

TMBC Climate Change Action Plan Year 3: 2022/2023

Theme 1: Policy and Engagement

1. Recognise climate change as a corporate commitment for the Council.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Ensure Climate Change is a key priority for the Council in the revised Corporate Plan, including measures to monitor and publish carbon data, lower carbon emissions at the Council and monitor and publish borough wide carbon emissions data.	Executive Services	September 2022
Investigate carbon literacy training for TMBC staff and members.	Executive Services	March 2023

2. Work with partners to address climate change issues, lower carbon and adapt to the effects of climate change.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Work with KCC and attend Climate Change Network (CCN) meetings to ensure collaboration and help meet targets in the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy.	Executive Services	Ongoing
Continue to feed into the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy via the Climate Change Network.	Executive Services	Ongoing
Continue to work with the Tonbridge and Malling Climate Change Forum to galvanise support for climate change initiatives and promote the climate change agenda.	Executive Services	Ongoing

3. Monitor Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's carbon emissions.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Complete the 2020/2021 carbon audit.	Executive Services	July to September 2022
Complete the 2021/2022 carbon audit.	Executive Services	July to September 2022
Produce a TMBC carbon emissions pathway report.	Executive Services	July to September 2022
Determine hierarchy of action plan actions, based upon emissions reduction impact.	Executive Services	July to September 2022

4. Monitor Tonbridge and Malling Borough's carbon emissions.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Review Borough wide emissions data.	Executive Services	July to September 2022

Theme 2: Sustainable Development

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Continue to pursue planning policies in the Council's emerging Local Plan that will facilitate the delivery of sustainable development through location, orientation, and design, and through the integration of measures such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), water efficiency and habitat creation.	Planning Policy	Ongoing
Through the grant of planning permission, the Council will seek to deliver sustainable development outcomes in line with the adopted development plan, national policy, and material planning considerations.	Planning Policy	Ongoing

Theme 3: Transport

1. Support the improvement of walking and cycling infrastructure in the borough.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Complete preparation of the new active travel strategy which will include cycling and walking infrastructure recommendations.	Planning Policy	Summer 2022

2. Improve the environmental standards of licensed taxi's operating in the borough.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Start the taxi licensing policy renewal process.	Licencing	March 2023
Provide wider information regarding taxi EV charging provision.	Licencing	Ongoing

Continue engagement with KCC through the CCN regarding future taxi licencing.	Licencing	Ongoing
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Theme 4: Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEV)

1. Provide electric charging points across the borough.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Progress the phase 2 programme of electric vehicle (EV) chargers in selected car parks as soon as practicably possible. Phase 2 will allow potentially up to 106 chargers across other council owned car parks.	Technical Services	March 2023

2. Decarbonise TMBC vehicle fleet.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Undertake a vehicle replacement schedule (transitioning to ULEV) for all parking vehicles, in line where possible with the capital renewals programme and expected lifespan.	Technical Services	Ongoing

Theme 5: Air Quality

1. Continue the full implementation of a borough wide anti-idling Campaign, to reduce emissions from idling engines.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Continue the anti-idling and school area monitoring project work, following the successful DEFRA grant for new sensors and signs.	Environmental Protection	March 2023

Theme 6: Habitats and Biodiversity

1. Strengthen local protection and enhance protection of species, habitats, and ecosystems.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Continue to monitor existing roadside nature reserves and add further if identified and brought forwards.	Leisure Services	Ongoing

Proceed with Reed Bed creation at Haysden Country Park.	Leisure Services	March 2023
Proceed with Holly Hill hedgerow creation.	Leisure Services	March 2023
Proceed with the planting of spring and summer bulbs across the borough.	Leisure Services	March 2023
Coppicing at Taddington Valley Woodland.	Leisure Services	Ongoing
Plant TMBC match funded 1000 trees and/or whips on TMBC land.	Leisure Services	October 2022 to March 2023
Continue with the lakeside revetment works in liaison with volunteers.	Leisure Services	Ongoing

Theme 7: Housing & Energy Conservation

1. Reduce the carbon emissions of residential homes.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Assist with removing barriers for private sector households by working with Kent County Council to target promotion of the second round of 'Solar Together' a collective solar group purchasing scheme.	Housing	Ongoing

2. The Council is working in partnership with Fenland District Council, the London Borough of Merton and Clarion Housing Group having successfully obtained £5.2m Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Demonstrator Wave 1 funding.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Deliver retrofit energy efficiency measures to up to 200 TMBC area Clarion homes focussing on hard-to-treat Wimpey No Fines. Clarion to provide £4.5m match funding across three local authority areas in the Wave 1 scheme.	Housing	March 2023

3. TMBC area has been allocated £1.227m Sustainable Warmth Funding to improve energy efficiency in low income/low energy efficient homes.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
We will seek to signpost eligible households to the Sustainable Warmth scheme managing agents.	Housing	Ongoing

4. Support our residents by signposting to information on energy efficiency and renewable energy measures and funding schemes so they can make informed decisions.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Financial assistance is available to assist circa 10 low-income vulnerable to cold households to access affordable warmth in the home while also encouraging these households to take action to reduce carbon emissions. TMBC will signpost households for advice on how to reduce energy usage in the home, for example, the Simple Energy Advice website.	Housing	Ongoing
Support any new provision of council owned temporary accommodation within the borough with feasibility studies to advise on potential for improved energy efficiency and any renewable potential.	Housing	Ongoing

Theme 8: Waste Minimisation and Recycling

1. Encourage more people to reduce their waste and make it easier for residents to recycle.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Continue with Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) re-use campaigns.	Street Scene	Summer 2022
Progression of waste and recycling contract, rolling out to flats and bin stores.	Street Scene	Ongoing
Development of KRP website and collaborate with national partners such as WAP and Recoup (plastic specific).	Street Scene	Ongoing

Theme 9: Community and Business Engagement

1. Support local businesses and encourage sustainable growth in the economy.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Aim to identify external funding to deliver future rounds of the green business grant scheme.	Executive Services	March 2023
Launch a further round of Local Shops and Parades Fund Scheme.	Executive Services	March 2023
Promote the climate change strategy and its objectives via the council's e-bulletin.	Executive Services	Ongoing
Work with KCC to promote and support the Lower Carbon Across the Southeast initiative.	Executive Services	Ongoing

2. Raise awareness of climate change, providing regular updates and information.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Refresh the climate change webpage to provide a better resource for promoting climate change work, and information to the public.	Communications	Ongoing
Seek to develop and provide more case studies to evidence and promote positive climate change work and opportunities in the borough.	Communications	Ongoing
Provide a climate change progress report / news release.	Communications	March 2023

Theme 10: TMBC Estate

1. Reduce the environmental impact of the council's activities, increasing the sustainability of all our operations.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Complete construction of Leybourne Lakes facility which includes solar panels and lake source heat pumps.	Property Services	Summer 2022

Embark on the wider decarbonisation of TMBC owned estate, with an initial focus of emissions intensive sites.	Property Services	2022 - 2030
Procure a carbon descent plan for Larkfield Leisure Centre and Tonbridge Swimming Pool, bringing forward options to members.	Property Services	March 2024
Evaluate Solar PV options to reduce energy crisis impact and electricity emissions at Larkfield Leisure Centre.	Property Services	Winter 2022
Develop a digital post room using the councils new corporate document management system.	Property Services	March 2023

2. Progress the digitisation of services and reduce the amount of paper used internally and sent out externally to clients.

Action	Lead Service Areas	Timescale
Look to review the TMBC device policy to be more efficient with the devices used e.g., power of devices and amount used.	IT	May 2023
Contribute towards the working arrangements officer study group.	IT	December 2022
Reduce the number of multifunctional printing devices across TMBC.	IT	September 2022
Continue to contribute towards service efficiency through the digital strategy.	IT	March 2023
Mobile working solutions and the digitisation of paper records and business processes involving printing (correspondence, surveys, inspections, interviews, records management, my TMBC app etc), to improve efficiency and reduce carbon footprint.	IT	Ongoing