

## **South Cambridgeshire District Council Zero Carbon and Doubling Nature Action Plan 2020-25**

This action plan has been developed in response to the climate and ecological emergency, to deliver the objectives agreed by Council in the Zero Carbon Strategy adopted in May 2020 and the Doubling Nature Strategy adopted in February 2021. It is a live document, reviewed and updated annually in line with the Council's Business Plan. This update builds upon learning from independent reviews of the Council's response to the climate and ecological emergencies by Climate Emergency UK and Bioregional. New actions have been added, and information about existing processes and actions that were not previously captured have been included to provide a more complete picture of the Council's work in this area.

Our Zero Carbon Strategy recognises the need to reach net zero emissions by 2050. This is in line with the science-based emissions target for the UK recommended by the Committee on Climate Change and adopted into UK legislation in June 2019. The target is set at the level necessary to deliver the commitment that the UK made in adopting the 2015 Paris Agreement which aims to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels.

Our Doubling Nature Strategy supports the vision first articulated by Natural Cambridgeshire, the Local Nature Partnership, to double nature in Cambridgeshire by 2050.

The objectives in the Zero Carbon and Doubling Nature strategies are to:

1. reduce net greenhouse gas emissions from the Council's estate and operations by 45% on a 2018-19 baseline by 2025 and by 75% on the same baseline by 2030
2. achieve net zero for the district of South Cambridgeshire by 2050, (in line with, and as defined by the Committee on Climate Change and adopted into UK legislation in June 2019)
3. double nature in the district by 2050

Reaching net zero and doubling nature are ambitious targets which will require concerted action by many players including the UK Government, higher tiers of local government, businesses and households. Our action plan is limited to actions within our spheres of

influence. This starts with our own estate including our 8000+ council homes, extends to our operations for example refuse collection for over 60,000 properties and extends out to the many ways we work with partners to achieve carbon reductions and improvements for nature in the wider district. Where we come across limitations of legislation and finance that stand in the way of taking action on the climate crisis we use the influence we have to overcome these as Members did as part of the Local Government Association delegation at COP26 advocating successfully for recognition of the role of local and regional governments in the Glasgow Climate Pact.

### **Governance, development and funding of the plan**

The action plan is led by the Head of Climate, Environment and Waste. Responsibility for developing and delivering the plan sits with the Lead Cabinet Member for the Environment, who is advised by the Council's cross-party Climate and Environment Advisory Committee. Progress in implementing the action plan is monitored by the Climate and Environment team, overseen by the Head of Climate, Environment and Waste. Progress reviews are provided to the Climate and Environment Advisory Committee at six monthly intervals, who make recommendations to Cabinet or the lead Cabinet Member for the Environment as appropriate.

The plan is embedded in the [Council's Business Plan 2020 - 25](#), which sets 'Being Green to our Core' as a key objective for the Council. Funding for the plan is agreed on an annual basis as part of the Council's budget-setting process, which takes place in tandem with an annual review of the Council's Business Plan. Funding for the plan is drawn from a variety of sources including from within existing budgets, from external grants and awards and from Council reserves, in particular the Council's 'Renewables Reserve' made up of business rates from renewable energy developments in the district, retained under the Business Rates Retention scheme, and earmarked for Green to our Core initiatives. In the longer term, many projects in the plan deliver net cost savings to the Council because of lower energy bills following investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

### **Integration of the plan into existing local authority plans and strategies**

The Council has a process in place to ensure that implications for climate change of new and revised local authority plans and strategies are considered before decisions on these are made. Climate change and Biodiversity and green spaces are key themes in the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan which draws upon a strong net zero carbon evidence base.

### **Community, engagement and communication**

The Council will involve residents, businesses and other local partners in the development and delivery of the plan through regular communication and engagement activities, co-ordinated through an internal Climate Communications group. For the elements of the plan that require working in partnership, the Council will identify and engage those relevant partners and establishment agreements for collaborative

action. The Zero Carbon Communities programme including the Green Connect networking sessions are key fora for both communication of key messages, but more importantly collaboration and delivery of projects. As part of the Zero Carbon Communities programme, the Climate and Environment team are exploring partnership working with relevant organisations to expand the reach of the programme to a wider range of participants include young people.

### **Co-benefits**

Action to reduce carbon emissions often results in significant benefits, known as co-benefits, to health and wellbeing, community cohesion and nature. Examples of these include:

- Switching from fossil fuel powered vehicles to electric vehicles and/or active travel results in fewer vehicle emissions and cleaner air, which has a positive impact on health and wellbeing
- Switching from car journeys to cycling or walking means more physical exercise which has a positive impact on health and wellbeing
- Organising community projects funded through our Zero Carbon Communities grant benefits social cohesion
- Planting trees to lock up carbon, provided the trees are well chosen, can enhance green space and provide natural habitat

### **Impacts of climate change**

The impacts of climate change can already be seen in South Cambridgeshire, for example in the unprecedented heat and drought of summer 2022. Further warming is inevitable due to time lags in how quickly the Earth's climate system responds to changes in emissions. An Equalities Impact Assessment will be carried out for this plan and will highlight unequal impacts and action to mitigate these.

**Objective 1: reduce net greenhouse gas emissions from the Council's estate and operations by 45% on a 2018-19 baseline by 2025 and by 75% on the same baseline by 2030**

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Expected completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 2021/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
1.1	<b>Decarbonise fleet</b>				
1.1.1	Procure low emissions vehicles where new vehicles are needed and when replacing end of life vehicles (subject to availability of suitable alternative models and charging infrastructure)	Service Manager, Operations	Fleet decarbonisation strategy sets out a programme from 2020 - 2028	3 electric refuse collection vehicles (eRCV) and 3 electric vans procured	Order to be placed for 4 <sup>th</sup> eRCV to be delivered in 23/24 subject to available power supply
1.1.2	Install chargepoints at Council Depot and South Cambs Hall	Service Manager, Operations	Q2 2022/23	Chargepoints installed at Council Depot; Chargepoints being installed to South Cambs Hall project	Complete installation of chargepoints at South Cambs Hall
1.1.3	Develop and deliver solar PV, battery storage and electric vehicle charging network at the Council Depot - Waterbeach Renewable Energy Network project (WREN)	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Team Manager	Q3 2023/24	Initial business case completed	Q3 2022/23 Investment Grade Proposal completed and Councils' make investment decision.
1.1.4	Investigate feasibility of substituting diesel with HVO biofuel in one or more vehicles as an interim measure to reduce GHG emissions	Service Manager, Operations	Q2 2022/23	Trials completed with both Councils' agreeing to deploy fuel use further subject to budgetary sign off on fuel costs	n/a

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Expected completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 2021/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
1.2	<b>Decarbonise buildings &amp; streetlighting</b>				
1.2.1	Complete retrofit of South Cambridgeshire Hall to include Ground Source Heat Pump, Solar PV car park canopy, Lighting upgrade and new Building Energy Management System	Corporate Programme Manager	Q2 2022/23	Work almost completed	n/a
1.2.2	Review community rooms on our sheltered housing schemes to identify and deliver carbon reduction opportunities	Service Manager, Housing Assets	Q4 2024-25	Remote heating controls fitted to 10 communal rooms	Fit remote heating controls to remaining communal rooms
1.2.3	Install solar PV array to Elm Court sheltered housing scheme, Over	Service Manager, Housing Assets	tbc	Business case proposal for installation of green energy measures received	Approval of business case
1.2.4	Install LED fittings in all Council owned streetlights	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Team Manager	tbc	Phase 1 completed other than some rectification work to be agreed. Phase 2 - ornate lights - is progressing with a plan for poor condition lights underway and a procurement plan for the remaining.	Discussions are taking place around plans to upgrade lights that are located on HRA land.
	<b>Action completed prior to 2020-25 plan</b> Energy saving and carbon reduction measures to the Waterbeach Depot building (solar PV installed and lighting upgraded)				
1.3	<b>Decarbonise business mileage</b>				
1.3.1	Set up salary sacrifice electric car scheme	HR Co-ordinator	Q1 2021-22	Green Car scheme opened April 2022	n/a

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Expected completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 2021/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
<b>1.4</b>	<b>Minimise resource use/move towards a circular economy</b>				
1.4.1	Move to paper-free Council and committee meetings	Democratic Services Manager	completed	IT is now available for Members to access all papers online	n/a
	<b>Action completed prior to 2020-25 plan</b> Review of recycling facilities and collection and use of disposable single-use plastic and implementation of changes				
<b>1.5</b>	<b>Decarbonise supply chain</b>				
1.5.1	<b>Action completed prior to 2020-25 plan</b> New procurement rules put in place requiring that awarding of contracts >£5,000 takes account of decarbonisation plans of bidders				

**Objective 2: reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the district to net zero by 2050**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Reduce consumption of resources and waste</b>				
2.1.1	Implement a strategy to reduce consumption of resources and reduce waste	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Ongoing	Circular Resource Strategy for Greater Cambridge Waste Service is in place and being implemented. Key performance indicators are reported internally each month.	Ongoing review, revision and implementation of the Circular Resource Strategy
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Decarbonise planning and land use</b>				
2.2.1	Progress planning policies related to net zero carbon and wider climate change policies as part of work on the Greater Cambridge Local Plan Preferred Options consultation and work on the draft plan	Planning Policy Manager	ongoing	First Proposals include a net zero carbon buildings policy as well as wider policies related to the role of new development in responding to the climate emergency.	Full draft plan to be developed during 2022.
2.2.2	Progress planning policies related to net zero carbon and wider climate change policies as part of work on the North East Cambridge Area Action Plan	Planning Policy Manager	2024/25	The submission draft Area Action Plan includes a net zero carbon buildings policy as well as wider policies related to the role of new development in responding to the climate emergency.	Public consultation expected 2024 ahead of submission to the Secretary of State following conclusion of the Development Consent Order process for the relocation of the Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant.

	Action	Responsible officer	Completion date	Progress at end of 21/22	Next milestone
2.3	<b>Decarbonise transport</b>				
2.3.1	Through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, develop and implement a strategy to decarbonise transport	n/a Member-led	ongoing	The draft new Local Transport and Connectivity Plan responds to the recommendations set out by the Cambridgeshire & P'boro Independent Commission on Climate Change and includes an objective to reduce emissions from transport to net zero by 2050, see <a href="https://yourltcp.co.uk/Board">https://yourltcp.co.uk/Board</a> .	The final version of the LTCP is expected winter 2022/early 2023 for adoption by the CPCA Board.
2.3.2	Through the Greater Cambridge Partnership, develop and implement City Deal funded sustainable transport initiatives	n/a Member-led	ongoing	The GCP has an ongoing programme of sustainable transport initiatives, see <a href="https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/">https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/</a> .	n/a
2.3.3	Support development of Cambridgeshire County Council's Active Travel Strategy	Communities Manager	Q3 2022/23	The proposed Active Travel Strategy, currently out for consultation, includes the Active Travel Toolkit for New Developments developed by our Sustainable Communities team.	Public consultation in September
2.3.4	Support community-led active travel projects through Zero Carbon Communities grant	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Ongoing	Various projects supported, see <a href="https://www.scams.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant/">https://www.scams.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant/</a>	5 <sup>th</sup> annual funding round expected to launch Q2 2022/23
2.3.5	Explore feasibility of community car share/e-	Waste Policy, Climate and	Q4 2022/23	New action	n/a



	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
	club schemes with rural coverage	Environment Manager			
	<b>Car travel</b>				
2.3.6	Support development of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority and Cambridgeshire County Council's Cambridgeshire-wide Electric Vehicle charging strategy	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Ongoing	CPCA scoping an EV charging implementation plan for the area, we have fed into this & provided comments on the scoping document	Scoping document considered by CPCA Head of Transport date TBC
2.3.7	Develop strategy for EV charging infrastructure on Council assets Including single supplier for EV chargers	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	completed	n/a	n/a
2.3.8	Deliver publicly accessible EV Charge Points, working with partners.	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	ongoing	Public EVCPs installed at 2 sheltered accommodation sites. Grant scheme for parish & community chargers to be considered by Grants Advisory Committee	Grants Advisory Committee 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
2.3.9	Install EVCPs at South Cambs Hall for use by staff and visitors	Corporate Programme Manager	Q3 2022/23	18 x 7kW EV chargers and 2 x 42kW Rapid chargers installed expected to be completed by end of Q1 22/23	Secure a back office system operator October 2022
	<b>Taxis and private hire</b>				

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
2.3.10	Install Rapid Chargers to help meet vehicle charging needs of taxi-drivers	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Q4 2022/23	Rapid chargers at SCH installed as noted above. Plans for Rapid charger to be installed at Babraham P&R	Completion of installation of Rapid Charger at Babraham P&R
	<b>Completed action</b> Revise taxi licensing policy to phase out fossil fuelled vehicles				
2.4	<b>Decarbonise housing and other buildings</b>				
	<b>Support home energy improvements through partnership projects with the Cambridgeshire Energy Retrofit Partnership</b>				
2.4.1	Working through CERP, set up a scheme to deliver home energy improvements to eligible households funded through government Local Authority Delivery schemes and provide a Council endorsed route for self-funding households.	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Q3 2022/23	Procurement of the framework of installers is live until 5 October with contracts expected to be awarded by the end of the year.  A separate procurement exercise is underway for marketing material and website. The scheme will be branded as Action on Energy Cambridgeshire.	Contracts expected to be awarded by the end of Q3
2.4.2	Deliver the government-funded Sustainable Warmth project to upgrade up to 80 privately owned properties occupied by eligible households	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Q4 2022/23	Interim arrangements in place for delivery by appointed contractor. Targeted mailshot sent to 1000 households. Funding agreed to first few households.	Completed work to initial households
2.4.3	Support delivery of the Cambs County Council led	Waste Policy, Climate and	Q3 2022/23	In Round 2 of the scheme, targeted mail drops and publicity through social	Completed installations

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
	Cambridgeshire Solar Together group buying scheme	Environment Manager		media and other channels led to 3083 residents signing up to the scheme. 854 households in South Cambridgeshire accepted their offer.	
2.4.4	In partnership with Green Energy Switch, provide a free home energy advice to eligible households	Communities Manager	ongoing	Local Energy Advice Partnership scheme had provided 51 advice calls and 59 visits at end of 21/22	n/a
2.4.5	Provide free thermal imaging camera loan scheme and training for residents	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	ongoing	Revamped scheme being set up in partnership with Cambridge Carbon Footprint	End of season report expected Q1 2023/24
2.4.6	Raise energy performance of private rented sector properties	Service Manager - People, Protection and Planning	ongoing	Work has started to agree a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards enforcement policy for the private rented sector	Explore feasibility of PRS energy efficiency project
2.4.7	Raise energy performance of all Council properties to band C or above	Service Manager – Housing Assets	by end of 2026/7 subject to securing funding from Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund	Projects to install solar PV systems on 60 properties and add insulation to about 100 properties during Q1 22/23 are underway. We continue to carry out improvements on properties as they become vacant and engage with appropriate funding streams as they become available and assess suitable properties to benefit from this. This will all feed into the continuing improvements plan for the stock.	Longer-term improvement plan being prepared and due in Q2.

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
2.4.8	Improve energy efficiency of the Council's Ermine St Housing Company properties	Head of Ermine Street	ongoing	Contractor commissioned to inspect the portfolio and aim to introduce energy improvements to those properties with EPCs at a level C and below. Generally most of acquired stock is D and above with some exceptions.	tbc
2.4.9	Support community-led projects to improve energy performance of community buildings through Zero Carbon Communities grant	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	ongoing	Various projects supported, see <a href="https://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant/">https://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant/</a>	5 <sup>th</sup> annual funding round expected to launch Q2 2022/23
<b>Design and construction</b>					
2.4.11	In new build on Council owned land go beyond current building regulations for energy efficiency (part L) subject to feasibility	Head of New Build	ongoing		
<b>2.5 Decarbonise business and industry</b>					
2.5.1	Decarbonise the Council's commercial property	Head of Economic	ongoing	270 Cambridge Science Park solar pv will be complete Q2 22/23. At 140 Cambridge Science Park initial	Other opportunities on commercial properties to be reviewed by Q3 22/23

	Action	Responsible officer	Completion date	Progress at end of 21/22	Next milestone
		Development & Investment		discussions are taking place with the tenant regarding shared net zero expectations. An Outline Business Case is to be completed for site subject to tenant permission by Q3 22/23.	
2.5.2	Signpost local SMEs to information, advice and funding on energy efficiency, renewable energy, water efficiency and recycling	Head of Economic Development & Investment	ongoing	ongoing	See next action
2.5.3	Develop partnership approaches to supporting local businesses to become more sustainable	Head of Economic Development & Investment	ongoing	External funding is being explored alongside partnership working with neighbouring local authorities and business organisations.	n/a
2.5.4	Explore setting up work hubs and co-working spaces to reduce commuter travel distances	Head of Economic Development & Investment	ongoing	This work is underway. Current opportunities are listed on the Business pages of the SCDC website.	n/a
2.6	<b>Decarbonise food systems and agriculture</b>				
2.6.1	Run communication campaigns to encourage carbon-friendly diets eg Meat Free Monday, Veganuary	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	ongoing	New action	n/a
2.6.2	Explore feasibility of further work in this area	Waste Policy, Climate and	Q4 2022/23	New action	n/a

	Action	Responsible officer	Completion date	Progress at end of 21/22	Next milestone
		Environment Manager			
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Training and education</b>				
2.7.1	Embed environmental sustainability into HR processes	HR Co-ordinator	Q4 2023/24	New action	n/a
2.7.2	Support staff to understand and engage with the climate emergency	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Q3 2022/23	Staff climate change toolkit developed including intranet webpage and Climate Change handbook	Staff climate change handbook to be launched Q3 2022/23
2.7.3	Deliver Carbon Literacy Training to staff and Members	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Corporate Management Team to be trained by end of 22/23	Carbon Literacy training delivered to refuse crews Feb 2022. Training for desk based staff being developed.	C&E team to do training for Carbon Literacy trainers in Sep 22

**Objective 3: double nature in the district by 2050**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Increase green infrastructure and enhance biodiversity through Planning</b>				
3.1.1	Progress planning policies related to doubling nature as part of wider work on green infrastructure on the Greater Cambridge Local Plan Preferred Options consultation and work on the draft plan.	Planning Policy Manager	ongoing	In partnership with Natural Cambridgeshire and Natural England, 14 strategic green infrastructure initiatives have been identified and published alongside the First Proposals for the Local Plan.	Project planning is underway with our partners to identify the tasks needed to refine these initiatives and identify deliverable projects supporting them.
3.1.2	Promote good practice in securing benefits to biodiversity through development by publishing case study/ies	Natural Environment Team Leader	ongoing	Information has been collected for first case study	Case study to be posted on website
	Completed action: Update and strengthen guidance relating to biodiversity by drafting and adopting a new Greater Cambridge Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document				
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Increase nature by supporting community action</b>				
3.2.1	Provide grants for biodiversity through the Community Chest	Communities Manager	completed	The Wildlife Enhancement Fund has been incorporated into the Community Chest with £20,000 ring-fenced for Biodiversity themed applications for 2022-23. The first application under this theme - for planting of wild orchids	Promotion of the fund is being stepped up and case studies and a link to Natural Cambridgeshire's Local Nature Recovery Toolkit have been included on the

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Completion date</b>	<b>Progress at end of 21/22</b>	<b>Next milestone</b>
				- went to the Grants Advisory Committee in June.	Community Led Plan webpage.
3.2.2	Support tree-planting through Six Free Trees scheme	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager		2 <sup>nd</sup> scheme completed with 58 parish councils taking part and 228 trees planted	2022/23 scheme to be launched subject to confirmation
3.2.3	Explore options for delivering support for parish councils and community groups to create and deliver Local Nature Recovery Plans	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Q4 2022/23	Natural Cambridgeshire are developing a suite of resources to support local nature recovery. We are in discussion with them about supplementing this with advice and information specifically aimed at parish councils.	n/a
3.2.4	Support volunteers through our role as Tree Warden network co-ordinator	Natural Environment Team Manager	ongoing	New Trees Officer appointed	tbc
3.2.5	Share community project good practice at Green Connect and Climate and Environment fortnight	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	ongoing	Six events held in February and March during a fortnight of Climate and Environment sessions including on Electric Vehicles, planning for climate change, community action and cycling. 198 people registered for the events in total and recordings of the events were put on the websites so that they could be accessed afterwards.	Autumn programme of events



	Action	Responsible officer	Completion date	Progress at end of 21/22	Next milestone
3.3	<b>On our own estate</b>				
3.3.1	Take forward opportunities for tree-planting, wildflower strips and other initiatives on Council housing estates	Service Manager, Tenancy and Estates	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have a programme of further estate inspections planned for this year, beginning early in Q1. These will be supplemented by informal estate inspections throughout the year.</li> <li>• Total number of trees planted on our own estates in 21-22 was 25.</li> <li>• We have lots of good examples where PCs and local community groups have offered to water and monitor the trees we have planted.</li> <li>• We have set up a project group with tenant representatives to look at how we can support the Doubling Nature Strategy at a local level.</li> </ul>	Tree planting on two areas of HRA land funded through LA Treescapes Fund
	Completed action: Complete audit of trees on Council housing estates and undertake recommended maintenance work				
3.4	<b>On watercourses</b>				
3.4.1	Review management of awarded watercourses with a view to action to improve biodiversity	Environment Operations Manager		We have received the report from Rob Mungovan as well as accompanying photographs and contact references for local conservation groups within awarded chalk stream locations. The report focuses on maintenance techniques, periods of intervention and makes a justified reason for Ecology improvements that can be added to the	Moving forward we will be looking at supporting local nature conservation groups by exploring joint working initiatives that can enable groups to complete improvements to watercourses. Such joint working will look at using

	Action	Responsible officer	Completion date	Progress at end of 21/22	Next milestone
				general maintenance program. The usefulness of the report is that a view has been taken in consideration of flood mitigation as well as the ecology benefits. The document serves as a reference towards the SCDC annual maintenance program and in consideration and knowledge of conservation groups that also have work undertakings.	SCDC equipment to facilitate works that would be too costly for groups to purchase from a contractor.
3.5	Work with Highways England to ensure positive environmental legacy from A428 Improvement works	Waste Policy, Climate and Environment Manager	Q4 2022/23	The bid to the Carbon Theme of Highway England's Environmental Legacy Fund was successful and Highways England are working with land agents to identify off-site partnership opportunities for biodiversity and carbon.	Eight possible opportunities have been identified and are being reviewed internally by Highways England.