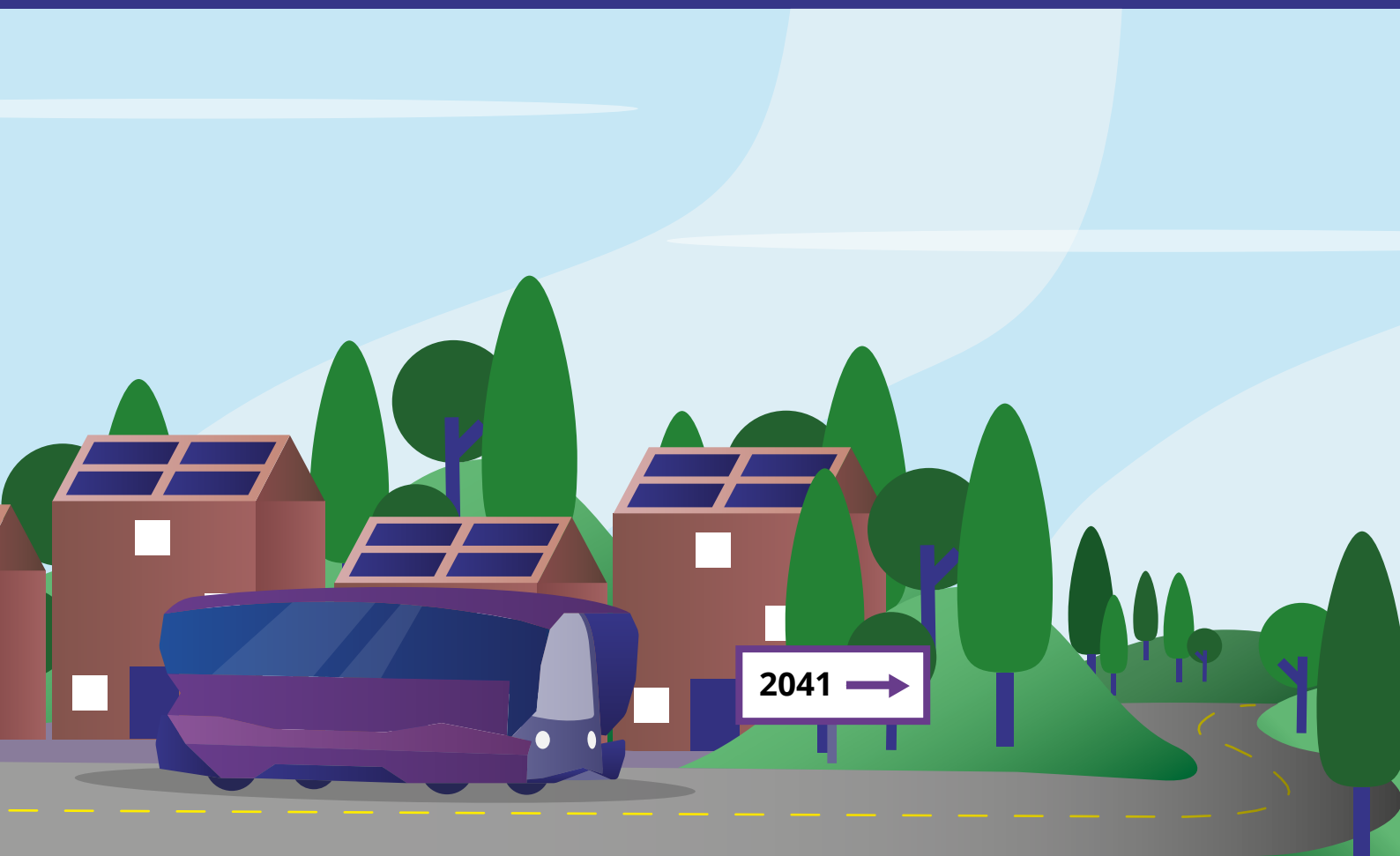


Net Zero Action Plan: Annual Report 2021/2022



**YOUR
FUTURE
SOLIHULL**



Solihull
METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Net Zero Action Plan Annual Report 2021/ 2022 Executive Summary

In November 2021, we agreed our Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP). This sets out the actions we can take to help Solihull reach our ambition to be a net zero borough by 2041.

This is the first Annual Report of progress made against at Action Plan. Overall, we are making good progress, with two thirds of actions underway, including all the “immediate” actions and 61% of “short” term actions.

We are proud that the Council’s response to the climate emergency was ranked 2nd of all single tier local authorities in the UK by Climate Emergency UK.

Solihull saw a 15% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 compared with the previous year. However, we must be cautious about this reduction as this was heavily affected by the COVID pandemic. This reduction saw us move well below the national average for per capita emissions and even below the average for the wider West Midlands.

We have almost halved the Council’s own emissions since 2017/2018, which demonstrates our commitment in acting to tackle climate change. The “Progress in Numbers” KPI report that accompanies this report sets out some of the key data we are using to assess our performance.

The NZAP highlighted the need for a step change in efforts to meet the challenge of reaching net zero by 2041. The Council has significantly scaled up our activity in many areas including domestic energy efficiency (retrofit programmes), tree planting (Planting our Future) and in Electric Vehicle infrastructure and transport innovation projects. We also continued our successful programmes of work such as our work with schools and young people.

One of the cross-cutting areas within the plan is engagement on climate change. The Council has control over less than 1% of emissions in the borough so it is vital that we work with residents, businesses and other organisations to deliver net zero. We’ve made good progress in this area and action has included the launch of “Your Future Solihull” our new sustainability brand. It is vital that we continue to ramp up our engagement as we work to understand and work with others to tackle the challenges we all face.

Whilst we have made good progress, there are many challenges in the delivery of net zero which we need to track and respond to. Some of the greatest challenges include navigation of the emerging policy landscape, funding regimes, council control, barriers to behaviour change, resource, supply issues and more recently the cost-of-living crisis and volatility in the energy market.

The Council's focus over the coming months will be on the actions that can have the biggest impact on greenhouse gas emissions or are deliverable now. This will include a continued focus on actions that make a direct contribution to decarbonisation, such as, sustainable travel solutions, retrofit, natural environment and energy actions. We are also introducing strategies, frameworks and plans that will underpin delivery. We will continue to focus on reducing the Council's own impact, including within our supply chain, and we want to develop a clearer approach to the funding and financing of net zero.



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Net Zero Action Plan Annual Report: Progress in Numbers

This section sets out our Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) for the Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP). These KPI's were chosen to help us understand Solihull's emissions, data trends and show the impact of our collective action on climate change. This is our first year of reporting so a lot of the data we have collected will be used as our baseline and will enable us to set targets against the KPI's.

Please Note: we have used the most up to date available, unless stated the data is from 2021/2022 financial year. Information on Data sources is included in Section 10 of this report.

Greenhouse gas emissions

- Annual Greenhouse Gas Emissions (2020): 1.14 million tonnes CO₂e¹. This is a reduction from 2019 of 15%
- 5.2 tonnes CO₂e per person in Solihull (2020)¹. This is lower than the national average of 5.6 tonnes and West Midlands average of 5.3 tonnes
- 143 tonnes² of CO₂e per million pounds of gross value added (2018). This is a measure of the carbon intensity of Solihull's economy and compares favourably to 269 tonnes of CO₂e for each million pound gross value added across the West Midlands.

Emissions by source

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2020>

²

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/economy/grossvalueaddedgva/datasets/regionalgrossvalueaddedbalancedlocalauthoritiesbynuts1region/ukwestmidlands/regionalgrossvalueaddedbalancedbyindustrylocalauthoritiesukwestmidlands.xlsx>

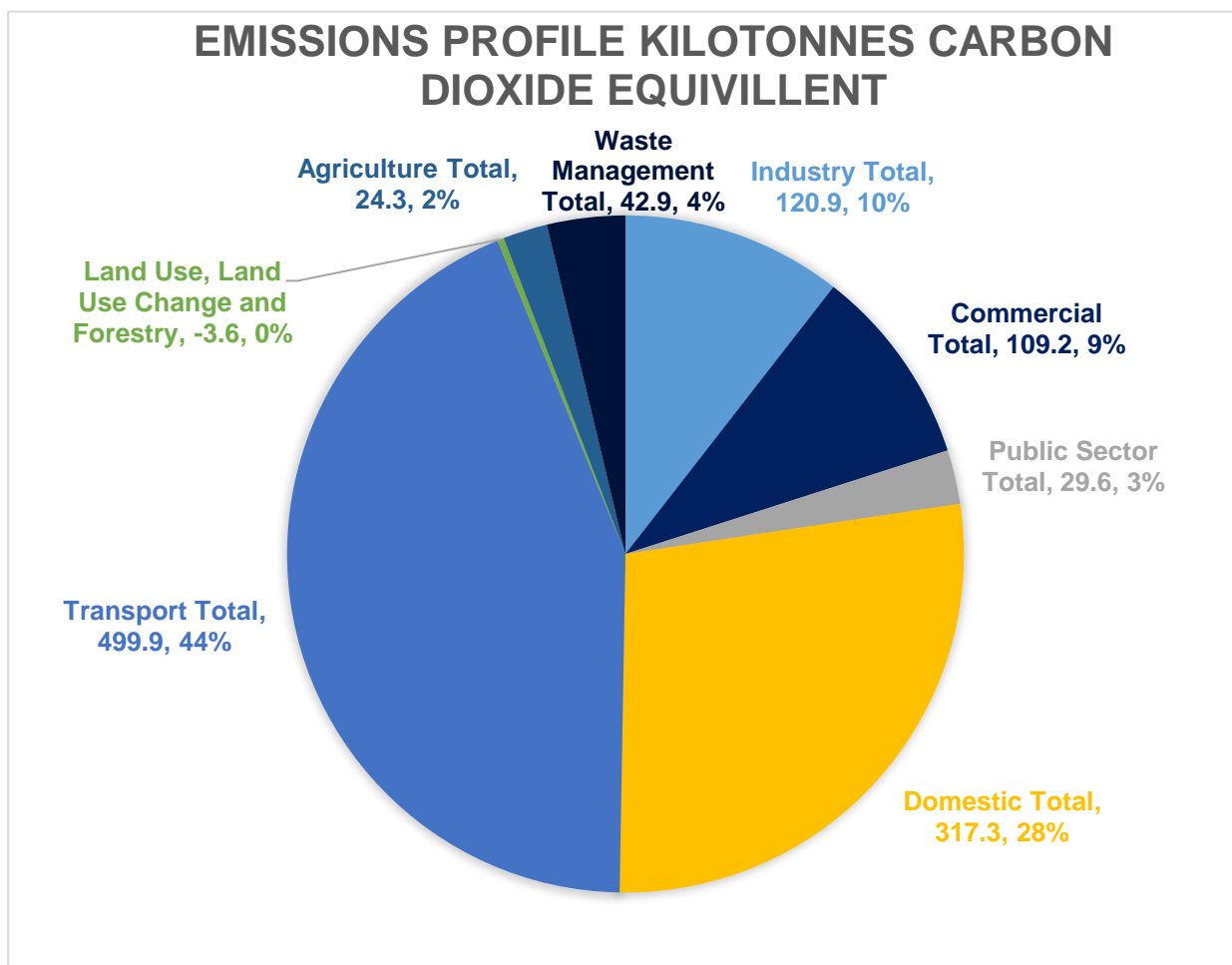


Chart 1: Emissions Profile – Kilo tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent

Non-Domestic Buildings

- Proportion of non-domestic buildings in the borough reaching Display Energy Certificate rating of 'C' or equivalent: 32%³. Equivalent to the national average of 32%.
- 14652 (kW/m²) Energy use in KWh per floor area from owned and operated council buildings, this is a 2% increase from 2019/2020
- 6536 (kW/ m²) Energy use in KWh per floor area from council owned schools (excluding academies) this is a 16% reduction from 2019/2020
- 39 schools engaged on sustainability

Domestic Buildings

³ <https://epc.opendatacommunities.org/>

- 32%⁴ Domestic buildings reaching Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) level C. This is slightly lower than the national average of 33%. This is improving with 46% of EPC's registered in 2021/2022 financial year at C or above.
- 73% of Solihull Community Housing properties at EPC level C or above
- 181 households have submitted an Expression of Interest to Act on Energy for energy efficiency funding.

Transport

- 5% of vehicles licenced in Solihull were Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles as a percentage of the total⁵ . This compares to 2% nationally.
- 56.56⁶ Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points per 100,000 people in Solihull. This compares to 42 per 100,000 nationally and 31 per 100,000 in the West Midlands.
- Number of Council installed EV charge points: 56 an increase of 50 this year

Waste

- 39%⁷ municipal waste was recycled 2020/ 2021. This is below the national average of 42.3% but slightly higher than the West Midlands average of 38.8%

Natural Environment

- 16.3% Canopy Cover across Solihull, this compares with about 16% nationally⁸.
- 51,000 trees planted in the first two years of the Planting our Future programme. The commitment is for 25,000 per year.
- 1,774 Individuals engaged through local environmental initiative Love Solihull for example litter picking.
- 55/120 local wildlife sites in positive management. 46% compared to the national average of 47%. These sites are being managed to preserve their nature conservation interest.

Energy Supply

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-energy-performance-of-buildings-certificates#epcs-for-existing-domestic-properties>

⁵

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/896238/veh0132.ods

⁶ <https://www.zap-map.com/live/>

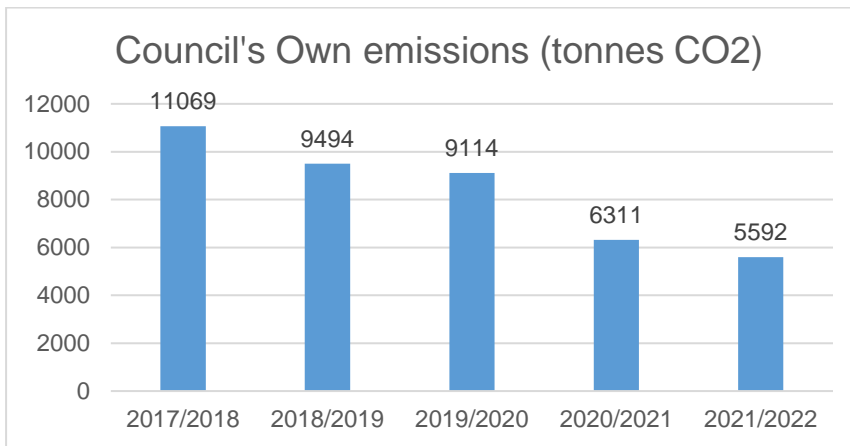
⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables>

⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables>

- 9.5 Mega Watts⁹ (MW) of installed renewable energy capacity (2021); 97% photovoltaics and 3% sewage gas.
- 7,386 Mega Watt hours⁸ (MWh) Total renewable generation in MWh in 2021. That is enough to power around 2400 homes (around 3% of the homes in Solihull)

Council Strategy and Engagement

- 77 Members of Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group.
- £567,300 of social value generated on council's procurement contracts
- Council's operational emissions 5592 tonnes CO₂ this is a reduction of 49% from 2017/2018.



⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics>

Net Zero Action Plan Annual Report 2021/22

Section 1: Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

In November 2021 Solihull Council adopted our Net Zero Action Plan (NZAP), which sets out the actions we can take to reach our ambition to be a net zero borough by 2041. This is the first annual report of progress against the plan.

This report provides a narrative on Solihull's progress in delivering our net zero action plan, it highlights what the data is telling us from our KPI's and how we are performing against the actions in the plan. It also identifies some of our key challenges and our focus areas for the coming months.



1.2 How this report is structured

Section 1:	Introduction and Overview
Section 2:	Greenhouse Gas Emissions, focus on the key emissions data
Sections 3 to 9:	Profiles of progress by emissions sources including data and action highlights
Section 10:	Communication and Engagement
Section 11:	Challenges: looks at the challenges in delivery of the NZAP
Section 12:	Priorities for 2022-2024
Section 13:	Conclusions

1.3 How are we doing against our plan?

Over two-thirds (135 of 203) of the actions within the NZAP have already commenced.

- 4 are complete
- 38 have seen significant progress
- 93 have scoping in progress
- 68 are not yet started

Table 1: Action Progress and Timescale

	Immediate	Short	Medium	Long	Total
Completed	2	1	0	1	4

Significant Progress	16	13	6	3	38
Scoping in Progress	36	25	26	6	93
Not Started	0	25	31	12	68
Total	54	64	63	22	203

All the immediate actions have started and many of the short medium and long-term actions are underway. Immediate actions are those to be started as soon as possible, short-term actions are those to be started in the first 2 years, medium-term in 3-6 years and long-term actions at 7 years plus.

1.4 Data guide

Unless stated, the data is from 2021/2022 financial year.

The Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) for Solihull's journey to net zero have been chosen because they:

- Demonstrate performance over time.
- Are justifiable - they demonstrate performance that links to decarbonisation.
- Are based on available data.
- Include a combination of leading and lagging indicators. Leading indicators look at proactive action taken by the Council or other organisations. Lagging indicators look at past data to demonstrate performance



SMART targets will be set to ensure we are able to monitor delivery against the NZAP. This year is the first year we have collected much of this data and it will become our baseline for setting these targets.

Section 2: Solihull's Greenhouse Gas Emissions

2.1 Overview

- Total borough wide GHG emissions per year: 1.14 million tonnes CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e)¹⁰ (2020)
- Greenhouse gas emissions per capita: 5.2 tCO₂e per person (2020)
- Carbon intensity per unit of Gross Value Added: 143 tonnes¹¹ of CO₂e per £GVA (2018)
- Sectoral breakdown of GHG emissions (tCO₂e)¹⁰ (2020) (Table 2 below)

Table 2: Greenhouse gas emission by sector (2020).

Sector	Industry Total	Commercial Total	Public Sector Total	Domestic Total	Transport Total	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry	Agriculture Total	Waste Management Total	Total
kilo tonnes CO ₂ e	120.9	109.2	29.6	317.3	499.9	-3.6	24.3	42.9	1,140.5
% Total emissions	11%	10%	3%	28%	44%	0%	2%	4%	

2.2 Why is this data important?

Tracking Solihull's greenhouse gas footprint is fundamental to achieving decarbonisation in the borough. We track reductions across sectors to help us understand trends in these sectors and where we need to focus our action. Understanding the carbon intensity of the borough (using per capita or GVA) allows us to compare our performance with other areas.

2.3 What does the data tell us?



In 2020, borough wide greenhouse gas emissions were at 1.14 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e), this is a 15% reduction on the previous year.

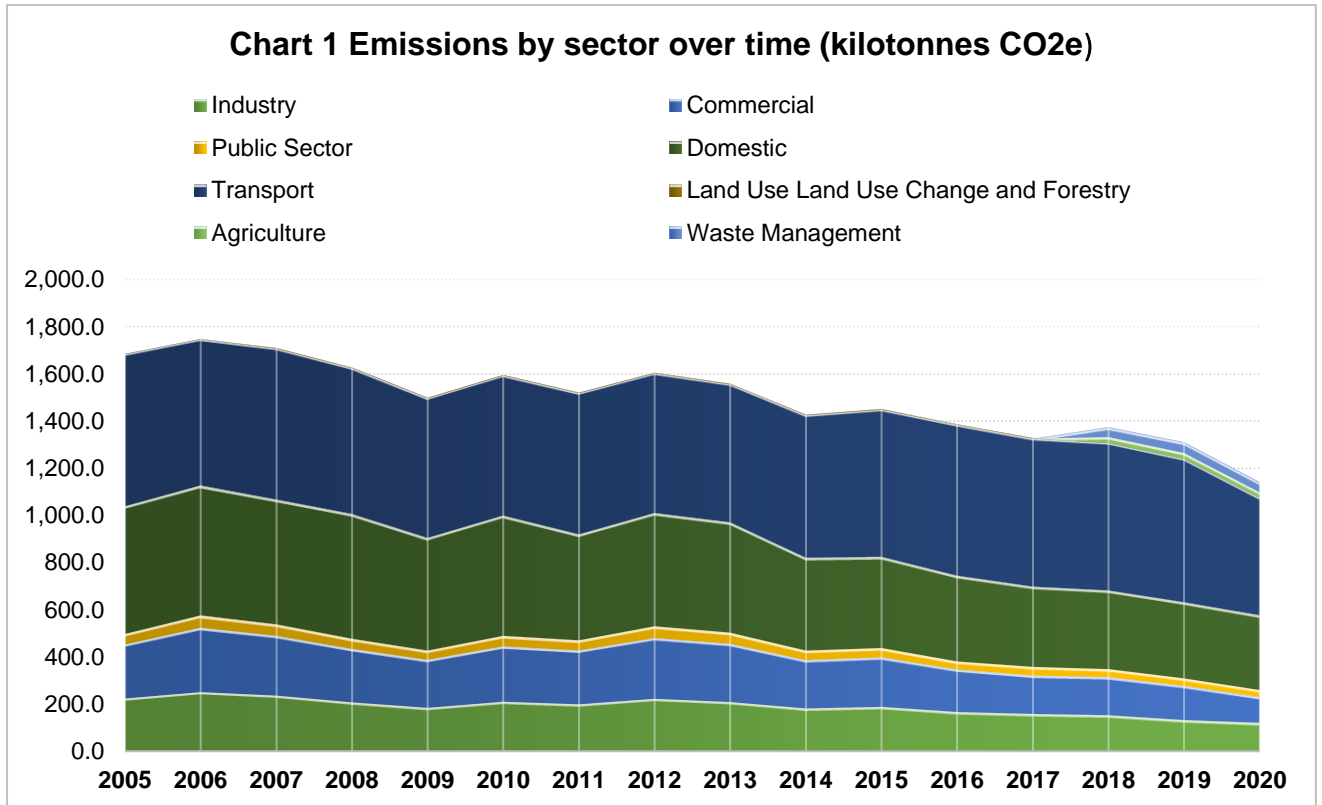
Whilst this is a large reduction, we need to be mindful that this may not be representative of progress, owing to the changes we all made because of the COVID pandemic. It's worth noting that the data available is 2 years in arrears, which is before we had our NZAP in place and the long-term impacts of changes made during COVID are yet to be seen.

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2020>

¹¹

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/economy/grossvalueaddedgva/datasets/regionalgrossvalueaddedbalancedlocalauthoritiesbynuts1region/ukgwestmidlands/regionalgrossvalueaddedbalancedbyindustrylocalauthoritiesukgwestmidlands.xlsx>

The unusual nature of 2020 is further demonstrated by the sources of emissions that reduced. Between 2018 and 2020 commercial emissions reduced by 32%, industrial emissions by 21% and transport emissions by 20%, whereas domestic emissions reduced by just 5%.



Solihull's rate of CO₂e emitted per capita improved from 6.4 tonnes of CO₂e per person in 2017 to 5.2 tonnes. This is below the national average and even slightly below the regional average (5.6 and 5.3 respectively).

Solihull continues to perform well on tonnes of CO₂ per pound of gross value added (GVA), with 143 tonnes of CO₂ per million pound GVA in comparison to 268 tonnes of CO₂ per million pound GVA across the West Midlands. This is a measure of the carbon intensity of our economy and is an important metric as we seek to decouple economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions.

The sections that follow focus on the specific emissions source types, look at what the data is telling us and provide an update of actions.

Section 3: Non-Domestic Buildings

3.1 Overview

- Proportion of non-domestic buildings in the borough reaching Display Energy Certificate (DEC) rating of 'C' or equivalent: 32%¹²
- Energy use in KWh per floor area from owned and operated council buildings: 14652 kW/m²
- Energy use in KWh per floor area from council owned schools (excluding academies) 6536 kW/m²
- Number of schools engaged on sustainability 39

3.2 Why is this data important?

Display Energy Certificate data shows us the levels of energy efficiency of non-domestic buildings using a regularly updated national data source, so it is comparable with other areas.

Council buildings and schools' data will help us track results from council initiatives on energy efficiency. The number of schools engaged on sustainability demonstrates the council's role in engaging with schools as a key stakeholder in climate action.

3.3 What does the data tell us?



Solihull's non-domestic buildings have similar DEC ratings to the national average at 32%.

Energy intensity in schools decreased by 16% between 2019/2020 and 2021/2022. The reduction in energy used in schools can be attributed to energy saved and the removal of some schools from the data, as they became academies

Energy intensity in council buildings increased by 2% in the same period. The majority of the council's corporate buildings have reduced their energy use; however, a few have increased their usage and additionally there has been changes to the properties included in the data. It should be noted that the intensity figures are not provided as a comparison between different buildings – there are a range of buildings which would have different energy intensities (e.g. leisure centres and offices) but more as a baseline figure for the Council which could be compared year on year to understand the impacts of energy efficiency actions.

39 schools engaged with Council officers on sustainability. With the Ashden Schools Programme coming to an end it's important that schools continue to be engaged with sustainability and that this is tracked over time.

3.4 Highlights from 2021/2022

There are two aspects to the non-domestic actions in the NZAP, these are:

¹² <https://epc.opendatacommunities.org/>

- Engagement and Influence - working with businesses and organisations within the borough, and;
- Acting to reduce the Council's carbon footprint in our buildings and activities.

The first point is largely picked up in Section 9: Council Strategy and Engagement.

3.4.1 Planning

The draft Local Plan will help future non-domestic buildings support our decarbonisation objectives by introducing a requirement for all non-domestic buildings to be BREEAM "very good" (for minor developments) or "excellent" (for major developments). This will be supported by a new Supplementary Planning Document which is currently being drafted.

3.4.2 Council Buildings

A Corporate Building Energy Strategy has been developed which sets the Council goal to create a Heat Decarbonisation Plan (HDP) for each Council Building. The HDP's will outline opportunities and make recommendations for the decarbonisation pathway for each building.

A template for the HDP approach has been developed in the work done at Parkview, an adult social day centre, which has created a sustainability plan and has already delivered 10% saving to energy bills with a few simple behaviour adjustments.



The majority of the Council's Corporate and Educational buildings have optimised, and compensated heating controls and infrastructure installed. These devices enable heating systems to be turned on as late as possible but ensures the buildings are up to temperature by the required time. In addition to these controls, most of the Council's buildings have automatic meter reading (AMR) facilities installed this facilitates remote access by head teachers and their team, facilities managers and the energy team to proactively monitor energy consumption and adjust controls where appropriate.

Within the school environment, one of the primary benefits of the Council's approach to measuring and monitoring energy is that actual site consumption data has been used in lesson plans and behaviour change initiatives. This approach also provides reference information to enable energy audits to be undertaken and actioned.

The Council was awarded £1.3 million under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, this was for enabling works to ensure Council buildings are ready for the town centre energy network. This work included improving the plant rooms and the efficiency of heating systems at the Core library and theatre complex and Tudor Grange Leisure Centre

3.4.3 Schools

Some of the key actions carried out in 2021/2022 are:

- *Solihull Youth Climate Action Survey* – Over 500 young people took part in the survey, highlighting just how important of an issue climate change is for the next generation of Silhillians. 8 in 10 of respondents were concerned about the impacts of climate change and 2 in 3 said they are already choosing to act on climate change. You can view the key findings [here](#).
- *Model COP26 Summit* – Students from nine secondary schools across the borough role-played UN countries, putting forward their country’s views on climate change and debating progress towards the Paris Agreement.
- *Greener Solihull School Awards* – In the annual awards ceremony, various schools across Solihull were recognised for their outstanding commitment to sustainable and greener practices. Presented by local business champions, the awards help to develop a sense of pride in each school’s sustainability activities.
- *Virtual Sustainable Schools Conference* - There conference covered the sustainable future of your school, climate awareness training and greener schools. The conference is aimed at school stakeholders including Eco-leaders, business and site managers. Council officers from various teams and outside organisations shared sustainability related support and opportunities, schools received the latest information on the DfE Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy.
- *Dennis to the Rescue* – Students of Langley School got the opportunity in March 2022 to see a close-up view of a full size refuse lorry, which has been transformed into a mobile classroom. Whilst on board the pupils experienced an interactive lesson on the importance of recycling and reducing waste.
- *Planet Super League: Schools vs Climate Change* – Five Solihull schools took part in the ‘Schools vs Climate Change’ competition, which saw schools across the country score ‘green goals’ for their school by taking part in a range of eco activities. The schools involved in Solihull saved a combined 7,793 CO₂e emissions, which is equivalent to planting 444 trees.
- *Other Schools Activities Included:*
 - 18 Schools took part in a Commonwealth Games (CWG) themed wheelbarrow competition
 - Recycled flag project: Schools created CWG flags using recycled material, the flags formed a trail around Touchwood Shopping Centre
 - British Council - Solihull schools made links to schools in Egypt and Zimbabwe for joint climate action activities through the British Council, Connecting Classrooms programme.



- Toy Amnesty - Schools took part in the Toy Amnesty Schools Challenge, jointly organised by The Appliance Recycling Group and Solihull Zero Wasters. The competition challenged pupils to complete a 'treasure hunt' and bring in old WEE toys to be recycled or re-used
- Fairtrade Art Trail: Over 20 schools created sculptures / artwork for the theme of 'Choose the World you Want' to coincide with Fairtrade Fortnight, the artwork was displayed in shops in Solihull Town Centre to create an Art Trail

Information on sustainable travel for schools and young people is in Section 5

Section 4: Domestic Buildings

4.1 Overview

- 32%¹³ of domestic buildings reaching EPC level C across the borough
- 73% of Solihull Community Housing properties achieved EPC level C or above
- 181 households have submitted an Expression of Interest to Act on Energy

4.2 Why is this data important?

EPC data demonstrates the levels of energy efficiency of domestic buildings using a regularly updated national data source. Overall number of EPCs logged can be an indicator of homes undergoing energy efficiency improvements and overall improved understanding of energy efficiency. Likewise, Solihull Community Housing (SCH) EPC data is an indication of energy efficiency in the social housing stock across the borough.

The number of expressions of interest to Act on Energy is an indication of engagement with households on opportunities for energy efficiency and reducing energy demand in homes. It provides an indication of households that may be seeking to reduce their energy consumption and improve efficiency.

4.3 What does the data tell us?

It is really important that we act to improve the energy efficiency of Solihull's homes. The percentage of homes with an EPC rating of C or above (32%) is slightly lower than the national average of 33% and higher than the regional average of 30%. However, with the cost-of-living crisis this is increasingly important. The biggest factor in EPC ratings is the age of the property, followed by fuel type and the type of property.

Solihull Community Housing is performing well, with 73% of homes being at EPC C or above. By 2030 all SCH properties will need to be EPC C or above.

Finally, the Council provides energy efficiency advice and access to retrofit programmes which can improve the energy efficiency of homes via the Charity "Act on Energy". The number of EOI's submitted to act on energy demonstrates households who are looking to improve the energy efficiency of their home with council support. This is an excellent start and is the first year this data has been available. We expect to see this number increase in years to come.

In 2020, the West Midlands had the highest fuel poverty rate in any of the English regions at 17.8% compared to the average of 13.2%. The Borough's rate was 12.5%, and whilst lower than the West Midlands and English average this still means that over 11 thousand households in the borough were living with fuel poverty.

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-energy-performance-of-buildings-certificates#epcs-for-existing-domestic-properties>

Prioritising energy efficiency action and advice is critical in the response to the climate emergency, not only to help us achieve the Borough's net zero aim but to help ensure a just transition to net zero and to help combat the increases in energy and cost of living.

4.4 Highlights from 2021/2022

4.4.1 Existing Homes - Retrofit

Retrofitting is the process of making existing buildings more energy efficient. This might range from small activities such as fitting energy-efficient light bulbs to installing cavity wall insulation or heat pumps.

This is an area where the council has made great progress, recruiting to a new position of Climate Change and Fuel Poverty Officer to drive this agenda forwards. Free energy efficiency advice is available to all Solihull residents through Act on Energy, who act as a single point of contact for advice on domestic energy efficiency and available funding.

Whilst Solihull is promoting advice and government grants across the Borough we are also taking a place-based approach focussing on areas with the greatest need of intervention.

Sustainable Warmth Competition (SWC) funding is being used to target specific neighbourhoods and establish an area based 'street by street' approach to retrofit energy improvements. A start has been made in Alston Road (Silhill ward) to support existing work by SCH under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. This will deliver External Wall Insulation to 50 properties with SWC funding used to support 'infills' to privately owned homes. Owner occupiers do not have to pay a contribution towards the scheme, but this is based on a first come first served basis and subject to funding availability. There has been an encouraging response from private owners with good sign up of Retrofit Assessments.



Solihull Community Housing (SCH) has agreed a decarbonisation plan which focusses on their existing housing stock. In addition to this they also have developed Faulkner Road - a development of 7 bungalows with heat pumps, solar panels and to very high energy efficiency standards. This is now the template for future SCH developments.

4.4.2 New Homes - Planning

Solihull's Draft Local Plan supports the Council's vision for net zero and sets out requirements for new homes, it sets out that development must apply the 'energy hierarchy' to reduce energy demand for heating, lighting and cooling and minimise carbon dioxide emissions. Policy P9 sets out that all new dwellings will be net zero from 2025.

Section 5: Transport

5.1 Overview

- Number of licensed ultra-low emissions vehicles as a proportion of all vehicles: 5%
- Number of EV Charging points per 100,000 population: 56.56 per 100,000 people
- Number of Council installed EV charging points: 56

5.2 Why is this data important?

The data on EV licencing demonstrates the shift to low emissions vehicles in the borough with a regularly updated national data set. The number of EV charge points demonstrates improved infrastructure to support increased EV uptake and reduce barriers. EV charge points installed by the Council is a leading indicator and shows Council action to enable and support EV use.

5.3 What does the data tell us?

5% of vehicles licenced in Solihull were Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEV) as a percentage of the total¹⁴, this compares to 2% nationally. There has been a steep increase in EV's within the borough from 1% of licenced vehicles in 2018 to 5% in the 2021/2022 financial year.

Solihull performs well in the number of vehicle charge points per 100,000 people at 56.56¹⁵, compared with 42 per 100,000 nationally and 31 per 100,000 in the West Midlands. In the past year the Council has ramped up installation of EV charge points with 50 out of 56 being installed in the reporting year.

5.4 Highlights from 2021/2022

Solihull's largest emissions source is transport, so the need to transition to a transport system that causes less harm to the environment is vital to the future of the borough. This involves prioritising active travel for those that can participate in this, promoting public transport and moving to low carbon vehicles. It's important to maximise the co-benefits of more sustainable travel, including cleaner air and health benefits of active travel. Rightly this is an area where a lot of action is ongoing.

¹⁴

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/896238/veh0132.ods

¹⁵ <https://www.zap-map.com/live/>

5.4.1 Cycling Infrastructure

Two improved cycle routes were created in line with the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), located on Blossomfield Road in Solihull town centre and in Knowle. The new dedicated cycle lanes, designed to enhance cycling opportunities in Solihull, form part of the Active Travel Fund (ATF), established by the Department for Transport (DfT).



5.4.2 Connected Autonomous Vehicle (CAV)

The Council's pioneering Connected Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) pathfinder project has seen a driverless ultra-low emissions shuttle

deployed in the borough including at The NEC and Birmingham Airport. This project aims to demonstrate real-world uses and learn about the technology with the aim of understanding how in the future residents and visitors might be offered new means of zero emission shared transport and an alternative to single occupancy car journeys.



5.4.3 Electric Vehicles

Solihull Council has recently agreed the **EV Strategy 'Going Electric'** with the central aim of ensuring that when any fossil fuel powered vehicle owned or operated in Solihull is sold or scrapped, it is replaced with a vehicle with zero harmful tailpipe emissions. In addition to this the Council has ramped up charge point installation with the installation of 50 charge points and adoption of 6 further charge points. To help support the Council's work in this area the Council has appointed an ULEV Officer.

Solihull had the highest proportion of EV ownership anywhere in the Midlands at the end of 2021 and is forecast to stay ahead of the national EV adoption curve. By 2030, our conservative modelling indicates that close to 40% of all cars kept within the Borough will be Battery Electric Vehicles.

5.4.4 Behavioural Change

The Council has been very successful in gaining funding from a variety of external sources to deliver sustainable travel programmes with over £2.8 million going to promote sustainable travel in the borough between 2017/2018 and 2022/2023. In 2021/2022 some of the highlights included:

- **Cycle Training:** Including E-Bike Try outs, Bike maintenance checks, accredited bike maintenance training, Bikeability training for young people, families and adults.

- **Sustainable Travel Education:** including 'New Roads', which is a transition programme for children starting secondary school and scooter training for younger children.
- **Clean Air Campaign:** 'Engines Off – Young Lungs at Work' is an initiative that aims to educate parents on the potential pollution that leaving a car's engine idling whilst parked outside school causes.
- **School Streets:** prohibits cars from moving into, out of or around roads surrounding a school for 40 minutes in the morning and an hour at home time.
- **Walking:** Park and Stride is provided where suitable alternative parking areas are identified away from school.
- **Independent Travel Training (ITT):** The Independent Travel Training team enable SEN children and young adults to travel more sustainably via public transport and on foot across the borough
- **Personalised Travel Plans:** bespoke travel planning with a group of residents.

One innovative aspect of the sustainable travel work has been the Workplace challenge. A four-week diary challenge offered to employees across the borough to change their mode of travel for one month and record their experience. Modes include walking, cycling, e-bikes and public transport.



Section 6: Waste

6.1 Overview

- 39%¹⁶ municipal waste was recycled in 2020/ 2021

6.2 Why is this data important?

This is a key waste metric demonstrating overall recycling of municipal waste.

6.3 What does the data tell us?

The municipal waste recycling rate is below the national average of 42.3% but slightly higher than the West Midlands average of 38.8%

The carbon intensity of the council's waste service has decreased, with a 10% reduction in 2020/2021 based on the previous year and a 40% reduction from the baseline year of 2009/2010.



6.4 Highlights of Actions 2021/2022

In 2021/2022 the groundwork was laid for the new environmental services contract, which includes the Council's household waste and recycling collections, street cleansing, the operation of Bickenhill household waste recycling centre, grounds maintenance, forestry and tree services.



"Dennis to the Rescue" visiting Langley School

The new contract offers a number of improvements. There will be much greater use of technology to help support the Council's 'Your Future Solihull' campaign to fight against climate change and reduce the CO2 emissions in the borough to net zero by 2041

¹⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables>

Section 7: Natural Environment

7.1 Overview

- Canopy cover across Solihull 16.3%
- Number of trees and hedgerows planted by council schemes across Solihull: 51,000 over 2 years.
- Number of people and businesses engaged through local environmental initiatives e.g., Love Solihull - 1,774 residents interacted with Love Solihull.
- Number of local wildlife sites in positive management: 55/120- they are sites that are seen to be actively managed to conserve their nature conservation interest.

7.2 Why is this data important?

Canopy Cover is important as it shows the overall tree canopy coverage, accounting for trees felled, not just those planted. The trees and hedgerows planted demonstrates progress from the Planting our Future project and Arden Free Tree Scheme.

Engagement with love Solihull Demonstrates public involvement on environmental issues and provides an estimate of the number of people reached by those initiatives.

Finally, the Number of local wildlife sites in positive management demonstrates maintenance and improvements of biodiversity in the borough, supporting natural carbon storage such as carbon stocks in soils and vegetation.

7.3 What does the data tell us?



New Trees Planted in Solihull

In 2022 there is 16.2% Canopy Cover across Solihull compared with about 16% nationally. However, canopy cover in the borough has reduced from 17.1% in 2016. We are taking positive action on this with 51,000 trees planted in the first two years of the Planting our Future programme, exceeding the commitment of 25,000 per year.

Almost half of Solihull's local wildlife sites are in positive management (46%), this is similar to the national average of 47%¹⁷. The sites classified as in positive management are mostly sites that are either Council managed or managed by an organisation we work closely with and are confident that they are in positive management for example Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. The majority of Local Wildlife sites in Solihull are in private ownership the majority of these sites would be reported as not in positive management.

¹⁷

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/857437/Local_Sites_in_positive_conservation_management_England_2008-09-2018-19_FINAL.pdf

The breakdown of interaction with Love Solihull shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Engagement with Love Solihull

Engagement	2021-22
Total litter picking registrations	923
Young people engaged in Love Solihull initiatives	851

In addition to this 28 schools, further education and youth organisations engaged with Love Solihull and there are 9 active friends of park groups in the Borough.

7.4 Highlights from 2021/ 2022

Natural environment is an important aspect of Solihull's decarbonisation journey, not only because our natural environment absorbs and stores carbon dioxide but also because of the wonderful co-benefits protecting our natural environment has. These include better air quality, mental health benefits and a reduction in flood risk. Love Solihull has engaged with a range of businesses, community groups, schools and other volunteers in a range of actions that make a real difference to the environment in Solihull.



Under the Planting our Future programme the council has committed to planting 250,000 trees in 10 years. That is more than one tree for every person in the borough – this pioneering scheme has already seen 51,000 trees planted in its first two years. Complementary to this scheme is the Arden free tree scheme which is an initiative whereby an individual or group can apply for funding to create hedgerows or small woodlands on their own land, within Solihull.

In recognition of Solihull's urban tree planting programme, Solihull has been awarded 'Tree City of the World' by the Arbour Day Foundation and is one of just 19 areas in the UK to receive the international award.

In 2021/2022, the Council concluded its Wildlife Ways project. Wildlife Ways was a £17 million programme, part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), which has seen massive environmental improvements across the Borough. Over the last few years, thousands of trees and over three million bulbs have been planted. On top of that, millions of wildflowers have been planted, equivalent to around 57 football pitches.

The Draft Local Plan includes policies to protect and enhance the Borough's natural environment including a requirement for 10% biodiversity net gain compared with pre-development baseline.

Section 8: Energy Supply

8.1 Overview

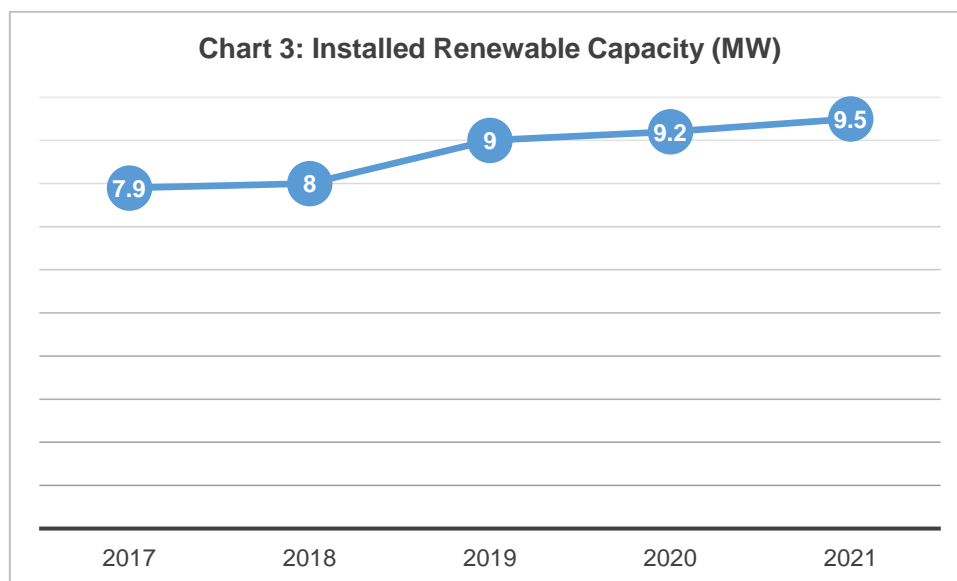
- 9.5 Mega Watts Total installed capacity of all renewable technology (2021)
- Installed capacity of renewable energy by type is 97% photovoltaics and 3% sewage gas. (2021)
- 7386: Total renewable generation in Mega Watt hours (MWh) (2021)

8.2 Why is this data important?

The data provides us with a picture of renewable energy both in terms of installed capacity and generation. We will be able to track this over time to understand if actions we are taking are encouraging the installation and operation of renewable energy. Installed capacity is the maximum theoretical generating output of the renewable energy installations within the Borough. Whereas renewable generation shows the amount of energy produced by those installations over the year. With renewable technologies generation is variable based on weather conditions etc.

8.3 What does the data tell us?

There are relatively low levels of renewable generation within the borough, with enough power generated to power around 2400 homes (around 3% of the homes in Solihull). However, it is encouraging to note that the installed capacity has increased by around 20% since 2017.



8.4 Highlights from 2021/ 2022

Development of the Council's proposed energy network for Solihull Town Centre has continued, with planning permission secured for the Low Carbon Energy Centre in May 2021.

The Council carried out an initial Renewable Energy Feasibility Study to understand the potential for renewable development across the Borough. The largest potential source of renewable energy within the Borough is solar generation with roof top solar having more potential than ground mounted solar. The next steps will be to understand this potential further.

The West Midlands Combined Authority has designated the UK Central Hub as an Energy Innovation Zone. The Council is undertaking a project to consider the whole energy system at the Hub, considering potential inputs, outputs and innovation. Work to date has included a baseline of existing and future energy demand and work is ongoing on technical and commercial feasibility of the project. The baseline indicated an increase in energy demand in the area of over 200% and would mean that the area has an energy demand of a town such as Dartford, this makes it vital to ensure that we decouple the growth at the Hub with greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 9: Council Strategy and Engagement

9.1 Overview

- 77 Members of Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group (SSVG)
- £567,300 social value generated on council's procurement contracts
- Council's operational emissions 5592 tonnes CO₂

9.2 Why is this data important?

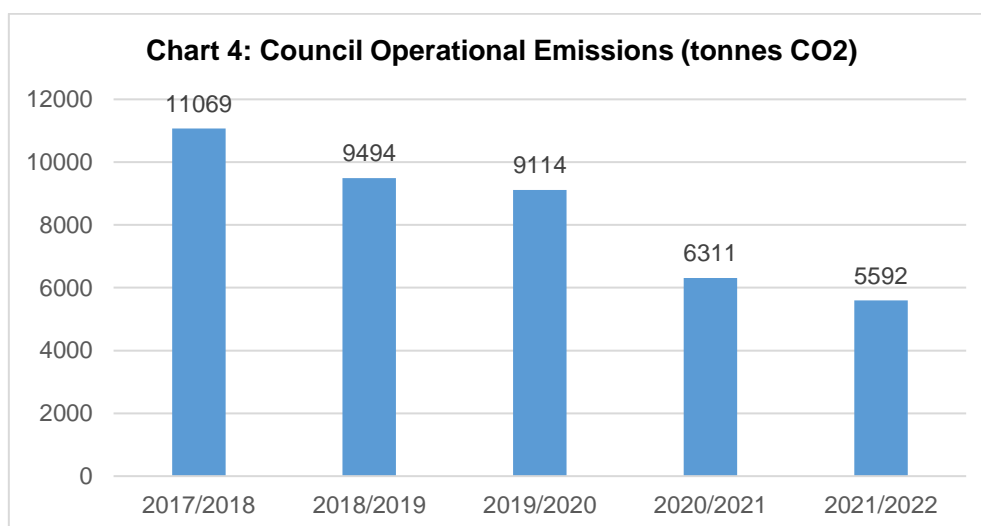
SSVG membership demonstrates the council supporting businesses on sustainability and net zero, allowing us to track numbers of businesses engaged over time. The Social Value data demonstrates additional environmental value brought to the borough through Social Value commitments of SMBC contractors. Finally, the Council's own emissions data is vital in tracking our own performance towards our target of being net zero in our own operations by 2030.

9.3 What does the data tell us?

The SSVG has maintained good membership levels through the COVID pandemic by moving to online meetings which have been really well attended throughout.

Finally, the committed social value of Council contracts since measurement started is £567,300 this is additional benefit to the Borough as a result of the Council's contracts.

We have made excellent progress in reducing the Council's operational emissions. In 2021/2022, the Council emitted 5592 tonnes CO₂. This is a reduction of 49% from 2017/2018.



9.4 Highlights from 2021/ 2022

9.4.1 Business Support

Solihull Sustainability Visioning Group (SSVG) has 77 active members from over 40 organisations and has continued to be well attended by representatives of business and other organisations in the Borough.

**Solihull
Sustainability
Visioning
Group**

The SSVG is open to any business or organisation across the Borough and cover a range of topics, highlighting best practice and knowledge sharing:

- **Best practice and innovation from members including;** Company spotlights and case studies from Enzen, Silence e-mopeds, npower, ZF, Enterprise, CNG, National Express and the Environment Agency.
- **Highlighting Council activity;** including the Net Zero Action Plan, Council Electric Vehicle Strategy & Action Plan, Town Centre Energy Network and Planting our Future.
- **Sharing innovation** including WM5G, Innovation Alliance and Aston University activity.
- **Highlighting funding and support programmes** such as the GBSLEP grants and the WMCA Business pledge.
- **Presentations from support organisations** such as the Energy Savings Trust, Solihull College, SWM, Midlands Energy Hub and TfWM.

In addition to the SSVG, we continue to use our existing channels to promote support to businesses within Solihull.

9.4.2 Procurement

The Council continues to use its procurement processes and contracts to help support our net zero aim. For example, Carbon Reduction is a prioritised output for Social Value. Plans are also in place to reduce emissions from the council fleet with a phased approach meaning that by 2030 all vehicles will be ULEV's

9.4.4 Council Emissions and Behaviour

The Council has continued to reduce our operational emissions. For example, our street lighting is net zero. This was achieved by switching to LED lighting and moving the residual energy demand to a 100% renewable energy contract.

Officers at the Council have continued to engage with stakeholders within and outside of the Council on net zero an example of this is that the inaugural "Lunch and Learn" within the Council was on climate change and net zero.

Section 10: Engagement and Behaviour Change

10.1 Overview

Engagement and Behaviour Change cross-cuts many of the other areas of the plan.

The adoption of the NZAP in November 2021 was timed to coincide with COP26 as the global spotlight fell upon the UK and climate change was dominating the news for several weeks. As a result, the plan received broad coverage across local and regional media.

Since adopting the NZAP, there's been a concerted increase in the amount of proactive communication taking place on the Council's efforts to combat climate change. This in part is due to a new post of Marketing and Communications Officer for Climate Change and Sustainability being created in recognition of the subject area being one of the Council's top priorities.

The NZAP fully recognises that one of the most important factors in achieving a significant reduction in carbon emissions is having effective and engaging communications which rightly praise positive climate action, but balanced against the backdrop of the severity of the situation we collectively find ourselves in. This is reflected in 78 of the 203 actions having a communications element to them.

10.1 Your Future Solihull

Preparation for the Launch of 'Your Future Solihull' (YFS) was carried out with the launch in June 2022, a complete rebrand of the Council's climate change and sustainability campaign. The YFS programme has a strong behavioural change focus, helping residents and businesses make sustainable choices and better understand the environmental and financial benefits of a low carbon society.

As part of the efforts to streamline and enhance the Council's climate change content, a new website hub for Your Future Solihull has been created. The intuitive and well-presented hub acts as a one-stop shop for all the climate change and sustainability activity going on in Solihull.

Focusing on key themes which cut across the climate change agenda, from transport and travel to waste and recycling, the site is designed to be engaging and informative. It's also an area with practical tips for residents, opportunities for businesses and it will host the Council's key climate policies in one place. The hub also contains many useful links to relevant regional and national organisations such as the GBSLEP, Sustainability West Midlands and TrustMark. Since launching the new website hub, there have been over 8500 views, with the most popular page being information on retrofit grants (over 20% of all views).

10.2 Press Releases & social media

Since the NZAP was adopted, nearly 30 press releases have been issued on a wide range of climate change and sustainability topics, including electric vehicles, energy grants and engagement with schools.

A suite of professional graphics has also been developed to accompany the Your Future Solihull brand which are regularly used on social media. The assets are designed to cut through the noise and be as engaging as possible. Examples include an exemplar 3D retrofit house model, highlighting key measures residents can take to improve the energy efficiency in their homes, such as external wall insulation.

10.3 Consultation and Engagement

Building on the momentum of the two-stage public consultation on the NZAP itself in 2021, the Council has continued to engage with residents on a variety of proposals and policies which have a strong sustainability focus.

Solihull Youth Climate Action Survey – Over 500 young people took part in the survey, highlighting just how important of an issue climate change is for the next generation of Silhillians.

EV Surveys – The Council is engaging with residents and businesses to help them support a move to electric vehicles, gaining valuable information about EV charging infrastructure demand. Over 450 responses have been received to date.

Low carbon mobility project – Research jointly undertaken with Arcadis investigating the opportunity for non-car based travel options around the Solihull area.

Net Zero Neighbourhood Survey – As part of a scoping exercise to assess the viability of a future net zero neighbourhood in Chelmsley Wood, over 150 residents shared their views on what they wanted to see included in the project.

Cycling Infrastructure consultation – Over 1000 responses to our active travel proposals were received, designed to promote safe and accessible routes for walking and cycling.

Energy in School – Feedback has been gathered from schools on their energy saving techniques and how the Council can further support them.

10.4 Podcasts

At the same time the NZAP was adopted in November 2021, the Council's first ever podcast, 'Courts on Climate Change' was launched, containing several thought-provoking discussions with the Leader of the Council on a range of climate change themes. The episodes were chaired by David Gregory Kumar, the science and environmental correspondent for BBC Midlands Today. Special guests included a school eco leader, the lead



architect on the HS2 Interchange Station and a senior E.ON employee. To date there have been over 450 downloads of the podcast series.

10.5 Awards & Accolades

10.5.1 Climate Emergency UK

In January 2022 the Council was rated as one of the nation's highest performing local councils when it comes to having a strong and robust climate action plan in place. Published by Climate Emergency UK, Solihull Council ranked as 5th out of all 409 local authorities in the UK, and 2nd amongst single tier local authorities. As part of the comprehensive assessment, each council was asked 28 questions which included whether local residents are being engaged with, if the actions have clear goals, and whether the plans go beyond cutting down the Council's own emissions.

With impressive scores across the board, Solihull scored maximum marks on communications and engagement, as well as providing the education, skills and training to enable measurable climate action.

10.5.2 Sustainability West Midlands

In December 2021 Solihull Council was ranked 4th out of 13 local authorities across the midlands as part of the Sustainability West Midlands benchmarking exercise. The Council particularly stood out for its 'natural environment' ranking, coming 2nd out of the various local authorities. This focused on the progress made towards protecting and enhancing the natural environment, including tree planting and enhancing biodiversity.

10.6 Internal Communications

Alongside the external climate change campaign, there has been significant momentum in communicating the breadth of climate action internally. Environmental topics regularly feature in the Council's internal staff magazine, 'Our Solihull'.

The Sustainable Travel team also offer a variety of services and incentives to staff such as the cycle2work scheme and cycling training sessions. Internal engagement also took place in the form of well attended 'Lunch & Learn' webinars.

10.7 Solihull's Climate Change Commission

Solihull Climate Change Commission first met in early 2021 to provide independent, cross-sector, cross-party advice to the Council and Cabinet Member for Climate Change Planning and Housing. The Commission acts as a 'critical friend' to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning and Housing and makes recommendations to how the Council can further the aims of its Climate Change Prospectus and Climate Emergency Statement of Intent.



Section 11: Challenges in Delivering the NZAP

The Climate Change Committee acknowledges the role local authorities must play in decarbonisation but also highlights some of the barriers:

“Local authorities have a range of existing levers that can be used to deliver local action that reduces emissions and prepares local areas to a changing climate. However, these levers alone are unlikely to be sufficient to deliver local authorities’ Net Zero ambitions, due to gaps in powers, policy and funding barriers, and a lack of capacity and skills at a local level. Additionally, without some level of coordination from Government, the UK risks pursuing a fragmented strategy towards Net Zero”¹⁸.

Whilst the Council has made good progress against our NZAP we need to acknowledge some of the challenges we are facing:

11.1 Strategy, Policy and funding frameworks

In June 2022, the Climate Change Committee (which is a national statutory body) asserted that current national policy does not go far enough for the UK to meet its net zero aims¹⁹. The commission goes on to acknowledge good progress has been made in some areas including the role out of renewables and EV, however it highlights that we haven’t seen enough change in important areas such as domestic energy efficiency and agriculture.

In addition, funding for net zero related action tends to be short term in nature, with limited scope and time to deliver. A key area where this uncertainty can cause an issue is in the retrofit supply chain, where the funding is driving the supply chain development.

11.2 Council Control

The Council has limited control over the majority of emissions within Solihull. We need to work with partners across the Borough and beyond to ensure delivery of our net zero aims. Local Authorities also have limited powers to enforce net zero change outside of their own operations. As such, our approach is to work in partnership with organisations and communities across the borough to help deliver our net zero aims.

11.3 Cost of Living Increase and Volatility in the Energy Market

The cost-of-living increase is likely to have impacts on the amount of energy we use. Whilst there is an opportunity for energy efficiency promotion and implementation of measures, forecasts are that people will use less energy over the coming months. Whilst it is generally good that people are saving energy by making positive energy efficiency changes such as filling the kettle half full, switching heating down a

¹⁸ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/local-authorities-and-the-sixth-carbon-budget/>

¹⁹ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/2022/06/29/current-programmes-will-not-deliver-net-zero/>

degree or using a slow cooker instead of the oven, it is concerning if energy is being reduced because people are unable to bear the cost.

Whilst we mustn't lose sight of the fact that decarbonisation is important to the future of the Borough, we need to communicate the financial benefits of reducing carbon emissions. The cost-of-living crisis emphasizes the need for a just transition to net zero.

11.4 Barriers to behaviour change

There are barriers to some of the measures we will need to put in to place to decarbonise the borough, for example understanding the desire for retrofit or convenience and perception of different transport modes.

It is vital that moving forwards we have a robust plan of meaningful engagement that moves beyond traditional communications into a more tailored and focussed approach.

11.5 Resource

As mentioned previously, one of the biggest challenges for net zero delivery for councils can often be related to skills and resource.

We have recruited to several posts that link to net zero, including roles to support retrofit, a ULEV officer and a Programme Coordinator for the NZAP. Further recruitment is taking place over the next few months.

11.7 Supply issues

The cost-of-living crisis and the fact that many people and organisations are acting on their net zero aims has led to some supply issues. For example, there are issues with the retrofit supply chain with supplier capacity and an increase in material costs. Another example is with supply of trees, as extreme weather and demand are impacting on supply.

11.6 Cost and Complexity of Net Zero Action

Whilst many decarbonisation actions will save money in the long term, there is often an initial capital cost which can be a challenge in delivering net zero especially for businesses or homeowners feeling the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

Net zero actions can be complex, linked to innovation or behaviour change. This can lead to a barrier in uptake of actions as there may be a lack of understanding or desire to carry out the actions.

Section 12: Priorities for 2022-2024

Whilst we have made great progress in many areas of the NZAP, we need to continue to refine our approach to ensure we meet our net zero aims. These priorities may change over time to ensure we deliver our net zero aims.

There are some areas we need to focus on to enable the delivery of the net zero actions:

12.1 Behaviour Change Approach and Communications Focus

Moving into the second year of delivery we intend to increase engagement to ensure specific actions are delivered. This will include a forward plan of topics and interventions which will be tailored to residents, community groups and business to support delivery.

The intention is to build on the momentum and expand the 'Your Future Solihull' campaign. Initially we aim to gather feedback from residents across the borough on what the barriers are to acting more sustainably, and what the Council can do to support. This will likely take the form of a borough-wide survey, helping to paint a picture of the different attitudes towards climate change across Solihull.

One theme to prioritise, given the current energy crisis, is increased communication around retrofit and how making your home energy efficient can result in significant long-term savings. As the various grant schemes evolve around the borough, opportunities to create case studies will be sought to raise more awareness.

12.2 Funding and financing of net zero

This is very much a developing area, and we will be bringing forward a review of the funding and financing options for delivering our net zero aims. In doing so, we will work with regional and national bodies, such as the WMCA, to bring forward climate change and sustainability activity in the emerging Trailblazer Devolution Deal.

12.3 Strategy and Plans

One of the core themes of the NZAP throughout its development was "acting whilst planning", meaning that we continued to take net zero action whilst we developed the plan. This is true for other enabling strategies and plans. Development and implementation of the following will aid our net zero delivery across the borough:

- Local Plan and associated Supplementary Planning Document
- Economic strategy and action plan: this will add specific actions aligned to the NZAP.
- Natural Capital Investment Strategy
- Solihull Connected Transport Strategy
- Sustainable Procurement Strategy and Plan
- Climate Change Prospectus Refresh

12.4 Focus Actions

Whilst there are many actions that the Council will carry out over the coming months, there are some highlight actions below:

- Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) Feasibility study to be undertaken for a Cycling Route from Castle Bromwich to Solihull Town Centre via NEC and Birmingham Business Park
- Combined SMBC/SSVG/Growth HUB event
- Sustainable Warmth and ECO4 / ECO Flex Programmes
- Developing partnerships with the private sector to deliver Planting Our Future.
- Implementation of the corporate energy strategy and developing an energy strategy for schools
- Delivery of the new strategic environment contract including improvements.
- Delivery of trial E-transport solutions including E-mopeds, E-cargo bikes and car club
- Delivery of a shared workspace trial at Dickens heath library.
- Look to secure funding for future delivery of segregated cycle lanes
- Reprioritisation of the Social Value TOMs leading to greater emphasis on the TOMs that are most important
- Delivery of net zero aims through Council led developments for example at Kingshurst Village Centre and Simon Digby
- Sustainable Warmth Grants Scheme
- Continue to deliver Directorate Sustainability Plans
- Consider moving towards compliance with the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) for our own operational emissions reporting.
- Focus on energy planning and feasibility including through the UK Central Hub EIZ and through renewable energy feasibility work, which will include exploring opportunities for renewable generation within the Council's operations and how we can support this within the Borough.
- Ensure robust governance and decision making for net zero is embedded within Council's operations working with Solihull's Climate Change Emissions to ensure independent feedback on our progress.

Section 13: Conclusions

Whilst we have made good progress in the delivery of the NZAP, we are in the process of ramping up our efforts. In the next reporting period, the Council will lead by example and further improve our own activity, support others to move towards net zero and ensure a just transition given the current economic climate.

To do this we will work with our stakeholders and partners to establish meaningful engagement and ensure we remain focussed on delivery of carbon reduction, alongside continuing to ensure that the NZAP keeps up to date with emerging policy and opportunities.



YOUR FUTURE SOLIHULL

Appendix 1: Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
BREEAM	BREEAM stands for Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method it is a method for establishing the environmental performance of a building.
Canopy Cover	The area of land covered by branches, leaves and stems of trees as viewed from above.
Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO ₂ e)	A measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases based on their global-warming potential, by converting amounts of other gases to the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide.
Display Energy Certificate (DEC)	A measure of the energy performance of a building, ranging from A – G with A being the best performing buildings.
Energy Intensity - buildings	The amount of energy used by a building divided by it's floor area ensuring that the date is comparable with other buildings
Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)	A measure of the energy efficiency of a building. Ratings range from A-G with A being the best performing buildings.
Gross Value Added (GVA)	Gross value added is an economic productivity metric that measures the economic output of an area. In the case of the NZAP this is in million pounds.
Heat Decarbonisation Plan	Sets a plan to move away from fossil fuel heating
Kilowatt hour (kWh) or Megawatt hour (MWh)	kWh or MWh is a measure of how much energy is being used.
Renewable Energy Capacity	Maximum net generating capacity of all renewable energy installations.
Retrofit	Retrofit relates to improving the energy performance of an existing building to make it more energy efficient – it can include a variety of measures such as insulation and double glazing
Scoping in progress	Planning or feasibility of action underway
Significant progress	Delivery of action underway
Social Value	Social value in procurement is about ensuring that procurement creates additional benefits for society. Solihull requires contractors to add social value – the impact of this is monitored.
Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicles (ULEV)	Any vehicle that uses low carbon technologies and emits less than 75g CO ₂ / km from the tailpipe.

Appendix 2: KPI Data Source

KP I	Sector	NZAP Intervention Area	KPI	NZAP ref	Data source	Notes
1	Overarching metrics	All intervention areas	Total borough-wide GHG emissions per year and per capita (tCO ₂ e)	All	BEIS LA GHG Data	Taken from most recent years data reported
2	Overarching metrics	All intervention areas	Sectoral breakdown of GHG emissions (tCO ₂ e)	All	BEIS LA GHG Data	Taken from most recent years data reported
3	Overarching metrics	All intervention areas	Total councils-own Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions (tCO ₂)	All	Council's annual carbon report	Council's annual carbon report
4	Overarching metrics	All intervention areas	Carbon intensity per unit of Gross Value Added (CO ₂ /£ GVA)	All	Gross Value Added Data	Total CO ₂ e (KPI1) divided by Million £ GVA
5	Non-Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Proportion of non-domestic buildings in the borough reaching Display Energy Certificate rating of 'C' or equivalent (%)	1.1	DEC data	Calculated by - DEC Certificates A,B or C divided by Total DEC certificates (%). All DEC data taken up to end of financial year of reporting
6	Non-Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Energy use in kWh per floor area from owned and operated council buildings	1.7	From Council's own data	Energy data taken from council owned buildings (excluding schools) in kWh divided by floor area of the same buildings to give an intensity figure in kWh/ m ²
7	Non-Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Energy use in kWh per floor area from council owned schools (excluding academies)	1.7d	From Council's own data	Energy data taken from schools (excluding academies) in kWh divided by floor area of the same buildings to give an intensity figure in kWh/ m ²
8	Non-Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Number of schools engaged on sustainability	1.7	Need to ask SMBC - internal	Total number of schools engaging with the sustainability team - this could include greener schools award, sustainable schools conference and model COP

9	Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Proportion of domestic buildings in the borough reaching Energy Performance Certificate rating of 'C' or above (%) and overall number of domestic EPCs logged	2.1	EPC Data	Calculated by -EPC Certificates A,B or C divided by Total EPC certificates registered reported as a %. All EPC data taken up to end of financial year of reporting
10	Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Proportion of Solihull Community Housing homes in the borough reaching Energy Performance Certificate rating 'C' or above (%)	2.4	Data Provided by SCH	Calculated by -EPC Certificates A,B or C divided by Total EPC certificates registered reported as a %.
11	Domestic Buildings	Improve energy efficiency	Number of households who have submitted an Expression of Interest to Act On Energy	2.2a	From Council's own data	From Council's own data
12	Transport	Switching to EV	Number of licensed ultra-low emissions vehicles as a proportion of all vehicles	3.3	ULEV data	Licensed ULEV vehicles as a % of total licences.
13	Transport	Switching to EV	Number of EV Charging points per 100,000 population	3.2	EV Chargepoints	
14	Transport	Switching to EV	Number of council installed EV charging points	3.2d	From Council's own data	From Council's own data
15	Waste	Reduce the quantity of waste	Proportion of municipal waste recycled (%)	4.1 and 4.2	Annual waste data	Data taken from last available year of data
16	Natural Environments	Increase tree coverage & tree planting	Canopy cover across Solihull (%)	6.1 and 6.2	Data taken from Bluesky national tree map	Data taken from Bluesky national tree map https://bluesky-world.com/
17	Natural Environments	Increase tree coverage & tree planting	Number of trees and hedgerows planted by council schemes across Solihull	6.2a	From Council's own data	From Council's own data
18	Natural Environments	Increase tree coverage & tree planting	Number of people and businesses engaged through local environmental initiatives e.g. Love Solihull	6.2d	From Council's own data	From Council's own data

19	Natural Environments	Land management	Number of local wildlife sites in positive management	6.4	From Council's own data	From Council's own data
20	Energy Supply	Increase the capacity of renewable technologies	Total installed capacity of all renewable technology by type (MW)	7.6	Renewable Energy Data	
21	Energy Supply	Increase the capacity of renewable technologies	Total renewable electricity generation from all renewable technology types (MWh)	7.6	Renewable Energy Data	
22	Council Strategy & Engagement	Council Procurement & Commissioning	Amount of Environmental Social Value generated through council procurement contracts (£)	8.1 and 8.2	From Council's own data	Committed spend social value on sustainability TOMs
23	Council Strategy & Engagement	Council External Engagement	Number of businesses engaging with SMBC on sustainability	8.6	From Council's own data	Numbers SSVG membership



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