MRF supplies to new markets 	Coventry City Council	Sherbourne Resource Park, WMCA, neighbouring authorities, all households	2025
CE12	Roll out of citywide household food waste collection service	Not yet commenced	Increase in household food waste collected	Coventry City Council		2026
CE13	Develop the infrastructure for Coventry to be the nations leading city for WEEE waste recycling. Greenpower Park is an important part of this solution for battery recycling which is a long term strategy. In the Quick Win there is an opportunity for business growth in WEEE waste recycling which can build on success of the digital recycling project to support further development of a circular economy for electronic waste that can benefit local people and generate wider environmental and social benefits.	Not yet commenced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tonnage of WEEE waste kept out of landfill; 2. Amount of CO2 savings from WEEE waste being diverted from landfill; 3. Number of devices donated to support digital recycling project; 4. Number of people/community groups that benefit from donations of digital devices. 	Coventry City Council	WMG, local businesses and organisations, community organisations, voluntary organisations, charities	2025–2030+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
E14	Development Council procurement policy to include circularity criteria in contracts for future projects, alongside embodied carbon to encourage more suppliers to adopt a more circular approach to waste and energy. This is something that could be adopted by other organisations across the city. Criteria could include traceable recycled material content, use of low emission suppliers, evidence of design for circularity, disassembly or sustainable disposal and evidence of material minimisation and not overdesign. Embodied emissions can be calculated to demonstrate the environmental benefits of future projects that adopt a more circular approach to waste.	Not yet commenced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Production of new circular economy policy adopted as part of Council's procurement framework; 2. Impacts will be monitored for each contract 3. Adoption of this approach by other Coventry organisations 	Coventry City Council (Climate Change and Procurement)	WMG, local organisations	End of 2025

4. Nature Based

Objective: Support nature recovery and create more accessible green and blue space for wildlife to thrive and communities to enjoy

Workstream/Activity	Measure of Success	Who	When	
NB1	<p>Development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Coventry in line with the Environment Act 2021. This is a spatial strategy which must agree priorities for nature's recovery, will map the most valuable existing areas for nature alongside specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals. which will which will inform priority areas of focus and opportunities for nature recovery</p>	<p>Already underway</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Completion of Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Coventry 	<p>West Midlands Combined Authority</p> <p>CCC and key partners such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Natural England, Canal and Rivers Trust, Severn Trent and neighbouring authorities, alongside landowners and community groups.</p>	End of 2025
NB2	<p>Development of a Green and Blue Plan for Coventry, based on data and supported by overarching principles for delivery which will provide a more strategic approach to land planning and unlock sites for nature, alongside improving access to green space. This will be informed by the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and include a database of the City's land assets and their potential nature conservation value. This should begin with a city-wide, in-depth species and habitat survey, which uses up-to-date information to assess the existing state of our land and the opportunities for enhancements. This will inform decisions on land use targets, such as managing 30% of our land for nature and should prioritise addressing inequalities in green space and ecosystem service distribution.</p>	<p>Early development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Political approval of a Green and Blue Plan for Coventry; 2 Development of green and blue data base, which will be presented as an interactive map on the Council website 3 Detailed baseline habitat survey for Coventry 	<p>Coventry City Council</p> <p>working with Nature-Based Pathway Group, support from WMCA as part of Local Nature Recover Strategy and wider work with 3rd sector organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Butterfly Conservation (Warwickshire) etc. and the voluntary sector</p>	End of 2025 (in line with Local Nature Recovery Strategy)

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
NB3	To develop an approach for monitoring biodiversity and habitat quality changes over time to enforce biodiversity net gain and ensure we progress in our aims to enhance green infrastructure and address inequalities in access to high-quality natural green spaces. Need to also relate to private gardens and community allotments to residents can support.	Early development	1 The production of a biodiversity progress report	Coventry City Council	working with Nature-Based Pathway Group, support from WMCA as part of Local Nature Recover Strategy and wider work with Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and University of Warwick/Coventry University	End of 2025 (in line with statutory reporting duty)
NB4	Produce a natural capital prospectus for Coventry, to include development of natural capital pipeline, financial models and obtain partner support, as part of WMCA's Local Investment in Natural Capital Programme	Early development	1. Development of natural capital pipeline; 2. Launch of a natural capital prospectus; 3. Investment in natural capital schemes from both public and private sectors	West Midlands Combined Authority	Coventry City Council, with support from Nature Based Pathway Group and key partners inc Natural England	Prospectus by end of 2025; Investment up to 2030
NB5	Continue development of partnership projects to improve biodiversity and create habitat across the City, building on success of Sherbourne Valley project. This could include developing a similar programme for the River Sowe Corridor, where there are aspirations to create an urban country park and better connect communities along the corridor, including UHCW and community hubs.	Already underway	1. Investment secured for new projects; 2. Number of projects delivered; 3. Increase in biodiversity	Coventry City Council	Support from Nature Based Pathway Group, Climate Change Board, key partners such as UHCW and community and voluntary groups	2024-2030+
NB6	Delivery of the city's Urban Forestry Strategy, planting 360,000 trees across the city. This should particularly target areas where there is less green space and tree coverage, and will be delivered by a mix of tree planting in green spaces and through street-trees in more urban built up areas. As part of this, the Council needs to continually review maintenance to promote retention of healthy trees and use planning policy to ensure trees aren't lost to development.	Already underway	1. Number of trees planted; 2. Increase in total number of city's trees (through planting and retention); 3. Increase of tree canopy cover from 11% towards 20% 4. Provide equity in the delivery and distribution of tree canopy cover	Coventry City Council	Investors, land owners, local businesses, communities and individuals	2032
NB7	Nature Based Research To continue to work closely with local academic experts at Coventry University and the University of Warwick to integrate best practice approaches to green infrastructure enhancements, develop funding bids and research projects	Already underway	1. Investment secured for new projects; 2. Number of projects delivered; 3. Increase in biodiversity	Coventry City Council	Coventry University, University of Warwick and other partners as appropriate	2024-2030+

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REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
NB8	To encourage opportunities to improve water quality in Coventry in line with the requirements of The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 through methods such as deculverting, renaturalising where possible in existing water bodies and through robust influence over new development.	Already underway	1. Improvement of the quality of watercourses in the city; 2. Amount of investment in river restoration and enhancement schemes;	Coventry City Council	Support from external partners such as Severn Trent, Environment Agency, Canal and River Trust and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	2024-2030+
NB9	To implement conservation management techniques in parks and open spaces where opportunities exist to improve biodiversity and encourage community engagement in wildlife conservation activities.	Already underway	1. Number of parks and green spaces where conservation measures are implemented; 2. Number of volunteers involved in supporting conservation activities	Coventry City Council	Volunteers including community groups friends of park groups, residents and business community	2024-2026+
NB10	To create green corridors across the city to support nature, through a mix of features including street trees, green walls and roofs, bee-friendly bus stops, wildflower meadow areas within the adopted highway, rain gardens and sustainable urban drainage systems aiming to address inequalities in access to greenspace and achieve Natural England ANGST targets.	Early development	1. Number of schemes delivered across the city 2. Extent of new green space created 3. Number of schemes delivered in areas with poor access to green space 4. Uplift in areas where ANGST targets are achieved	Coventry City Council	Businesses, developers, households, Transport for West Midlands, bus operators, community groups	2024-2030+
NB11	Landscape-scale natural restoration project – To seek out landscape-scale restoration through the creation and long-term enhancement of woodlands, grasslands and river corridors, creating new nature reserves and improving existing to support the aims of managing 30% of our land for nature by 2030 in conjunction with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Larger projects are likely to involve collaboration with neighbouring local authorities and partners.	Early development	1. The implementation of a landscape scale project 2. Biodiversity Net Gain units created	Coventry City Council	Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Nature Based Pathway Group, investors, neighbouring local authorities	2024-2026+
NB12	Training and Skills across CCC To engage a variety of departments across the local authority in how their actions and means of delivering services can impact biodiversity to identify opportunities for nature-based integration. This will be done through training and developing new policy guidance, alongside more sustainable procurement.	Not yet commenced	Use of TOMs framework to demonstrate value added	Coventry City Council	Nature Based Pathway Group	2025-2026+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
NB13	Community involvement To encourage and stimulate opportunities for communities to engage with ecosystem restoration and conservation activities, such as tree or bulb planting, and citizen science events like the City Nature Challenge. Biodiversity enhancement events should be highlighted through onsite interpretation, the Council website, and social media.	Already underway	1. Number of engagement and awareness campaigns; 2. Number of sign ups to campaigns; 3. Number of participants at events	Coventry City Council	Nature Based Pathway Group, Community and voluntary groups, residents and businesses	Ongoing
NB14	Training and skills – citywide To upskill existing staff and volunteers in the management of green spaces for nature, including developing training in conservation management skills, which can be implemented in parks and areas of open space in Coventry. Includes Friends of Groups in parks and other community voluntary groups.	Not yet commenced	1. Launch of training programme; 2. Number of staff and volunteers that have undertaken training; 3. Qualifications gained by participants	Coventry City Council	Support from partners such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Garden Organic	2025–2026
NB15	To promote positive and sustainable individual action, such as attracting wildlife to private gardens, growing food at home and composting. This will be done through educational materials and training opportunities.	Not yet commenced	1. Nature campaigns for targeted action; 2. Number of sign ups to campaigns;	Nature Based Pathway Group to coordinate campaigns, with organisations contributing including CCC and our Outdoor Education team, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent, Garden Organic, Canal and Rivers Trust	Led by residents and community groups, RSPB	2025–2027
NB16	Schools National Park Support schools with DfE scheme to create a national park across the country's schools estate. Project will require us to continue to work with schools on developing wildlife areas, as well as cross-curricular teaching and promoting the appreciation and understanding of biodiversity and nature-based issues.	Already underway	1. The development of a nature-based education programme; 2. Number of schools participating in programme; 3. Uplift in biodiversity achieved across the city's schools	Coventry City Council Outdoor Education team	Department for Education Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent, Garden Organic and Canal and Rivers Trust	2025–2027
NB17	Tiny Forests Delivery of a network of 'tiny forests' across Coventry, which are small but dense areas of woodland which support biodiversity	Funding preliminarily secured	Number of tiny forests delivered, number of trees planted	Coventry City Council and Earthwatch	Community and volunteer groups	2025–2028

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
B18	Ensure that new development supports nature through strengthening local planning policy via the Local Plan Review. This will build on the existing biodiversity net gain supplementary planning guidance and ensure new developments incorporate measures to support local nature recovery e.g. inclusion of swift bricks, controlling nature of LED lighting, bat boxes, alongside wider green and blue infrastructure measures through biodiversity net gain.	Already underway	1. Adoption of revised Local Plan	Coventry City Council	Developers, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, RSPB	2025–2030+

5. Fairer Green Future

Objective: To deliver a just transition to a net zero city, ensuring that the impacts of climate change and interventions don't disproportionately impact on our most vulnerable communities

Workstream/Activity		Measure of Success	Who	When		
FG1	Development of a Just Transition Plan for Coventry – setting out key objectives and a framework for how a just transition in the city will be delivered	Early development	Development of Framework; Appointment of Just Transition Lead for city and Steering Group to support activity setting an example to influence others in City & beyond	Coventry City Council	Fairer Green Future Pathway Group, local businesses and communities	2025
FG2	Develop a Green Skills Roadmap for Coventry, to understand green skills gaps and training requirements, alongside sectors that will need to transition to support move to net zero	Early Development	Development of road map and a Green Skills Strategy	Coventry City Council (Climate Change and Sustainability team, Skills Team and Green Skills Sub Group)	Partners from public and private sectors, alongside education and training providers, WMCA	2025
FGF4	Provide an affordable warmth/energy advice service targeting low income and vulnerable households in Coventry	Already underway	Number of residents accessing service. Number of residents with a vulnerability accessing service. Number of energy efficiency measures installed.	Coventry City Council (Public Health team in partnership with Climate Change and Sustainability team)	NEA	Ongoing
FG5	Raise awareness of fuel poverty; its causes and how to support residents living with its effects.	Already underway	Number of professionals trained on affordable warmth and fuel poverty issues.	Coventry City Council (Public Health team, supported by Climate Change and Sustainability team)	NEA	Ongoing
FG6	To monitor indoor air quality in properties pre and post retrofit including temperature, relative humidity and pm2.5 and pm10 to inform priority measures for addressing condensation and damp in order to enable energy efficiency improvements to be made in properties previously	Not yet commenced	Increased number of properties benefiting from retrofit activities that previously could not and improvements in health as a result of reductions in condensation damp and mould	Coventry City Council (Sustainability Team, Housing Enforcement, Public Health)	Act on Energy, University of Birmingham, Citizen Housing, Birmingham City Council	2026–2028

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
FG7	To undertake a market segmentation analysis of the city of Coventry with detailed focus groups and surveys of each market segment in order to understand perceptions and barriers to the take up of retrofit grants or commitment to secure funding for improvements by Private Sector landlords to enable retrofitting properties for households suffering from fuel poverty – overlaps with Fairer Green and Route to Net Zero Pathways – with the former focusing on community involvement and the latter on the nature of the questions asked in Focus Groups and surveys etc.	Not yet commenced	Increased uptake of grants for the benefit of tenants living in private rented and social landlord properties. Improvements in health as a consequence of affordable warmth and improved living conditions.	Coventry City Council (Sustainability Team, Public Health Team, Housing Enforcement Team)	Act on Energy, University of Warwick, Citizen Housing, Royal College of Physicians, NHS National Data Team	Dependent upon Grant application from Partnership for £2.5m over 3 years
FG8	Net-Zero Neighbourhood – develop the city's first net-zero neighbourhood – looking at access to green space, energy efficiency, CVLR etc and to establish positive relationships with community representatives and organisations to raise awareness and obtain commitment and support from local people to make the Net Zero Neighbourhood a reality. NB: The implementation of the Net Zero Programme is covered by the Route to Net Zero Pathway Group the role of this group is to support community engagement and ensure a Just Transition is implemented.	Early development	An Established Net Zero Neighbourhood with evidence of community involvement in the design and delivery of the Project	Coventry City Council (Sustainability Team with support from other Depts notably Transport and community resilience).	The Strategic Energy Partnership, the Climate Change Board's Fairer Green Pathway Group and Low Emissions Group, Act on Energy, (Hillfields NEA Group?)	2024-2027
FG9	School Climate Change Support – Development of an integrated curriculum to support secondary schools, and to look at how schools are run to link the learning to making schools an exemplar	Not yet commenced	Number of schools signing up to the Council's Sustainable Schools Programme	Coventry City Council Education, Outdoor Education, Climate Change Team	Third sector organisations with interests in environmental education etc.	2026
FG10	Schools Campaigns Work with schools to create an educational resource for schools raise awareness of children about the science of energy insulation and its importance to combating climate change, reducing fuel bills and affordable warmth with home surveys where children can act as catalysts for change development and refinement of educational materials and resources for use by Primary Schools across the City. Initial pilot at St Augustines School.	Already underway	Number of schools making use of resources and number of requests for advice and support from households as a result of the Projects	Warwick University with Coventry City Council	Act On Energy, National Energy Action (NEA), Strategic Energy Partnership	2024-2026+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
FG11	Partnering with C&W Integrated Care Board – promotion of eco-flex for clinically vulnerable people with pharmacy practices building upon the University of Warwick’s outline plan to develop automated referrals associated with repeat prescriptions for identified clinical conditions which are automatically eligible for ECOFlex	Not yet commenced	The number of residents with the identified eligible clinical conditions who receive practical advice and support and the improvements in home energy ratings as a result.	NHS Integrated Care Board with Coventry City Council	Agility Eco, Eon, ICB NHS	2025–2026
FG12	Delivery of Coventry’s Air Quality Action Plan – measures include infrastructure improvements, greening and active travel measures, alongside targeted campaigns to encourage behaviour change	Already underway	Improvements in Air Quality across the city, particularly in hot spots which the Air Quality Action Plan seeks to address	Coventry City Council (Sustainability, public health, transport and environmental health)	WMCA, Defra	Ongoing
FG14	Coventry Grows Programme – pilot to create a network of community growing sites across the city to support food growing and wildlife. Includes training for groups to learn new skills around food growing, harvesting and cooking. Opportunity for social prescribing to improve the physical health and mental well-being of participants. Establishment of a local steering group to support citywide activity, showcase best practice and provide guidance and case studies. Toolkit to be produced to support community groups interested in creating a community growing site. Citywide map of potential growing sites to be developed and legal framework to be simplified to grant access to sites for community cultivation.	Early development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of community gardening sites established; 2. Amount of investment in community gardening sites; 3. Number of participants in community gardening schemes; 4. Number of volunteers attending training courses; 5. Positive social prescribing outcomes 	Coventry City Council	E.ON, local businesses, landowners	2025–2026+
FG15	Making better use of our allotment network – Increase in participation in local allotments across the city – includes community plots, smaller plots which are more manageable for individuals and families, opportunities for shared plots as well as working with allotment plot holders to provide surplus local seasonal produce to food banks and the Food Network. To support this there are aspirations to create a new digital platform to increase engagement, involvement and provide support and resource library.	Not yet commenced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased participation from volunteers in city’s allotment network 2. Donations of surplus produce to local networks 3. Creation of digital platform 	Coventry City Council partnered with the Coventry Allotment Association.	Charities including Food Network and local food banks, community groups, individuals	2026
FG16	Support development of community woodlands	Early development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of community woodlands created 2. Participation in community woodland sites, captured through events, footfall 	Coventry City Council supporting community organisations/CICs	Grapevine, voluntary groups, Outdoor Education	2025–2026

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
FG17	Outdoor Education space in nature- development of hub and spoke model, creating outdoor spaces and facilities which schools can use as an educational resource with associated educational materials	Already underway	Identified locations for schools to use with accessible associated teaching resources	Coventry City Council Outdoor Education team	Schools, other organisations delivering education training such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust	2026-2028
FG18	Food Network - To make further progress towards 'Sustainable Food Places' Bronze Award by strengthening the connectivity between food banks and food growing initiatives across the City and the supporting the development of community food growing initiatives across the city. To explore the opportunities for social subscribing to support community food growing and gardening projects with horticultural therapy and other benefits.	Early development	The numbers of people growing food for local consumption and the Area of land devoted to community food growing.	Coventry City Council Climate Change and Sustainability, Parks, Community Resilience and adult social care	Integrated Care Board, GP's, Canals & Rivers Trust, Housing Associations,	2025-2026
FG19	To support the development of Community Supermarkets and to use them as information points to raise awareness of sustainability and opportunities to access grants and advice relating to food growing, energy efficiency, active travel, public transport etc.	Already underway	No's of people engaged in community food growing projects	Coventry City Council, Coventry Food Network.	Food Network, BITC, Groundwork	2025-2030+
FG20	Supporting development of social enterprises as vehicles for the delivery of environmental projects, social care and support which help people on low incomes which help local communities to share and repair goods and services by identifying and nurturing potential social-entrepreneurs with interests including Skills and employment training	Not yet commenced	The number of viable community based projects and initiatives which provide services to the public	Coventry City Council	CDA	2027
FG21	City of Culture Green Legacy Projects - building on green futures theme during City of Culture, using arts and culture to engage communities on environmental issues and develop projects	Not yet commenced	Number of people engaged through culture and arts-based initiatives; number of arts-based projects with environmental theme delivered in Coventry	Coventry City Council	Culture Coventry, local creative groups and artists	2025-2030+
FG22	Air Alert and Breathe Easy App for use by residents across the City who have received diagnosis of pulmonary and respiratory health conditions which inform residents of air quality conditions with warnings on days where the pollution levels are high and present a risk and to encourage activity on the majority of days when there is not a significant risk.	Not yet commenced	Number of vulnerable residents satisfaction levels in the use of the app	Integrated Care Board with Coventry City Council	GP's, community nurses care workers etc.	2027

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REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
FG23	Air quality monitoring(real time) and linking to street activity, beginning with nine air quality monitors which will join a regional air quality sensor network	Already underway	PM2.5, PM10 and NOx pollutant levels measured and tracked to demonstrate stabilisation and improvements in air quality on a local and regional footprint	WMCA, Coventry City Council (Public Health, Environmental Protection)	NHS ICB	2024-2030+
FG24	Improve local air quality (indoor and outdoor) through a reduction in from domestic woodburning stoves, delivered via a behavioural change campaign.	Early stage development	Improvements in air quality at neighbourhood levels, reduction in PM2.5 levels. Residents engaged to in using alternative modes of heating or fuels (including retrofit measures) to create a warmer home.	Coventry City Council (Public Health, Environmental Protection), WMCA, WSP, Behaviouralist.	NHS ICB	2024-2025
FG25	Staff Training To develop a training programme for staff to develop their community participatory and engagement skills with the use of established effective methods for identifying needs and seeking a consensus on ways forward in addressing issues etc e.g. Future Search, guided visualisation, Planning for Real, Participatory Budgeting, citizens juries, participatory appraisal etc.	Not yet commenced	Percentage public satisfaction with CCC consultation and engagement exercises	Coventry City Council and partners linked to the Climate Change Board	Climate Change Board and its members	End of 2025
FG26	To learn from Warwickshire County Councils successful 'Food for Life' Programme in schools, early years settings, care homes and hospitals etc and seek ways of applying an equivalent for Coventry integrating dietary awareness, food growing and cookery skills etc.	Not yet commenced	Schools, Early Years and Care settings joining the Food for Life awards programme, Development of local projects to raise awareness and improve standards and skills associated with food provided within these institutions and the development of key skills relating to healthy eating cooking and food growing.	Coventry City Council (Climate Change and sustainability, education, adult social care)	Food for Life (national charity), Soil association	End of 2026
FG27	Library Service campaign The Library Service will organise special awareness raising events and activities as part of its community programme with the setting up of book sections and public information directories devoted to sustainability and climate change and promoting the services use of environmental technologies to reduce its carbon footprint.	Not yet commenced	Increase in take up and reading of books relating to sustainability and climate change across libraries. This should help lead towards behavioural change and cultural shifts e.g. increased participation rates in recycling, cycling, use of public transport etc.	Coventry City Council Library Service	NGO's and community organisations	End of 2025

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
FG28	Academic Research To work with the Universities in the development of the D School Concept bringing together academics and practitioners from a broad range of faculties and disciplines to look at real life problems and with blue sky creative design thinking problem solve and come up with potential solutions to wicked issues which impact upon sustainability and climate change (Design Thinking solutions to complex sustainability issues)	Already underway	The initiation of innovative projects which come up with creative solutions to difficult to address issues including all areas across the Strategy from Net Zero to Fairer Greener, Circular Economy etc.	Coventry City Council and Climate Change Board members	Universities, University of Warwick already engaging with putting concept into practice	End of 2027
6. Council Actions						
Training & development						
CCC1	Mandatory staff training programme for climate change and sustainability	Not yet commenced	Launch of training modules/ course for staff / Pilot training pack with the Disabled Employee Network to ensure accessibility for all employees with disabilities. % of staff that have completed training Also engage with staff who do not have the use of English as their first language to ensure communication is accessible.	Climate Change Team to lead whole Council to participate potentially in partnership with other local authorities or professional bodies	Fast Followers Fund UK GOV	By December 2025
CCC2	Bespoke Member and Leadership training for climate change and sustainability	Not yet commenced	% of Leadership team that have completed training % of Members that have completed training	Climate Change Team to lead, all Members and Leadership Board to participate	Neighbouring authorities	By December 2025
CCC3	Create a Green Employee Network, to encourage sustainability champions, share knowledge and offer guidance and support	Early development	Launch of Green Employee Network & CC Strategy Number of staff participating in Network Number of Sustainability Champions Participation in Green Employee Network events New Climate Change Related projects implemented across departments	Climate Change Team to lead with involvement from service areas across the Council	Climate Change Board Member organisations	By March 2025
CCC4	Make taking action on Sustainability a mandatory part of the Council's performance framework, to be embedded in annual appraisal process to consider what are the core competencies and how they can best be measured across the range of activities and disciplines.	Not yet commenced	Number of staff with sustainability objectives captured in annual appraisals	Climate Change Team and Human Resources to implement, every staff member in the organisation to have a sustainability objective		By March 2026

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REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC5	Developing the Climate Change Team and wider Environmental and Energy Services to ensure there is appropriate resource, expertise and capacity and co-ordination within the organisation and build external support with partners to address any gaps	Already underway	Internal review of Council teams' structure and identify resource requirements; Implementation of any structure changes identified as required	Council Leadership Board	Climate Change Board potential for secondments between partner organisations?	By December 2025
CCC6	Increase opportunities for Equality, diversity and inclusion within the Climate Change team and wider corporate action on this agenda	Already underway	Number of apprenticeships/placements/secondments and jobs created in the Climate Change team and across organisations and supporting activities for people with EDI characteristics	Climate Change Team and other Council Environmental and Energy Service areas	Climate Change Board potential for secondments between partner organisations?	2024-2030+
Reporting						
CCC7	Report the progress taken on the Action Plan through the Council's One Coventry Performance Framework, ensuring transparent reporting on progress of the plan	Not yet commenced	Positive progress being made against indicators as reported in the One Coventry Performance Framework	Climate Change Team and Insight Team & Climate Change Board	Climate Change Board	2025-2030
CCC8	Ensure that all Council reporting through the constitution considers environmental and climate impacts, with teams to seek guidance from the Climate Change team as required to ensure this is robust.	Already underway	Number of reports approved by constitution which have considered the environmental and climate impacts of the contents of the report	Governance Services and Climate Change Team	WMCA, Energy Capital	By March 2026

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC9	Carbon Disclosure Project annual reporting to compare annual progress and how Coventry compares against other cities to help us learn best practice	Already underway	To continually improve our CPD reporting data year by year (2023 score was A-) with a particular focus on establishing ways of improving the accuracy of assessing Scope 1 & 2 emissions and attempting to capture Scope 3 emissions wherever possible including the use of invoice carbon footprint analysis by product type as used by private sector corporations.	Climate Change Team	SEP, Climate Change Board, University of Birmingham, University of Warwick, Coventry University, WMCA, Energy Capital	2022-2030+
CCC10	Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDS) To continually improve our GDS Score and to enable Coventry as a City to benchmark its sustainability performance as a visitor and tourism destination against other Cities in the UK and across the world using an internationally recognised standard adopted by major cities worldwide. This is an independently verified internationally recognised rating system adopted by Cities across the world.	Already underway	To build upon Coventry's initial good score and to demonstrate continually improvement in creating a sustainable destination of global note by achieving increases in our GDS Score.	Coventry City Council & Destination Coventry	Businesses, The Chamber, Climate Change Board	2023-2030+
Policy and Planning						
CCC11	Strengthen Local Planning Policy to place greater requirements and expectations upon developers for sustainable development in Coventry to support delivery of the Climate Change Strategy, that needs to go beyond building regulations. This ranges from a) further promote energy conservation in buildings and the development and use of renewables for energy generation. b) further protect and enhance biodiversity. c) promote high quality design that promote active travel. d) ensure accessibility to public transport and active travel and minimise the need for the use of the private motor vehicle. e) further reduce the risk of flooding and minimise the opportunities for heat gain	Already underway	Uplift in environmental standards and sustainability requirements in the Local Plan following review process - Energy policies currently concerning building fabric, affiliation to heat networks and use of renewables being viability tested ahead of upcoming regulation 19 consultation, following on to submission to secretary of state (subject to council authority). Policies to also align with the City's Adaptation and Resilience Strategy & Action Plan covering mitigation of extreme weather events and measures to ensure an effective response should extreme weather events arise.	Climate Change Team and Planning Team Developers		Local Plan Review is due by 2026 Developments ongoing

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC12	Develop a city design code to help deliver the aspirations of the Local Plan Review and Climate Change Strategy, which will ensure consistent design standards applied to support more sustainable development. NPPF consultation suggests initial development of more localised design coding targeting areas of upcoming change in the City	Early development	Development of localised design codes for areas of anticipated change, expect public consultation on initial codes in 2025	Coventry City Council – Climate Change Team and Planning Team	Severn Trent, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Canals & Rivers trust, Environment Agency	2024–2027
CCC13	Development of Place Based Strategy for Coventry, taking a city wide approach to identifying key interventions and investment required over the next 5+ years	Already underway	Levels of public and private funds secured to realise priority investment projects to deliver inclusive and sustainable growth – advancing Coventry as a green future city.	Coventry City Council – Economic Development Service co-ordinating, with input from multiple Service areas, including Employment, Skills & Adult Education; Transport; Property & Development; Climate Change & Sustainability; Housing; Transformation; Public Health; and Digital Services.	Universities, Business Bodies, Colleges, Independent Training Providers, Housing Associations, E.ON (SEP), Developers, WMCA, Other West Midlands Local Authorities, Third sector bodies.	2024–2025
CCC14	Develop a pre-application service to provide expertise and advice to developers on consideration of climate change for new developments, which would fund in-house resource	Not yet commenced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of resources secured; 2. Number of developers accessing service; 3. Positive changes made to proposed development plans to include for more sustainable development features 	Coventry City Council Climate Change and Planning	Developers	Jul-05
Community Involvement & Support						
CCC15	Development and implementation of a Climate Change Communications and Involvement Strategy to support delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan and ensure a consistent approach to how we engage with communities and help empower them to take action	Early development	Production of Strategy Number of residents, businesses and communities involved and engaged with The Strategy and associated Action plans	Climate Change Team and Communications and Engagement Team, with support from Climate Change Board Pathway Groups, particularly 'Fair Green Futures'	Institute for Public Engagement, BiTC, Climate Change Board.	2025
CCC16	Continue to deliver regular Climate Change Newsletters which people can subscribe to, for regular news and updates from the Council and our Partners	Already underway	Numbers of people accessing E.Newsletter, Levels of awareness of opportunities and initiatives, Levels of engagement in activities and events	Climate Change Team, Climate Change Board	Institute for Public Engagement, BiTC, The Chamber, Climate Change Board.	Ongoing

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC17	Support community groups with bidding for environmental funding opportunities through creation of a web page with up to date opportunities on funding calls, promotion through the newsletter and targeted communications to relevant groups to help ensure we maximise funding opportunities coming into the city to support communities to deliver positive action on climate change	Already underway	Amount of funding secured by community groups for climate projects	Climate Change Team Community Resilience Team Community Groups	WMCA, National Lottery, Heart of England Community Foundation	Ongoing
CCC18	Lobbying Working with partners which could range from community groups, the voluntary, public and private sectors to collectively lobby on particular issues to regional and national government	Not yet commenced	Number of policies changed as a result of lobbying	Coventry City Council plus partners as appropriate	Climate Change Board	Ongoing
Finance and Investment						
CCC19	Green Finance Work with Finance to develop an innovative approach to green investment, which includes looking at opportunities through the UK Infrastructure Bank and Green Finance Institute, crowdfunding models, a natural capital portfolio, opportunities to lever more private investment and reviewing salary sacrifice benefits for staff for green technologies from active travel to retrofit	Not yet commenced	Development of green investment plan for the city and green investment levered from private individuals, businesses, community organisations and charities	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team and Finance Team	Climate Change Board, Spacehive, BWB, WMCA, SEP	Green Investment Plan – by Dec 25, with activity ongoing
CCC20	Continue to explore grant funding opportunities for climate change projects, which includes public and private sector and working with partners as appropriate to develop successful funding bids. This includes reviewing capacity and resource to support this activity to maximise opportunities for securing investment.	Already underway	Amount of green investment levered into the city Number of projects and beneficiaries on the ground	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team and wider Environmental Services and Transport Teams, Finance plus external partners as appropriate	Climate Change Board, Spacehive, BWB, WMCA, SEP	Ongoing
CCC21	Pension Fund To initiate discussion with other local authorities in the WMCA area to introduce a set of sustainability criteria for the West Midlands Pension fund to ensure it supports environmentally sustainable projects and activities.	Not yet commenced although some work underway within the Fund	Amount of investment from West Midlands Pension Fund to support environmentally sustainable projects and activities	Coventry City Council Climate Change Team and Finance Team, WMCA and constituent members	WMCA, West Mids LA's	2026

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC22	Whole life accounting of investment To learn from other organisations which are looking at accounting methodologies which take account of the full life environmental and sustainability costs of investments and costing the long-term consequences of the environmental impacts upon the economy, environment and society. Seek to implement recommendations into Council processes for cost benefit analysis to inform financial decision making.	Already underway	Service proposals reflect true costs including all full life costs of investment other measures of success developed which reflect the broader definition of sustainability.	Coventry City Council Finance and Climate Change teams	WMCA, Energy Capital	Dec-25
CCC23	Sustainability in Treasury Management Strategy Corporate Finance Team to consider reflecting sustainability and climate change into the existing treasury management strategy which sets the framework for borrowing and investment decisions by the Council.	Not yet commenced	Updated guidance embedded sustainability	Coventry City Council Finance and Climate Change teams	UK100, PCAN	Dec-25
CCC24	Support development of private-public partnerships and ventures that support the Strategy To support the development of appropriate commercial ventures and arms-length companies which are capable of securing investments to address sustainability & climate change issues.	Already underway	Projects and initiative proposals brought forward for consideration	Coventry City Council	Tom White Waste, Business Sustain, SEP	Ongoing
CCC25	Crowdfunding and municipal bonds To consider suitable projects and initiatives (and when to apply them) which may under the right fiscal conditions have the potential to secure public support through the use of Municipal Bonds and crowdfunding.	Not yet commenced	Projects and initiative proposals brought forward for consideration	Coventry City Council	Climate Change Board member organisations	2026+
CCC26	WMCA Devo Deal and Single Settlement Continue to work closely with WMCA to ensure Coventry gets the maximum benefits from the Trailblazer Devolution Deal Settlement for Net Zero and the Environment, alongside decarbonisation of transport and green skills	Already underway	Amount of funding received from WMCA and outcomes from associated projects investment secured against	Coventry City Council	WMCA	2024-2027+
Procurement						
CCC27	Scope 1 and 2 Emissions Reporting Require supply chain to disclose annual Scope 1 & 2 emissions. Potentially do in partnership at a regional level to ensure compliance and help set standards	Not yet commenced	Receipt of annual scope 1 & 2 reports (if possible using CDP verification)	Organisations whose goods and services are procured by CCC	WMCA	2026

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC28	Sustainability in Corporate Procurement Policy Update the Council's Central Management Framework, review Procurement Strategy and Social Value policy, and produce clear guidance on things to consider when drafting future contract specifications which addresses sustainability and climate change considerations.	Not yet commenced	Updated guidance embedded sustainability	Coventry City Council	WMCA	2026
Energy						
CCC29	Data and reporting Continue to improve the reliability and availability of energy, water and other emissions related data for use in strategic energy planning and progress reporting.	Early Development	Improvements in data quality and availability including use of LAEP as a tool	Coventry City Council Energy Management	SEP, Severn Trent, National Grid, Cadent, CDEC, Corella, WMCA, Energy Capital	Ongoing
CCC30	Developing service to support new heat network and energy regulations and standards Update Facility Management processes to meet new requirements of Heat Network Regulations, Heat Network Zoning and Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards	Not yet commenced	Compliance with energy legislation, Clear pricing control mechanism in place and clear plans for future development of heat networks	Coventry City Council Facilities Management	SEP, Universities, developers, Severn Trent	2025
CCC31	Explore new Energy Market opportunities To identify and develop ways for CCC to use its assets to benefit from new Energy Market opportunities such as Flexibility Services and Renewable Energy production, battery storage and innovative solutions	Not yet commenced	Income received and Savings Delivered	Coventry City Council Energy Management	SEP, NPower, EON Next, OEMs	Ongoing
CCC32	To continue to support key Council stakeholders with utility management services includes advice and support on energy efficiency	Already underway	Number of organisations supported	Coventry City Council Energy Management	SEP, CDEC, Npower, Total Energies, Wave	Ongoing
CCC33	Continue to offer at least 2 apprenticeship or training opportunities per year in Energy, Climate Change or Sustainability related fields	Already underway	Number of Apprentices/Employees Supported	Coventry City Council Energy Management Climate Change Team	Coventry College, WMCA, Westdale, Dyson Energy & others	Ongoing
Waste						
CCC34	Increase Council recycling and composting Investigate opportunities to increase recycling facilities across all Council buildings and introduce food composting facilities	Not yet commenced	% of sites with segregated waste facilities % of sites with Food Waste facilities	Coventry City Council Facilities Management and Waste Services	WRAP, Tom White Waste, Systemslink	2026
CCC35	Green Technology Investigate potential opportunities to support end of life processing for green technology that is going to be deployed at scale across public estate (eg. ASHPs, Solar PV, EV charger, EVs)	Not yet commenced	Adopting and applying full Life Cycle Analysis for all goods and services used by the City Council	Coventry City Council Facilities Management	WMG	2026-2030+

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
CCC36	Climate Resilient Materials – Investigate materials used in highway maintenance, with a view to ensuring they are climate resilient against periods of extreme heat and rainfall	Not yet commenced	Having established a detailed definition for a new standard of materials and method of construction for use with each category of road and path type including detailing criteria that need to be met.	Coventry City Council Highways Team	TfWM	
CCC37	Use of recycled materials Increase the amount of recycled materials used on roads and pavements across the city.	Already underway	% of recycled materials used in highway schemes	Coventry City Council Highways Team	TfWM	
Streetpride						
CCC38	Nature-friendly planting and maintenance Work with ecology and parks teams to develop more wildlife-friendly planting and maintenance regimes, seeking to rewild areas where appropriate and ensure the highest standards of conservation management are applied with a workforce that have the necessary conservation & countryside management skills. Includes phasing out of pesticides and herbicides alongside greater use of native perennials to provide continual ground cover	Already underway	Training undertaken by maintenance teams Increases in biodiversity across the city and the increasing use of land to support nature conservation Decreasing use of pesticides and herbicides and increase in use of native perennials	Coventry City Council Parks and Open Spaces, and Ecology teams, Estates and Highway Teams	Natural England, Defra Environment Agency, Canals and Rivers Trust, Severn trent, National Grid, Network Rail, TCV, Wildlife Trust, Pershore College	
Transport and Logistics						
CCC39	Staff Sustainable Travel To promote and encourage further uptake of sustainable travel for Council staff for business purposes and commuting, with promotion of active travel and cycle hire, car sharing, a number of electric pool cars for staff to hire, and incentivising public transport use, including thorough initiatives such as salary sacrifice for travel passes and electric cars.	Already underway	Increase of staff commuting to work traveling to work by means other than single occupied private (non EV) car; Increase of staff travelling for work by sustainable modes .	Coventry City Council Transport Team	TfWM	Ongoing
CCC40	Community Care Sustainable Transport To identify transport solutions for reducing the emissions from thousands of daily/weekly trips using private motor cars of domiciliary care and visiting community care health workers	Not yet commenced	A clear plan in place for the reduction in emissions from the usage of private fossil fueled motor vehicles, increasing percentage of staff using modes of transport with lower carbon emissions. Total No of trips and % of trips using zero or low carbon modes of transport	Coventry City Council Adult Social Care & Public Health	NHS, TfWM	

REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
Jobs, Skills and Education						
CCC41	Promotion of environmental jobs to diverse ethnic jobseekers To work with HR, the Skills Team and Job Shop, schools, colleges and universities on the promotion of the environmental professions as a career to diverse ethnic jobseekers through positive action with the provision of work experience placements and internships where possible for environmental and sustainability related posts.	Already underway	Number of sustainability internships and apprenticeships created across the City Council	Coventry City Council, Coventry College, Coventry University, University of Warwick, University of Birmingham etc.	Universities, Coventry College, WMG	Sep-26 for finalisation of approach following pilots.
CCC42	Develop a Schools Sustainability Partnership to ensure there is a more consistent and coordinated approach to supporting schools with environmental awareness, energy efficiency throughout Coventry schools, led by the Council working closely with partner organisations	Early development	Launch of partnership; Number of schools participating in programme; Number of training/events held in schools	Coventry City Council Climate Change, Education, Outdoor Education, Sports teams	Coventry College, WMCA, Universities, SEP, Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent, E.ON, Act On Energy, Environment Agency, Living Streets, National Energy Association etc and schools across the city.	Sep-25
CCC43	Support to Schools Linked to the Sustainable Schools Partnership, to support schools where possible with educational programmes to promote awareness and understanding of all environmental and climate change issues and to encourage positive action and behaviour change with increases in the numbers of schools participating in positive initiatives such as Eco-Schools, Food for Life Schools, and Forest Schools.	Not yet commenced	Number of schools participating in environmental initiatives and programmes	Climate Change Team, Education and schools across the city.	Universities, Coventry College, WMG, & third sector organisations e.g. Eco Schools, NAEE, Food for Life etc.	Sep-25
CCC44	Launch of a Green Awards Scheme for Schools to encourage young people to participate in initiatives to increase environmental awareness and help make positive changes in their school environment, as well as at home and in their communities.	Early development	Number of awards given to children in the city	Outdoor Education Team, with support from Climate Change Team and Education Team working with schools across the city	Universities, Coventry College, WMG, & third sector organisations e.g. Eco Schools, NAEE, Food for Life etc.	Sep-25
CCC45	To add sustainability / Energy / Biodiversity related rotation to all CCC Graduate Scheme participants - providing all participants training and skills in these key areas	Not yet commenced although developed and successfully implemented as a pilot for graduate student intake	No of students going through programme and reported satisfaction levels and numbers going on to full time employment	City Council in partnership with the Colleges (Coventry & Fircroft) and Universities	Universities and Colleges, SEP and local major employers	Sep-26 for finalisation of approach following pilots.

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REF	Workstream/Activity	Project Stage	How will success be measured?	Delivery Organisation	Possible Partners	Delivery Timescales
Events						
CCC46	Greener Events To deliver more sustainable events across the city, striving to reduce the impact on the environment of events in terms of travel, consumption, power, waste and biodiversity. This includes striving to achieve accreditations where appropriate, such as 'A Green Festival' which Godiva Festival has achieved a bronze status and is now working towards silver.	Already underway	Accreditation status e.g. A Greener Festival which captures carbon footprint, waste and environmental impacts; Development of sustainability framework for smaller events; number of events that are delivered using framework	Coventry City Council	Any event organisers	2024-2030+
Sports						
CCC47	Sustainable sports facilities Reduce the environmental impact of the city's sports centres, in line with Sport England's environmental sustainability strategy, Your Move (2024)	Already underway	Energy consumption, bills reduction, carbon reduction, waste reduction	Coventry City Council and CV Life	Strategic Energy Partnership	2024-2026+
Culture						
CCC48	Greener Futures Cultural Legacy work closely with the arts and culture sector to promote and support behavioural and environmental changes to address the climate crisis and encourage green activism. Arts and culture model circular economy practices and principles in production and programming that bring fun, interactive and entertaining activities to celebrate and sustain the city's green and other heritage sites.	Not yet commenced	Number of projects co-created, number of community members involved in projects; investment secured against cultural projects	Coventry City Council	Coventry Culture Strategy Partnership, Coventry Culture Works	2025-2027+



Public report

Cabinet

A separate report is submitted in the private part of the agenda in respect of this item, as it contains details of financial information required to be kept private in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The grounds for privacy are that it contains information relating to the identity, financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption under Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
Cabinet
Council

31 October, 2024
5 November 2024
3 December 2024

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member Housing & Communities - Cllr N Akhtar

Director approving submission of the report:

Director of Adults and Housing

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title: Temporary Accommodation – Lease of Caradoc Hall Coventry

Is this a key decision?

Yes - the proposals involve financial implications in excess of £1m per annum.

Executive summary:

The Housing Act 1996 (as amended) places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to provide Temporary Accommodation (TA) to homeless households who are eligible and have a priority need.

Nationally the number of households living in temporary accommodation has increased significantly over the last 3 years and as of the 31 March 2024 the Governments quarterly publications show this is the highest recorded figure ever. Coventry has also seen an increase in demand with 1329 households living in temporary accommodation as at the 23 September 2024.

The Housing & Homelessness service has taken steps to reduce the cost of temporary accommodation against a background of increasing demand, increasing private sector rents and the cost-of-living crisis.

This report sets out the options to enter into a new lease for Caradoc Hall for 10 years.

Recommendations:

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to consider the report and make any comments/recommendations to Cabinet for consideration at their meeting on 5 November, 2024

Cabinet is requested to consider any comments/recommendations received from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee and to recommend that Council, subject to the consideration of the additional confidential information contained in the corresponding private report,;

- 1) Approves the proposal to enter into a new lease for 103 properties within Caradoc Hall for a period of no more than 10 years for use as temporary accommodation for homeless households.
- 2) Approves the annual costs, as detailed in the corresponding private report, for the Caradoc Hall lease over 10 years and for this to form part of the finance revenue budget for the next ten years.
- 3) Delegates authority to the Director of Adults and Housing, following consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, the Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing, to undertake the necessary due diligence and agree the detailed terms of the new 10-year lease agreement of Caradoc Hall with the landlord.
- 4) Delegates authority to the Director of Adults and Housing, following consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, the Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing, to vary the lease from time to time.

Council is recommended, subject to the consideration of the additional confidential information contained in the corresponding private report, to:

- 1) Approve the proposal to enter into a new lease for 103 properties within Caradoc Hall for a period of no more than 10 years for use as temporary accommodation for homeless households.
- 2) Approve the annual costs as detailed in the corresponding private report for the Caradoc Hall lease over 10 years and for this to form part of the finance revenue budget for the next ten years.

- 3) Delegate authority to the Director of Adults and Housing, following consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, the Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing, to undertake the necessary due diligence and agree the detailed terms of the new 10-year lease agreement of Caradoc Hall with the landlord.
- 4) Delegate authority to the Director of Adults and Housing, following consultation with the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, the Director of Law and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing, to vary the lease from time to time.

List of Appendices included:

None

Background papers:

Cabinet report - Options to improve the quality but reduce the cost of temporary accommodation (public report) – 27 November 2018

Other useful documents

Homeless Reduction Act 2017

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/13/contents

Housing & Homeless Strategy 2019-2024

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s43018/Adoption%20of%20Housing%20Homelessness%20Strategy%202019-24%20-%20Appendix%201.pdf>

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

Yes

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee – 31 October 2024

If yes, which Scrutiny Board and date:

Has it or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

Yes / No

If yes, which Committee(s) / body(ies) and date:

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 3 December 2024

Report Title: Temporary Accommodation – Lease of Caradoc Hall

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1. Following a national trend the Council has seen a significant increase in the demand for temporary accommodation with the number of families in temporary accommodation increasing by 34% since Aug 2023 and 102% since Aug 2022.
- 1.2. The Housing & Homeless Service have implemented several different accommodation options leading to a diverse temporary accommodation portfolio including lease agreements with private providers, provision through Registered Providers and the purchasing of properties. The results being that despite increases in temporary accommodation the Council has very few families in bed and breakfast (B&B) accommodation in comparison to similar sized Councils. As of the 30 September 2024 there were 1326 households in temporary accommodation with 938 being families with dependent children, even with these significant numbers there are no families in B&B and only 19 single people. B&B does not typically have cooking facilities and is often the most expensive temporary accommodation option alongside being the most inappropriate form of temporary accommodation, particularly for families with dependent children.
- 1.3. The lease of Caradoc Hall will allow the Council to secure the use of the building for 10 years. The length of the lease term reflects the current demand and includes a break clause for the Council to terminate the lease arrangement after five years.
- 1.4. As part of the proposed lease agreement the managing agent will commit to a refurbishment of the 103 flats in line with a condition survey agreed with the Council as well as continued improvements to the building such as replacement of the lifts.
- 1.5. Caradoc Hall is a residential building and as of 23 January 2023, the Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 made it a requirement in law to provide information to fire and rescue services to assist them in planning for and responding to a fire in their building, Caradoc Hall has complied with these regulations. A high-rise residential building is defined as a building containing two or more sets of domestic premises that is at least 18 metres tall or has at least seven storeys. The Housing & Homeless service has commissioned independent fire safety inspections quarterly with high levels of compliance by the provider. The building has a sprinkler system installed as part of the initial lease, smoke detectors and linked fire panel.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1. **Option 1 – Recommended** – Enter into a new lease of Caradoc Hall for a term of 10 years
- 2.2. The lease of Caradoc Hall would cover 103 self-contained flats currently leased within the building. The landlord via appointed managing agents will provide onsite housing officers, caretakers, repairs and maintenance, as well as out of hours security provision throughout the night and weekends.

- 2.3. Having access to 103 properties within Caradoc Hall which are available only to the Council means that we have guaranteed access to a substantial number of smaller family properties providing value for money for the Council.
- 2.4. **Option 2 – Not recommended** – Do not enter into a lease at Caradoc Hall
- 2.5. The Council would lose the use of Caradoc Hall as temporary accommodation and therefore would have to rely on more expensive options including utilising bed and breakfast accommodation or other private sector accommodation. Entering into a long-term agreement will ensure that 103 properties would be available for the sole use of the Council for a 10-year period.
- 2.6. The financial pressure will increase as the cost of bed and breakfast and nightly let properties are more expensive and therefore there is a risk that this will lead to a significant overspend.
- 2.7. The Council is proud that although the number of families living in temporary accommodation has increased significantly the number of families placed in bed and breakfast accommodation remains low. Bed and breakfast is recognised as being the least suitable temporary accommodation option and it is illegal for Local Authorities to place families in this type of accommodation for over 6 weeks.
- 2.8. **Option 3 – Not recommended** – to purchase/acquire Caradoc Hall through capital investment.
- 2.9. The owners have indicated they are not willing to consider selling the freehold of Caradoc Hall. They purchased the building as a long-term investment.
- 2.10. The option to purchase temporary accommodation is financially beneficial to the Council, 56 family properties have been acquired to date, however the property size which gives maximum savings are three bed or above, Caradoc consists of studios, one beds and one two bed flat.
- 2.11. The service will also be seeking to purchase a further 24 houses for temporary accommodation utilising funding previously approved by Cabinet and a grant from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. (MHCLG)

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1. There has been no specific consultation in respect of this proposal. However general feedback from families who require temporary accommodation is that suitability, quality and security of being able to use the accommodation for the period required is important. Through approving the recommendations, the Council improves its ability to deliver this.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1. The lease agreement negotiations have commenced, and a draft lease agreement is being negotiated .

4.2. The service will undertake an inspection of each flat at Caradoc Hall to consist of:

- a) A condition survey of the current standard of each flat
- b) A survey of furniture and white goods within each flat to be completed by mid-October.
- c) An assessment of the fire safety at Caradoc Hall in conjunction with Council colleagues, fire safety consultants Ligtas and a joint health and safety inspection including all relevant compliance documentation and procedures.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Resources and Director of Law and Governance

Finance Implications

- 5.1. The Council has a legal obligation to provide temporary accommodation for homelessness households in priority need, with a local connection who have not made themselves intentionally homeless. The proposed lease of Caradoc Hall seeks to procure temporary accommodation which is cost effective and suitable accommodation. If the Council, based on current activity levels was required to use alternative nightly temporary accommodation this would equate to a higher net cost over the life of the contract, therefore, the ten-year contract represents value for money for the Council.
- 5.2. An option to break the lease exists for the Council at the end of year 5 which will be activated if following a financial viability review the contract is not cost effective and / or providing suitable accommodation. The financial information is detailed in the corresponding private report.
- 5.3. The delegation to vary the lease from time to time will be considered by finance as to whether there is budget approval for doing so, any variations will then be reported back as part of the budget on an annual basis

Legal Implications

- 5.4. The Council also has a general power to enter into leases under the powers of general competence contained in Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 and sections 111 and 120 of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 5.5. The 103 units within Caradoc Hall will be leased and used for temporary accommodation only. Allocation of individuals and units will be managed in-house by the Housing and Homelessness team, in the same way as officers place customers in other temporary accommodation.
- 5.6. The legal agreement in place will be between the landlord and the Council. Homeless households will sign an agreement when they move into the building which details the health & safety and the standards both the landlord and the Council require the property to be kept in whilst they are there and details of any property inspections and checks that may take place.
- 5.7. These arrangements are not subject to the Procurement Regulations 2015 as it is property transaction in which the Council is entering into. As a result, the Procurement Regulations 2015 are not applicable in this case.
- 5.8. Officers in Legal Services will finalise the 10-year lease in respect of Caradoc Hall once the final heads of terms are agreed between the parties.
- 5.9. The Housing Act 1996 (“the 1996 Act”) (as amended by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017) sets out that local housing authorities owe specific housing duties to those within their district who are homeless or are threatened with homelessness. In order to discharge these duties, the Council must provide housing accommodation to such persons in accordance with Part VII of the 1996 Act. Under section 195 of the 1996 Act, if the local housing authority are satisfied that a person is threatened with homelessness and eligible for assistance, they must take reasonable steps to prevent them from becoming homeless.
- 5.10. Section 206(1) of the 1996 Act sets out that a local housing authority may discharge their functions under Part VII. Section 206(1)(a) sets out that the Council may fulfil their homelessness duties under the 1996 Act by *securing* that accommodation *provided by them* is made available for the relevant homeless person.
- 5.11. No housing revenue account is required as the property will be held under a lease that is for a term no longer than 10 years as per the Housing Revenue Account (Exclusion of Leases) Direction 1997.

6. Other implications

- 6.1. Should the Council not take on the lease for Caradoc Hall, the developer could seek another partner to occupy the building to recover the investment made in the building.
- 6.2. The impact on nearby schools and nurseries, GP surgeries should be minimal, as the children would continue to attend any educational establishment they were previously attending. Where tenants may not be Coventry residents, such as if they have left previous accommodation due to domestic violence or other such circumstances, there may be a small impact on local schools and nurseries.

6.3. How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/one-coventry-plan>

The proposal will contribute to the Plan's Vision - **Working together to improve our city and the lives of those who live, work and study here**" The three delivery priorities: Improving outcomes and tackling inequalities within our communities; Improving the economic prosperity of the city and regions; Tackling the causes and consequences of climate change. The two enabling priorities: Continued financial sustainability of the Council; Council's role as a partner, enabler and leader

This will directly contribute to the Council Plan, vision and commitment to improve the quality of life for Coventry people, protecting our most vulnerable residents through helping people who become homeless.

6.4. How is risk being managed?

6.5. There is a risk that occupancy levels are not maintained, this will be mitigated by performance monitoring, housing management and contract management. There is a high demand for this accommodation, the team have an excellent track record of maintaining high occupancy levels. Caradoc Hall has an average occupancy level of 97%.

6.6. Risk of changes to building/fire regulations during the lease term will change, this happened with the Fire Safety Regulations 2022. Officers are confident that changes will be implemented and managed by the provider.

6.7. There will be an onsite presence in the form of Housing Officer/ Maintenance Officer available 24/7, to support and deal with any incidences at Caradoc Hall.

6.8. What is the impact on the organisation?

This proposal will continue the availability at Caradoc Hall to meet the needs of households who require temporary accommodation as well as our ability to discharge our legal duties under the Housing Act.

6.9. Equalities / EIA?

No Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out for this project, the commissioning of the lease means the building is already in use and there will be no changes to use or occupancy. Homeless households will undertake a Housing Assessment and have a Personal Housing Plan (which details reasonable steps to be taken by the applicant and by the Council to prevent or relieve homelessness) and this must take into account the applicant's individual circumstances. This will include any considerations due to protected characteristics which may determine what is 'reasonable' and the type of accommodation which would be deemed 'suitable' in order to discharge the statutory duties. The allocation of households to

the accommodation in this paper will be based on the current processes and will consider whether this type of accommodation would be suitable for the household. Any decisions made will have due regard to the public sector equality duty.

6.10. Households placed in temporary accommodation are based on the homelessness duties owed and their specific housing need of the household. Due to the nature of the proposals these schemes will only have an impact on families. It is not anticipated there will be any particular impact on any group based on age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

6.11. All households affected will have a Personal Housing Plan which must take into account the applicant's individual circumstances including due regard to the public sector equality duty.

6.12. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?

No additional impact on climate change and the environment as properties currently utilised.

6.13. Implications for partner organisations?

No additional impact on the community or partner agencies. Caradoc Hall is currently utilised as temporary accommodation

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Jim Crawshaw	Head of Housing & Homelessness	Housing & Homelessness	28/8/24	29/08/24
Julie Sprayson	Deputy Team Leader –Place Team	Legal Services	30/08/24	17/09/24
Paul Whitmore	Lead Accountant	Finance	30/08/24	26/09/24
Other Members				
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Barry Hastie	Director of Finance	Finance	03/10/24	14/10/24
Legal: Gurbinder Singh Sangha	Major Projects Commercial Lawyer	Law and Governance	03/10/24	14/10/24
Director: Peter Fahy	Director of Adults and Housing	Adults and Housing	26/09/24	01/10/24
Members: Cllr Naeem Akhtar	Cabinet Member Housing & Communities		11/10/24	14/10/24

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Agenda Item 7

SCRUCO Work Programme 2024-25

Last updated 23rd October 2024

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

10th June 2024
LGA Peer Review Findings Draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2023-24
26th June 2024
Serious Violence Duty Proposed Consultation for the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2024-2027
21st August 24
City Centre PSPO Monitoring City-wide PSPO Consultation Additional Licensing of HMO's (Cabinet Report) Dog Control PSPO (Cabinet Report)
19th September 24
National Planning Policy Framework Consultation
25th September 24 (moved from 18th September)
One Coventry Plan Performance report (Cabinet Report) City-wide PSPO (Cabinet Report)
31st October 2024 (moved from 23rd October)
Climate Change Strategy (Cabinet Report) Temporary Accommodation (Cabinet Report)
14th November 2024
Coventry City Council Transformation Programme
20th November 2024
Shareholder Committee Reports Strategic Energy Partnership Performance Update
18th December 2024
Community Safety Plan 2024-27 WMCA Corporate Update and Scrutiny Annual Report
30th January 2025 (moved from 29th January)
Peer Review Progress Update Coventry Cultural Strategy – progress report including major Cultural Events
6th March 2025 (moved from 5th March)
Communications Strategy Artificial Intelligence
10th April 2025 (moved from 9th April)
WMCA Activity – Coventry City Council Area
2024-25
Refreshed Complaints Policy and Process Domestic Abuse Health Inequalities and Marmot Adaption and Resilience Plan Cost of Living and Poverty Planning Performance Fly-tipping Overview Strategic Energy Partnership Projects External Partnerships Offender Management PSPO reviews – 2027-28

SCRUCO Work Programme 2024-25

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
10th June 2024	LGA Peer Review Findings	Following a visit by a peer review team in January 2024 Scruco will consider the recommendations and actions	Vanessa Millar / Michelle McGinty Cllr Duggins
	Draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2023-24	To consider the draft report before it is presented to Council	
26th June 2024	Serious Violence Duty	At their meeting in November 2023 the Committee requested a 6-month progress update, including the measurables identified by the Police and Crime Board to measure success. Check whether guidance has been sent to schools. Including the inspection report on tackling the risk of serious youth violence and criminal exploitation	Cllr AS Khan Allison Duggal Caroline Ryder Neil Macdonald WMP
	Proposed Consultation for the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2024-2027	To consider the consultation plan for the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2024-27	Joy Adams Cllr AS Khan
21st August 24	City Centre PSPO Monitoring	As requested, Scruco will consider progress on implementation of the new PSPO agreed at Cabinet 13 th June 2023	Liam Nagle Cllr AS Khan
	City-wide PSPO Consultation	Summary of findings from the Public Consultation and opportunity for members to be part of the consultation process which will form part of the final report to Cabinet.	Joy Adams Cllr AS Khan
	Additional Licensing of HMO's (Cabinet Report)		Adrian Chowns Cllr Welsh
	Dog Control PSPO (Cabinet Report)		Cllr A Khan
19th September 24	National Planning Policy Framework Consultation	To consider the response from the Council to the governments consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework	Rob Back Cllr N Akhtar

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
25th September 24 (moved from 18th September)	One Coventry Plan Performance report (Cabinet Report)		Valerie De Souza Cllr Duggins
	City-wide PSPO (Cabinet Report)		Joy Adams Cllr AS Khan
31st October 2024 (moved from 23rd October)	Climate Change Strategy (Cabinet Report)		Rhian Palmer Cllr O'Boyle
	Temporary Accommodation (Cabinet Report)	Referred from SB4 as meeting schedules do not match with Cabinet.	Jim Crawshaw Cllr N Akhtar
14th November 2024	Coventry City Council Transformation Programme	To review the progress and implementation of the CCC Transformation Programme and funding associated with it.	Cllr Brown Michelle McGinty
20th November 2024	Shareholder Committee Reports	A chance for Scrucro to consider the reports ahead of the Shareholder Panel. The Board asks that future reports are shared after the audited accounts are published.	Cllr Duggins Andrew Walster
	Strategic Energy Partnership Performance Update	Shareholder Panel Report	Anna Livesey Cllr O'Boyle
18th December 2024	Community Safety Plan 2024-27	To consider the results of crime survey and to feed into the development of the community safety partnership plan.	Joy Adams Cllr AS Khan
	WMCA Corporate Update and Scrutiny Annual Report		James Hughes
30th January 2025 (moved	Peer Review Progress Update	12-month progress review report	Cllr Duggins

SCRUCO Work Programme 2024-25

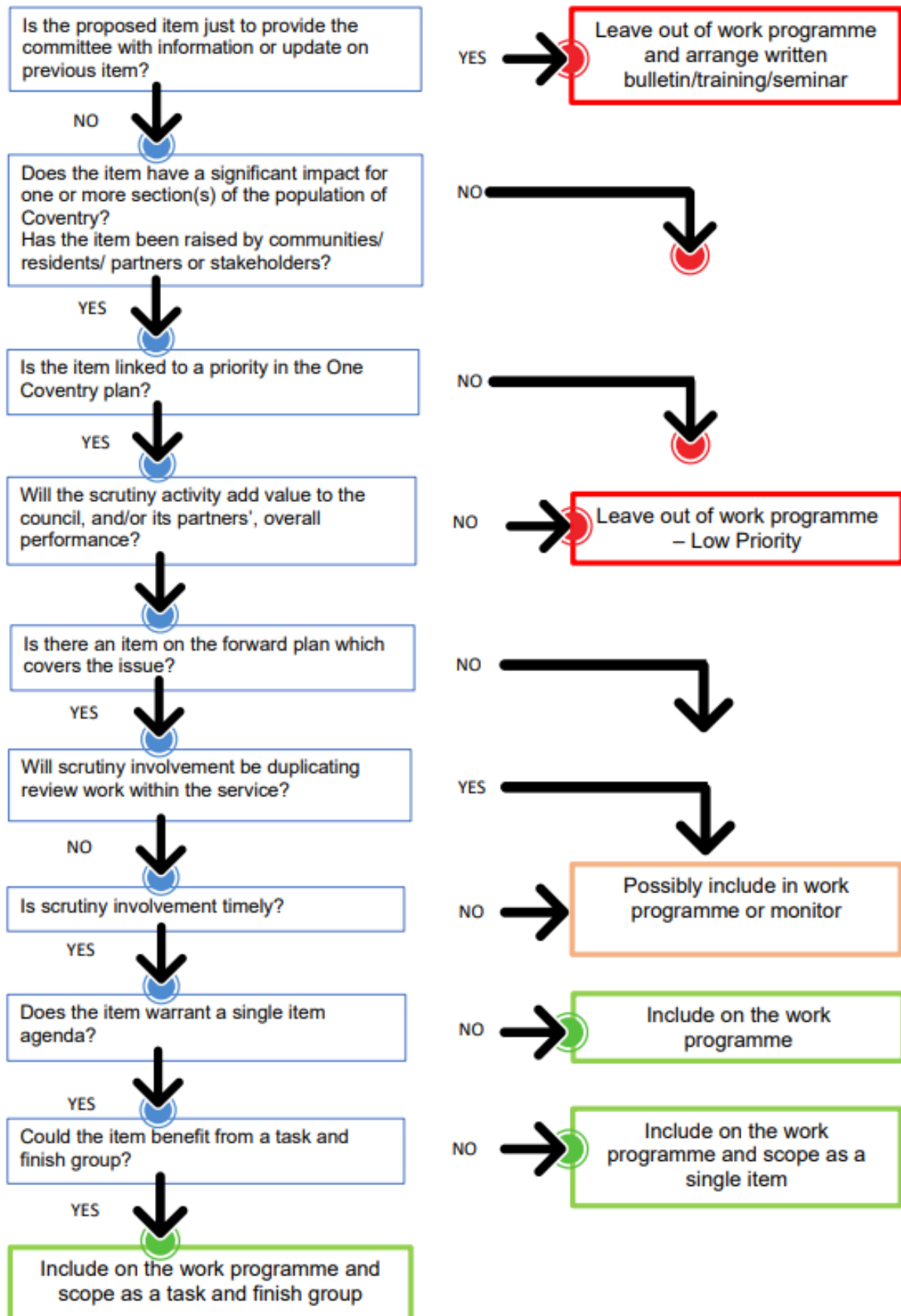
Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
from 29th January			Michelle McGinty
	Coventry Cultural Strategy – progress report including major Cultural Events	Following their meeting on 20 th December 2023, the committee requested a further update on progress in delivering the Cultural Works model, including communication with Members.	David Nuttall/ Salla Virman Cllr N Akhtar
6th March 2025 (moved from 5th March)	Communications Strategy		Matt Burrows Cllr Duggins
	Artificial Intelligence	To consider how AI is prioritised and utilised across the Council, including improving services and reducing budget pressures. To invite SB1 Members)	Cllrs Brown/ Hetherton Paul Ward
10th April 2025 (moved from 9th April) 2024-25	WMCA Activity – Coventry City Council Area		James Hughes
	Refreshed Complaints Policy and Process		
	Domestic Abuse	A regular update item on the progress of delivery on the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy	Jayne Ross Cllr AS Khan Cllr P Akhtar
	Health Inequalities and Marmot	To look at what the Council is doing to address health inequalities and to monitor progress. Raised at OCP progress item on 25 th September OCP Indicators for Male/Female Life expectancy	Allison Duggal Cllr Caan
	Adaption and Resilience Plan	To consider what the Council is doing to protect the city from the impact of climate change, including partners involved in the delivery and represented on the Climate Change Board	Cllr O’Boyle Colin Knight Rhian Palmer Bret Willers

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	Cost of Living and Poverty	To update on support offered to low -income families as well as the OCP indicator of % of children living in relatively low-income families.	Cllr Duggins
	Planning Performance	Development Management function - overall performance against Government targets. Annual monitoring report (AMR).	Cllr N Akhtar, Rob Back
	Fly-tipping Overview	To review the impact of increased fines on reducing fly-tipping	Cllrs AS Khan / Hetherton Martin McHugh / Sarah Elliott
	Strategic Energy Partnership Projects	Further from 11 th of March SB meeting to refer future Cabinet Reports for projects that reach Gateway 4 (Detailed Business Case) to the relevant Scrutiny Board. And regular updates from the SEP (a) Data on the criteria and priority of retrofitting homes (b) Data on EPC ratings (including privately owned properties) (c) Possibility of installation of charging points for mobility scooters (d) Possibility of generating energy from Coventry's rivers. (e) How value for money is ensured at each stage of the process (f) Income generation from EV charging (noted that this would be considered by Scrutiny Board 3) (g) Future investment from Severn Trent in water quality	Cllr O'Boyle Rhian Palmer
	External Partnerships		Cllr G Duggins

SCRUCO Work Programme 2024-25

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	Offender Management	Following an item on Local Policing Update at their meeting 21 st February 24 the committee agreed to consider a further item on Offender Management	Cllr A Khan
	PSPO reviews – 2027-28	To be considered by scrutiny as part of the 3 year review	
	One Coventry Plan Performance Report (24/25 pt 2)		Valerie De Souza Cllr Duggins

Work Programme Decision Flow Chart



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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