

Net Zero Action Plan 2024-2030

PLANET DARTFORD

DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Key: Completed Ongoing Not Started/Stalled

Priority 1 - Organisational Emissions Focus: The Council aims to reduce its organisational carbon emissions to net-zero by 2030 Key Performance Indicator: ➢ DBC Greenhouse Gas Emissions							
Target	**Action**	**Timeline**	**Council Role/Lead**	**Indicative Cost**	**Potential Carbon Impact**	**Progress Monitoring**	**Comments / Update**
OE1. Identify pathways to reducing emission from our corporate estate to net zero carbon by 2030	O1. Decarbonise the Civic Centre	2024 / 25	Deliver Climate Change Team Housing Property Services	Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme: £1,340,802. (total for O1, O2 and O3)	High	Completed	✓ Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme ✓ Heating system has been decarbonised, and we now have a low energy electric heating system using Air Source Heat Pumps & Hydro-kits that are powered by photovoltaic panels. Low energy LED lighting has also been installed along with a Building Management System (BMS)
	O2. Decarbonise the Orchard Theatre	2024 / 25	Deliver Climate Change Team Housing Property Services	Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme: £1,340,802. (total for O1, O2 and O3)	High	Completed	✓ Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme ✓ Heating system has been decarbonised, and we now have a low energy electric heating system using Air Source Heat Pumps & Hydro-kits that are powered by photovoltaic panels. Low energy LED lighting has also

							been installed along with a BMS
	O3. Decarbonise Acacia Sports Hall	2024 / 25	Deliver Climate Change Team Housing Property Services	Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme: £1,340,802.	High	Completed	✓ Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme ✓ Photovoltaic panels installed (110kW) on the roof as well as low energy LED lighting
	O4. Decarbonise Fairfield Leisure Centre	2024 / 25	Deliver Climate Change Team Housing Property Services	Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation scheme: £1,508,475	High	Completed	✓ Funding secured via Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme ✓ Fitted 20 outside air units that are linked to 20 Hydro kits. These work on demand to produce hot water for showers, heating and the pool ✓ Fitted 354 KWs of solar PV to the roof and solar car port. For reference a typical house in the UK will produce 4.5 KW's peak
	O5. Continue to identify and develop pathways to reducing emissions across council buildings	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Housing Property Services	High	High	Ongoing 40% complete	• Scoping underway, working with all departments and partners to identify and develop pathways to reducing emissions across council buildings
OE2. Develop a plan to reduce emissions from travel by converting our fleet to zero emissions	O6. Investigate the options for converting fleet to zero emissions including EV pool cars for business use	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Property Services	High	High	Ongoing 20% complete	• Council fleet now has two electric vehicles and one Hybrid electric • Further Scoping underway

including contractor vehicles through the procurement process			Waste Parking Housing				
	O7. Develop a plan to work with all existing contractors (including waste fleet) to reduce their carbon footprint from fuel consumption and make explicit their goals in terms of carbon reduction	2025 / 26 >	Support Climate Change Team Finance / Procurement Waste	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	• Scoping underway • All vehicles provided under new waste contract will be required to meet the latest emission standards (Euro 6 for refuse collection vehicles) • Some vehicles will be electric, some will be able to run on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil as an alternative to diesel, both with lower overall emissions ✓ Procurement Strategy reviewed and redesigned to incorporate best practice ✓ Sustainable Procurement Toolkit has been developed
OE3. Promote reduction and re-use as well as recycling, and aim to become a zero-waste organisation	O8. Phase out single use plastics in Council Offices/ buildings/ events	2025 / 26	Deliver Climate Change Team Property Services	Low	Low	Completed	✓ Single use plastics phased out of Civic Centre ✓ New recycling initiatives introduced
	O9. Reduce our reliance on paper by largely phasing out printed agendas and reports in favour of electronic versions, continuing and enhancing suitable arrangements where appropriate	2025 / 26	Deliver Climate Change Team Democratic Services	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ All Cllrs have been offered/supplied with an iPad ✓ All agendas are available electronically ✓ Reviewing Mod.Gov App. functionality / upgrade options

	O10. Look at opportunities for reusing and recycling our waste, including reusing our office furniture to support our hybrid working colleagues, donating our used IT equipment to schools and charities and recycling as much of our waste as possible including food waste	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Property Services	Low	Low	Ongoing 70% complete	• Scoping underway ✓ Food Waste bins for Civic Centre and new signage prepared ✓ Staff Intranet utilised to reuse office equipment
OE4. Ensure sustainable procurement practices throughout the council as part of the Council's Procurement Strategy	O11. Review the Councils Procurement Strategy and adopt a revised strategy that is consistent with the promotion of sustainable and ethical trading	2024 / 25 2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Procurement	Low	Medium	Completed	✓ Procurement Strategy reviewed and redesigned to incorporate best practice ✓ New Sustainable Procurement Toolkit developed.
	O12. Investigate the opportunities to switch to a green tariff at the end of the current energy procurement contract	2024 / 25	Deliver Climate Change Team Procurement	Low	Medium	Completed	✓ The Council entered into a contract for the Blend of REGO/Zero Carbon for Business (Electricity supplied from a combination of 50% Renewable and 50% zero carbon) under the Crown Commercial Services (CCS) contract
OE5. Reduce car journeys for the commute by DBC staff and promote zero carbon transport including active transport.	O13. Develop a staff travel plan that considers a variety of travel options for staff including car clubs, ULEV salary sacrifice scheme, Cycle to Work	2025 / 26	Deliver Climate Change Team HR	Medium	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Cycle to Work scheme active ✓ Promotion of public transport via an interest free loan to assist with the purchase of a season ticket to travel to and from work ✓ New staff bike and E-bike storage facility with charging

	scheme and active travel incentives						points for e-bikes installed at the Civic Centre • Further scoping underway
	O14. Support Hybrid Working and encouraging council staff to work from home when possible, reducing the need for travel	2024 /25	Deliver HR	Low	Low	Completed	✓ Hybrid Working Policy adopted and in place
OE6. Provide Carbon Literacy training to DBC staff and Councillors	O15. Devise a Carbon Literacy training plan for Staff and Councillors starting with Senior Management and Cabinet Members before a wider roll out	2024 / 25 > 2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team	£2,160	Low	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Training developed, officer and member training roll out continues

Priority 2 - Transport

Focus: Support the shift towards cleaner modes of transport and reduce car dependency with co-benefits to air quality and health.

Key Performance Indicator:

- Number of ultra low emission vehicles registered in the Local Authority area
- Number of public EV charging points in the Borough
- Cycle and footway usage in town centre at key junctions/nodes
- Fastrack patronage

Target	Action	Timeline	Council Role/Lead	Indicative Cost	Potential Carbon Impact	Progress Monitoring	Comments
TR1. Support active travel (walking & cycling) public transport and the use of electric vehicles in the Borough	T1. Support the development of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Dartford to identify cycling and walking infrastructure improvements and provide a framework and methodology to support funding bids	2024 / 25 > 2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Planning Health	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) approved by Cabinet in July 2023 • Roll out ongoing ✓ 'Explore Dartford' Active Travel Leaflet created and published July 2025 ✓ 'Dartford Cycling Guide' mapping prepared and released July 2026. ✓ Upgraded streets and public realm (including new planters) for pedestrians and cyclists achieved at the Lowfield Street/Instone Road junction, Junction improvements at West Hill/Westgate Road • Spital Streets works underway including to improve walking and cycling ✓ DBC Health Walks / Walk and Talk Groups continue to be successful throughout the Borough

							✓ Settlements and Sustainable Locations Supplementary Planning Document adopted June 2026 confirming how the sustainable transport performance of development is assessed.
	T2. Promote the use of electric vehicles by supporting the improvement of EV infrastructure in the Borough, promoting grants for EV vehicles / charging and investigating opportunities for an EV car sharing club	2025 / 26 >	Enable Climate Change Team Parking Property Services KCC	Low (Opportunity for revenue generation)	High	Ongoing 60% complete	• Working with KCC and EV Charger providers on a proposal for DBC Car Parks • Working with KCC and EV Charger providers on a proposal for on street EV chargers in the Borough • Grants promoted for EV chargers
	T3. Work with Kent County Council, local bus companies (e.g. Go-Ahead, Arriva, GoBus) and local rail services (e.g. Southeastern and Thameslink) to support the promotion of public transport, where appropriate	2025 / 26 >	Support Climate Change Team KCC	Low	Low	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ 'Explore Dartford' Active Travel Leaflet created and published July 2025 which includes promotion of train and Bus travel / services ✓ Electric Buses operating in the Borough via the FastTrack Service since June 2025. • Further Scoping required
TR2. Work with Kent County Council to reduce volume of traffic on our roads and improve our transport infrastructure in favour of active transport	T4. Support the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy and the implementation of the Rights of Way Improvement Plans for to develop motor vehicle free routes for walking & cycling	2024 / 25 > 2025 / 26 >	Support Climate Change Team Planning KCC	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	• Working with KCC via the Climate Change Network ✓ Worked with Explore Kent (KCC) to create 'Explore Dartford' Active Travel Leaflet - created and published July 2025

	T5. Support KCC trials of new transport projects that drive the transition to Ultra Low Emission Vehicle public transport, including fully electric bus routes	2025 / 26	Enable Climate Change Team Planning KCC	Low	Medium	Completed	✓ Electric Buses operating in the Borough via the FastTrack Service since June 2025.
TR3. Implement DBC Air Quality Action Plan for 2022-2027	T6. Implement the Air Quality Action Plan measures including Promoting Low Emission Transport, Traffic Management and behavioural change campaigns e.g. borough wide anti-idling campaign	2024 / 25 > 2025 / 26 >	Deliver Environmental Health	Low	High	Ongoing 90% complete	✓ Air Quality Action Plan adopted by Cabinet - January 2023 ✓ Anti-idling campaigns implemented ✓ 'School Streets' scheme trialled at Holy Trinity C of E School encouraging families to walk, cycle or scoot to school rather than drive ✓ 2025/26 Air Quality Management reports showing further improvements in air quality around the Borough. ✓ Working with KCC
TR4. Produce a DBC EV Strategy and improve the network of EV Charge Points in the Borough	T7. Develop a DBC EV Strategy and Action Plan to support the widespread transition to electric vehicles	2025 / 26	Deliver Climate Change Team	Low	High	Ongoing 80% complete	• Work underway on EV Strategy. Draft developed • Working with KCC and EV providers to improve EV infrastructure in the borough
	T8. Continue the roll out of EV Charge Points in Council owned car parks	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Parking / Property Services KCC	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	• In development, working with KCC and EV providers, rollout expected to begin in 2026 / 27

	T9. Work with partners to provide on-street residential charge points in the Borough	2025 / 26 >	Enable Climate Change Team Planning Parking	Low	High	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ In development, working with KCC and EV providers, rollout expected to begin in 2026 / 27
TR5. Develop a path towards a low carbon taxi fleet	T10. Review the Council's Driver and Vehicle Standards and Policies to create a greener fleet of taxis in the Borough	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Licensing	Low	Medium	Completed	✓ Policy review completed. ✓ Emissions standards for all licensed vehicles included in policy

Priority 3 - Built Environment

Focus: Improve the energy efficiency of buildings and support the shift away from fossil fuel powered heating systems to low-carbon technologies.

Key Performance Indicator:

- Number of energy efficiency measures provided to private homes
- Number of energy efficiency measures provided to DBC homes
- % of households deemed to be in fuel poverty
- Number of non-residential completions that achieve BREEAM excellent
- Percentage of dwellings granted planning permission which are on sites identified in the Local Plan and therefore located in sustainable locations

Target	Action	Timeline	Council Role/Lead	Indicative Cost	Potential Carbon Impact	Progress Monitoring	Comments
BE1. Continue to champion more sustainable development through the Local Plan (within the legal parameters allowed)	B1. Support national policy on sustainable development via the new Dartford Local Plan policy 'M3' which contains a range of requirements for residential developments including reducing embodied and operational carbon emissions, improving energy performance and preserving water	2024 / 25 > 2025 / 26 >	Support Planning	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Dartford Local Plan adopted April 2024 which supports the agenda ✓ Settlements and Sustainable Locations Supplementary Planning Document adopted June 2026 confirming how the sustainable transport performance of development is assessed.
BE2. Establish a decarbonisation path for our existing council stock	B2. Complete a stock condition survey and develop a delivery plan for decarbonisation of council homes to include types of properties, works required and timescales	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Housing	Social Housing Decarbonisation funding: £1,700,000	High	Ongoing	✓ Currently completing DBC stock condition surveys, 3'000 completed so far. ✓ Social Housing Decarbonisation Funding secured for 145 External Wall Insulation with approximately 20 of those properties also

						70% complete	needing loft insulation. This scheme is currently being delivered through use of the Council's procured contractor ✓ External Wall Insulation installed on a further 126 DBC homes as well as further works including loft insulation, internal insulation, improved ventilation. • 87.51% of Dartford Borough Council's Housing Stock currently has an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of C and above
	B3. Investigate potential for installing water saving measures in council owned residential properties (e.g. tap aerator, universal sink plugs, cistern displacement device, water efficient shower head)	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Housing	Low	Low	Ongoing % TBC	✓ Stock condition survey will assess this ambition
BE3. Ensure all Council led housing development is built to low carbon standards.	B4. Aim for new build homes to have an EPC rating of A or B	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Planning / Housing	Low	Medium	Ongoing %TBC	✓ Ongoing
BE4. Work with partners to improve the energy efficiency of homes in the private sector.	B5. Continue to work with partners on grant funded energy efficiency work to improve the EPC rating of owner-occupied properties in the Borough including	2024 / 25 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Housing	Grant funded including. Home Upgrade Grant scheme funding: £2,070,000	High	Ongoing	✓ Successful in securing funding for Home Upgrade Grant scheme. ✓ Connected for warmth scheme funding ✓ Household Support Fund ✓ Solar Together Scheme ✓ Kent Energy Deal

	insulation, solar PV Panels etc	2025 / 26 >		Warm Homes: Local Grant £1,868,398 (in consortium with Dover) Crisis Resilience Fund £65,000		60 % complete	✓ Successfully secured new scheme: Warm Homes Local Grant ✓ Crisis Resilience Fund secured ✓ Awards won at South East Energy Efficiency Awards 2026 for DBC Energy Efficiency scheme delivery ✓ Supported the development of the Kent and Medway Homes Retrofit Action Plan

Priority 4 - Energy Generation Focus: support the generation of renewable energy across the Borough.							
Key Performance Indicator: ➢ Number of local groups supported through Community Grants and other grant schemes ➢ Number of non-residential completions that achieve BREEAM excellent							
Target	**Action**	**Timeline**	**Council Role/Lead**	**Indicative Cost**	**Potential Carbon Impact**	**Progress Monitoring**	**Comments**
EG1. Encourage new developments to maximise opportunities for implementing renewable energy technologies, where appropriate	E1. Champion Local Plan policy M3 part 9 which sets out clear criteria so that appropriate energy storage or small- and large-scale low/ zero carbon technology and installations can be developed	2025 / 26 >	Support Planning	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Dartford Local Plan adopted April 2024 ✓ Planning permission granted for 5 Battery Energy Storage Systems with a total power capacity of 68.9MW (awaiting development)
EG2. Support residents and businesses to reduce energy consumption and increase renewable energy purchase and generation	E2. Signpost residents and businesses to energy efficiency / renewable energy funding opportunities and promote ways to reduce energy consumption	2025/ 26 >	Support Climate Change Team	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Engaged in Solar Together Kent Scheme ✓ Engaged in Kent Energy Deal Scheme ✓ Supporting local businesses with carbon audits / decarbonisation and grant signposting
EG3. Identify opportunities for (and facilitate) community power generation in the borough	E3. Investigate and implement opportunities for community energy projects in conjunction with other stakeholders, including not-for-profit organisations	2025 / 26 >	Support / Enable Climate Change Team	Low	Medium	Ongoing 50% complete	✓ Further scoping required – working with KCC and Kent Community Energy

Priority 5 - Waste Focus: Support the Borough to reduce waste, reuse, recycle, compost and encourage a circular economy.							
Key Performance Indicator: ➢ Percentage of Household Waste for Reuse, Recycling and Composting ➢ Percentage of household waste going to landfill ➢ Number of households taking part in green bin service							
Target	**Action**	**Timeline**	**Council Role/Lead**	**Indicative Cost**	**Potential Carbon Impact**	**Progress Monitoring**	**Comments**
WA1. Support residents, and businesses to reduce, re-use, recycle and compost	W1. Work with the Kent Resource Partnership on campaigns and initiatives to encourage people to reduce their waste and to maximise recycling	2025 / 26 >	Partnership Waste	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Working with the Kent Resource Partnership on the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Refresh • Ongoing
	W2. Work with local schools to encourage reduction, re-use, recycling and composting	2025 / 26 >	Partnership Climate Change Team Waste KCC	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Regular Litter Picks established with local schools ✓ DBC partnered with KCC and the Dartford Healthy Living Centre to work with Dartford schools on the e-Waste Warrior Project where students were urged to donate, repair or recycle their electrical
	W3. Consider options to increase public access to drinking water to reduce single use plastics	2025 / 26 >	Enable Community Development	Low	Low	Ongoing 40% complete	✓ Water refill station provided at the Council's Big Day Out event ✓ Further Scoping underway

WA2. Improve recycling rates in the Borough	W4. Review the waste management service to identify more sustainable ways of working, reduce residual waste and increase recycling.	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Waste	High	High	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Reviewed current waste contract as part of the upcoming new waste contract tender and with a view to Government policy directives ✓ New Waste contract 2026-2034 agreed at Cabinet in July 2025 and in place 1 July 2026 ✓ All vehicles provided under new contract will be required to meet the latest emission standards (Euro 6 for refuse collection vehicles). Some vehicles will be electric, some will be able to run on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil as an alternative to diesel, both with lower overall emissions ✓ Planet Dartford Stall at DBC events with newly designed 'A Rubbish Game' to raise awareness of sustainability and recycling
	W5. Work with KCC on their proposal to establish a new waste transfer station in the Borough.	2025 / 26 >	Enable / Partnership Waste KCC	Low	Medium	Ongoing % TBC	✓ Ongoing
	W6. Implement a separate food waste collection service in the Borough	2025 / 26 >	Deliver / Partnership Waste	Medium	Medium	Ongoing 80% complete	✓ Food waste collection service Will be in place by Autumn 2026, in line with the new waste contract ✓ Dartford Larder: social supermarket established and continues to provide an affordable shopping experience, tackle food insecurity, and resolve food

							waste to create a stronger, connected community
WA3. Champion circular economy principles and the waste hierarchy of resource Reduction and Reuse before Recycling.	W7. Support recycling and upcycling in the Borough through the encouragement of community Repair Cafes	2025 / 26 >	Support Waste Community Development Climate Change Team	Low	Low	Ongoing 80% complete	✓ Support / promotion of repair cafes at Temple Hill Community Centre & Tree Community Centre ✓ Repair Café held at Tree Community Centre as part of the e-Waste Warriors project, encouraging people to repair or recycle their electricals
	W8. Support and promote reduction and reuse campaigns in communities and schools	2025 / 26 >	Support Waste Community Development Climate Change Team	Low	Low	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Regular Litter Picks established with local schools ✓ Supported and promoted e-Waste Warrior's project, encouraging people to repair or recycle their electricals ✓ Utilised KCC/DBC communications for promotion of all campaigns / schemes

Priority 6 - Land Use & Biodiversity

Focus: Protect, enhance and increase green space for the benefit of people, wildlife, flood defence and carbon capture.

Key Performance Indicator:

- Number of new planning permissions granted delivering bio-diversity enhancements (on and off site) (BNG)
- Small projects carried out to support the creation of pollination corridors
- New open spaces/recreational facilities provided in new developments

Target	Action	Timeline	Council Role / Lead	Indicative Cost	Potential Carbon Impact	Progress Monitoring	Comments
L&B1. Produce and adopt a Biodiversity Strategy	LB1. Research and develop a Biodiversity Strategy that provides a plan of action to ensure that plants, animals and ecosystems are conserved, protected and enhanced and that progress is tracked, using measurable targets	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Planning Countryside & Biodiversity Lead	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Collaboration with Kent County Council to develop the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy and beginning of biodiversity activities being undertaken within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy framework. ✓ First Dartford Biodiversity Report endorsed by Cabinet in March 2026 ✓ Scoping / drafting DBC specific policy
L&B2. Continue to champion biodiversity net gain on new developments through the Local Plan	LB2. Champion the Local Plan policy M15 which establishes several requirements to promote biodiversity. This includes that protected sites will be conserved/ enhanced, developer contributions required in support of internationally recognised habitats,	2025 / 26>	Support Planning Countryside & Biodiversity Lead	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Dartford Local Plan adopted April 2024 ✓ First Dartford Biodiversity Report endorsed by Cabinet in March 2026 ✓ Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain through the planning system and approving the first Biodiversity Gain Plan for new development, with a second soon to be approved.

	new national Biodiversity Net Gain stipulations applied, developments to be landscaped to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and trees retained/ provided as appropriate						
	LB3. Champion the Local Plan policy (M4) which is focussed on managing flood risk and setting additional design requirements of riverside developments to achieve environmental & social aims	2025 / 26>	Support Planning	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Dartford Local Plan adopted April 2024 ✓ Lower Darent Riverside Strategy adopted February 2024 and in 2025 won: The award for excellence in planning for the natural environment, and The national competition's overall award 'The Silver Jubilee Cup'.
L&B3. Improve access to open space, food growing and wildlife through land management, community gardening and habitat creation	LB4. Increasing pollination corridor across the Borough, by increasing wildflower meadows and better planting. Mitigating for species flow as part of climate change resilience by ensuring the right plant, right place, by enhancing and restoring habitats, and improving formal planting schemes on council owned land	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Parks & Open Spaces Countryside & Biodiversity Lead Community Development	Medium	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ East Hill Cemetery became the first cemetery in Kent to be recognized for its re-naturalising strategy. ✓ Creation of wildflower meadows, community orchards, hedgerows and planting trees across the Borough ✓ Increasing pollination corridors across the borough, with areas being allowed to naturalise – in conjunction with nationally recognised schemes such as Burial Grounds to Inspire

							✓ Enhancement and restoration of differing habitat types to enable better species flow. ✓ Changes to planting schemes within formal gardens, to ensure that plants are perennial ensuring reduction in soil disturbance & carbon release ✓ Creation of better-established plants that are best for pollinators and provide refuge for over wintering insects and food source for wildlife, whilst still providing year round interest for people; within parks and communal gardens on sheltered housing sites ✓ 27 Parks regenerated across the Borough, transforming them into greener, better spaces for everyone ✓ 3 playgrounds in the Borough fitted with a sustainable safety surface called Nike Grind made from recycled Nike trainers. ✓ Wildflower Walks & Bat Walks provided in partnership with North West Kent Countryside Partnership ✓ Lower Darent Riverside and Flood Management Supplementary Planning Document adopted June 2026 providing guidance on avoiding locations at risk of flooding.

							✓ Dartford Larder allotment established for community food growing projects
	LB5. Continue to deliver campaigns to support a reduction in littering and fly-tipping	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Waste	Low	Low	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ DBC 'Name & Shame' scheme continues to tackle environmental crime
L&B4. Produce habitat management plans to enhance, restore to favourable conditions for effective sequestration of carbon.	LB6. To ensure that vast habitat mosaic across the Borough can increase biodiversity, and thus having favourable habitat condition will ensure climate change resilience for species flow, and in wetland areas flood defence. This will include tree stock assessment and working with Government guidance on tree replacements to cope with the climate change	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Parks & Open Spaces Countryside & Biodiversity Lead	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	• See L&B3 ✓ Working with KCC Plan tree project who gain County wide funding, to enable more tree and hedgerow planting. ✓ Project funded by CIL and managed by North West Kent Countryside Partnership (NWKCP) to help lowland heathland restoration (For 2026) ✓ Investigating the feasibility of marshes restoration project. ✓ Working in partnership with South East Rivers Trust (SERT) to improve fish passage in the river. ✓ Partnership working with NWKCP to help regenerate and manage Longfield chalk bank, and other sites, as well as deliver surveys. ✓ Tree stock inventory and survey in process of being undertaken for all public open access spaces, and any associated tree works.

Priority 7 – Governance & Finance Focus: Embed climate change in all decision making and governance at the Council							
Key Performance Indicator: ➢ DBC Greenhouse Gas Emissions							
Target	**Action**	**Timeline**	**Council Role/Lead**	**Indicative Cost**	**Potential Carbon Impact**	**Progress Monitoring**	**Comments**
GF1. Ensure climate change is embedded in our key strategies, plans and performance indicators	G1. Review Performance Indicators to ensure Climate Change is embedded throughout	2024 / 25 > 2025 / 26>	Deliver Climate Change Team Corporate Policy	Low	High	Ongoing 80% complete	✓ Corporate Plan and KPIs developed with strong Environment priority / objectives. Mid-point review underway ✓ Carbon Impact Assessment process embedding into decision making
	G2. Review key strategies and service plans and ensure Climate Change is considered going forward.	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Corporate Policy	Low	Medium	Ongoing 80% complete	✓ Carbon Impact Assessment process embedding into decision making
GF2. Incorporate climate change into our governance structure	G3. Continue to review and enhance our governance by embedding climate change-related responsibilities across the Council	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Corporate Policy	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ Climate Change Team restructured ✓ Lead Member for Climate Change & Natural Environment ✓ Countryside & Biodiversity Lead Officer ✓ Carbon Impact Assessment process embedding into decision making

GF3. Embed sustainability into all commissioning, procurement and contract management processes	G4. Review the Councils Procurement Strategy to strengthen the procurement process ensuring environmental considerations are made when procuring goods and services	2025 / 26	Deliver Climate Change Team Finance / Procurement	Low	High	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Procurement Strategy reviewed and strengthened in terms of environmental considerations ✓ Sustainable Procurement Toolkit Developed ✓ Carbon Impact Assessment process embedding into decision making
GF4. Ensure climate and environmental factors are integrated into mainstream financial decision making.	G5. Ensure current and future financial risks and opportunities from climate and environmental factors are integrated into mainstream financial decision making at the Council	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Finance / Procurement	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Procurement Strategy reviewed and strengthened in terms of environmental considerations ✓ Sustainable Procurement Toolkit Developed ✓ Carbon Impact Assessment process embedding into decision making

Priority 8 – Collaboration & Engagement

Focus: Empower residents, businesses and communities to make informed decisions on climate change and access relevant grants.

Key Performance Indicator:

- Number of local groups supported through Community Grants and other grant schemes
- Number of Community projects funded through Community Infrastructure Levy funding

Target	Action	Timeline	Council Role/Lead	Indicative Cost	Potential Carbon Impact	Progress Monitoring	Comments
C&E1. Raise awareness of Climate Change and Biodiversity loss via the implementation of a Communications Strategy	CE1. Develop and implement a Climate Change Communications strategy that empowers communities to make informed decisions on climate change	2025 / 26 >	Deliver Climate Change Team Communications	Low	Medium	Ongoing 60% complete	✓ Working closely with DBC Comms Team to ensure key messages / events are communicated effectively
C&E2. Support community activities aimed at decreasing emissions and increasing local resilience to climate change	CE2. Support Repair Cafes, Community gardens / allotments, Community Fridge networks, Car sharing clubs	2025 / 26 >	Support Climate Change Team Community Development Communications	Low	Medium	Ongoing 80% complete	✓ Planet Dartford Green Grant Fund continues to support local organisations ✓ Support / promotion of repair cafes at Temple Hill Community Centre & Tree Community Centre ✓ Dartford Larder: social supermarket continues to provide an affordable shopping experience, tackle food insecurity, and resolve food waste to create a stronger, connected community ✓ Dartford Larder Allotment established for community food growing projects

C&E3. Signpost residents and businesses to relevant grants	CE3. Support residents and local businesses to access grant funding (e.g. EV purchase and charging, energy efficiency measures etc)	2025 / 26 >	Support Climate Change Team Housing Economic Development Communications	Low	Medium	Ongoing 80% complete	✓ DBC Energy Efficiency webpage regularly updated with latest grant information ✓ Planet Dartford Stall at Big Day Out / Ingress Park Family Day ✓ Planet Dartford Green Grant Fund continues to support local organisations ✓ Supporting local businesses with carbon audits / decarbonisation and signposting to relevant grants
C&E4. Work with all partners and key stakeholders to address climate change	CE4. Proactively build networks with partners and key stakeholders in order to work together on projects to address climate change, including working with KCC and supporting the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy to reach the Borough wide target of Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050	2025 / 26 >	Support / Partnership Climate Change Team KCC	Low	Medium	Ongoing 70% complete	✓ DBC is an active member of the KCC Climate Change Network, which connects all Kent Local Authorities to work in partnership on climate action / ideas ✓ Proactively working with Dartford Healthy Living Centre, North West Kent Countryside Partnership, Citizens Advice Bureau, Local Church Groups, Community Groups, Schools and Businesses

Note: The Net Zero Action Plan is linked to the Net Zero Strategy which can be viewed via the following link: Net Zero Strategy


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