



**Prosperous Communities
Committee**

**Tuesday, 02 December
2025**

**Subject: Environment and Sustainability Action Plan Annual Progress
Report**

Report by:

Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Rachael Hughes
Head of Policy and Strategy
rachael.hughes@west-lindsey.gov.uk,

Steve Leary
Policy and Strategy Officer - Climate and
Sustainable Environment
steve.leary@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Purpose / Summary:

An annual update of activity relating to the
implementation of the Council's Environment &
Sustainability Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That members note progress against the ten themes identified in the Environment and Sustainability Action Plan.
2. Members note that as a result of Local Government Reorganisation, changes to the Councils internal governance processes, work on setting future Action Plans and how best to monitor and track progress of future Environment and Sustainability Strategy will be reviewed having regard to these broader changes.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

In May 2019, the UK Government declared a non-legally binding Climate Change Emergency declaration and the Committee on Climate Change recommended a new emissions target for the UK: net-zero greenhouse gases by 2050. This was made a statutory target in June through the Climate Change Act (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019. In April 2021 a new target was enshrined into law to cut national emissions by 78% by 2035.

The Environment Act 2021 was passed in November 2021 with an aim to improve air and water quality, tackle waste, improve biodiversity and make other environmental improvements.

This Environment Act 2021 has two main functions:

1. To give a legal framework for environmental governance in the UK.
2. To bring in measures for improvement of the environment in relation to waste, resource efficiency, air quality, water, nature and biodiversity, and conservation.

The vast majority of this Act does not make any immediate changes for organisations other than regulators. Changes to duties for Local Authorities and others are expected in subsequent legislation made under this Act.

There remain significant implications for a number of areas of this work. Legal implications from this Act and other legislation are accounted for in each of the work themes and service business plans for 2025 onwards.

There are no direct legal implications from the establishment and delivery of the Environment and Sustainability Action Plan.

It should, however, be noted that the adequacy and inaction of both national and local government is under scrutiny by environmental interest groups with the threat of potential legal challenge in some areas.

Financial :FIN/124/26/MT/MK

No financial implications arising as a result of this update report.

The Corporate Policy & Strategy Team have a 1 FTE Environment and Sustainability Officer in post who is responsible for delivery of initiatives, supported by departmental resources identified and agreed to deliver the Environment and Sustainability Strategy.

There is also an agreement in place to use APSE on a consultancy call off contract for specific project work, as required.

£500,000 earmarked reserve was approved at Council on 28 June 2021 to support delivery of the Environment and Sustainability Strategy and action plan, (with a recognition that other funding solutions are needed to support this). Of the £500,000 earmarked in June 2021, £427,000 remains. With £50,000 having been approved to support an Environment and Sustainability focussed projects delivered alongside the UKSPF small grants scheme for communities to access.

There is also £612k of carbon reduction initiative in the capital programme for 2024-25 and 2025-26. This includes £210k for LED streetlight upgrade works and £402k of Swimming Pool support scheme grant funding for Gainsborough Leisure Centre solar project.

All projects brought forward will either be as a result of service business plans or where appropriate, be developed in conjunction with the Climate Change Member Working Group.

These will all be subject to Business Cases and funding strategies and signed off in line with the Council's established Governance framework.

Staffing :

Staffing and skills requirements to deliver the strategy will be continually reviewed and monitored.

There is currently capacity for officers to lead the delivery of the adopted Environment and Sustainability Strategy and associated action plan.

Where specialist support or knowledge is required to develop and deliver projects, this will be procured following the Council's established procurement framework.

Where possible, funding will be secured through successful grant funding applications, alternatively specialist support will be funded through the earmarked reserve.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

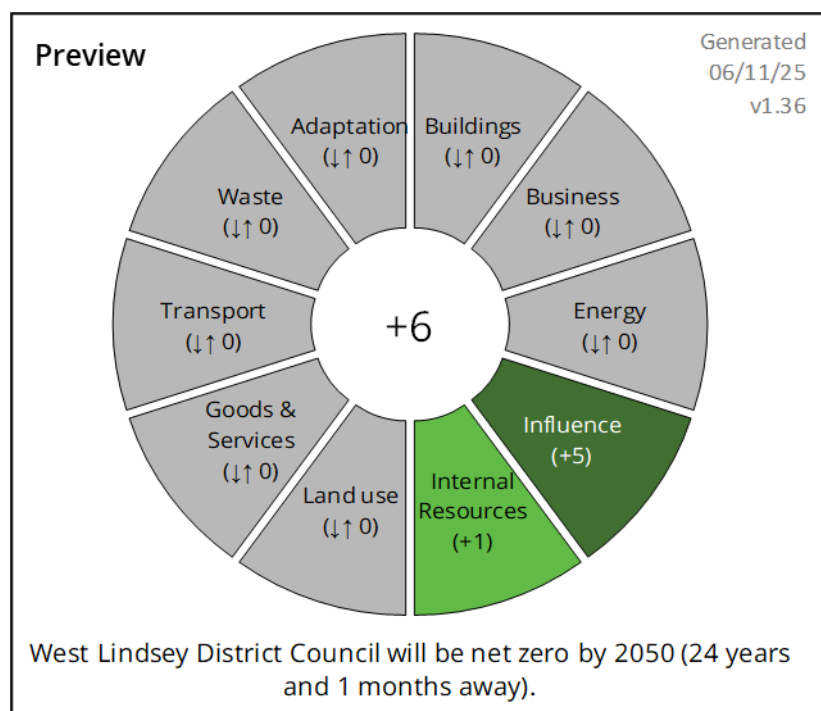
The Council's ambition is to ensure that neither the effects of climate change, nor the costs of reducing emissions, disproportionately affect any residents of the district.

The action plan will reap many co-benefits that have the potential to increase equality and community cohesion. These include improving health and wellbeing through more active travel, improving air quality with reduced vehicle use, increasing social inclusion through community activities and reducing fuel poverty by insulating homes and installing on-site renewable energy.

In practice the actions are too high-level and long term to undertake a meaningful equality assessment on the Council's Strategy and Action Plan. Individual equality assessments are undertaken as actions are developed.

Data Protection Implications : None

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:



We are looking at the effects of this report (not our past performance, or actions that represent future decisions.) Reporting and associated communication and influencing activities that increase awareness of climate change and our actions to address it are the primary benefits of this report in terms of the CESIA environment and climate environment and sustainability issues. It highlights the urgency of action and backs up what we say with emissions data for the council and district.

The Carbon Management Plan, Environment and Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan contained proposals aimed at reducing the Council's carbon emission to a net-zero position by 2050 and achieve the same across the District of West Lindsey within the same timescale.

As well as the update report against progress against the strategy, this report also includes the greenhouse gas emission updates and details of proposed reporting mechanisms and priority actions.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations : None

Health Implications:

Health and wellbeing are strongly linked and interwoven into the aims of the strategy as co-benefits of taking positive action to address climate change and enhance the environment and sustainability.

The District Health and Wellbeing Strategy adopted in 2023 clearly demonstrates this, as Environment and Climate is one of the 5 levers identified by the strategy. This strategy, like the Environment and Sustainability Strategy have been developed to align with existing policies, strategies, projects and workstreams in operation across the Council including the Corporate Plan, the Housing Strategy, and the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan.

Such alignment ensures that actions to support delivery of each of the Strategies can be identified and developed through the Council's business planning framework ensuring progress can be monitored through the Environment and Sustainability update report and Corporate Plan measures.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

PCC - [Adoption of the Environment & Sustainability Strategy](#)

CPR - [Vehicle Decarbonisation Strategy](#)

PCC -

Risk Assessment :

WLDC recognised the UK Govt's climate emergency and Members unanimously supported the adoption of the refreshed Environment and Sustainability Strategy earlier this year. Reasserting the Council's commitment to delivering a net zero Council by 2050. The refreshed strategy also includes specific mid-targets in relation to decarbonising the Council's estate and fleet within the next 10yrs.

Actions to support delivery have been identified in last year's annual update and in this year's business planning process. The risks associated with this not undertaking this work include:

1. Risk of exacerbating the problems associated with increased levels of CO₂e
2. Risk of a damage to reputation. Having declared WLDC support for urgent action – there is a risk of inaction generating subsequent reputational harm, which could create a relationship breakdown (trust, credibility, and confidence) between the authority and citizens.

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

☐

No

☐

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

☐

No

☐

Executive Summary

This annual report provides the third full review of delivery against the Council's Environment & Sustainability Strategy. It summarises progress across all ten themes, presents the latest greenhouse-gas reporting, and explains how oversight will shift as the Council aligns with the refreshed Corporate Plan and prepares for Local Government Reorganisation. The net-zero 2050 ambition is unchanged, but from 2026/27 it is intended that delivery will be routed through the Our Place, Our People and Our Council - Our Future boards (draft forward plan at 16.3).

Despite a difficult transitional year, we maintained momentum. Estate decarbonisation advanced through targeted surveys, Midlands Net Zero Hub validation and Low Carbon Skills Fund options work; costed solar upgrades are now ready for Guildhall, while Gainsborough Leisure Centre's scheme - funded by a £400k+ bid to the Swimming Pool Support Fund has been commissioned and is delivering. Biodiversity Net Gain is embedded in development management. Local energy planning progressed through network-operator data sharing and LAEP+ scenario testing. Fleet electrification groundwork completed with the depot study and district wide EV ChargePoint rollout through countywide LEVI procurement. Waste reform preparations stayed on track: commercial food-waste collections launched ahead of 2026 household rollout, supported by year-round resident communications.

Protecting vulnerable residents remained central as well as ensuring the cost of the green transition is fairly distributed: flood-preparedness guidance was mailed district-wide, while energy-advice and retrofit grants supported households facing high costs. Evidenced outcomes showing real benefits for residents, communities and businesses are detailed through the report with a highlights section at Section 2.11.

Governance, finance and risk remain well understood. There are no direct legal or financial implications arising from this update report and delivery continues to be resourced through the Environment & Sustainability Officer post, with support through corporate business planning, funds in the earmarked reserve and external funds such as the Low Carbon Skills Fund and the Swimming Pool Support Fund and energy efficiency grants that have been levered in. As LGR progresses, mid-term targets will be kept under review to ensure they remain deliverable within changing administrative and asset contexts.

Decisions requested:

- (1) that Members note progress against the ten themes of the Environment & Sustainability Action Plan; and**
- (2) Members note that as a result of Local Government Reorganisation, changes to the Councils internal governance processes, work on setting future Action Plans and how best to monitor and track progress of future Environment and Sustainability Strategy will be reviewed having regard to these broader changes.**

Glossary

Acronym

BNG

CESIA

DRS

EPR

ETS

LAEP / LAEP+

LEAD

LEVI

LCSF

LGR

LWP

MEES

PSDS

SAMP

SPSF

Meaning

Biodiversity Net Gain

Climate & Environmental and
Sustainability Impact Assessment

Deposit Return Scheme

Extended Producer Responsibility

UK Emissions Trading Scheme

Local Area Energy Plan / DNO
planning tool

Local Energy Advice Demonstrator

Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Low Carbon Skills Fund

Local Government Reorganisation

Lincolnshire Waste Partnership

Minimum Energy Efficiency
Standards

Public Sector Decarbonisation
Scheme

Strategic Asset Management Plan

Swimming Pool Support Fund

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides the fourth annual review of work undertaken in connection with the delivery of the Environment and Sustainability Strategy (ESS), the first of which was delivered to PCC in Nov 2022.
- 1.2 The report provides an update of activity undertaken in the last 12 months and a forward view for the coming year, acknowledging the impact of Local Government Reorganisation. The report also draws together a number of documents used to monitor progress in this area of work, including the Greenhouse Gas Report.
- 1.3 Last year the Council adopted 3 new mid-term targets. These were adopted to provide focus on the long-term target of being carbon net zero by 2050.
- 1.4 Since the adoption of those targets, the Council was notified through Statutory Invitation that local government in Greater Lincolnshire would be reorganised and that a unitary, single tier of government would be implemented.
- 1.5 It is important to continue to work towards achieving net zero by 2050 within the district. However, the delivery and approach will need to evolve, particularly as the Council and the current administrative boundaries will no longer exist after 2028. Budgetary decisions, as well as decisions regarding investment - especially those relating to assets and large capital projects - will inevitably be affected by these changes.
- 1.6 Equally it is important to note the decision taken by Council on 10th November this year in relation to member working groups. It has been acknowledged that the Cross-Party Environment and Sustainability Member Working Group has worked well over the last 4 years, however there is a requirement to reframe and refocus activity.
- 1.7 Also, in the context of the corporate plan refresh, environment and sustainability remain priorities for the Council, but the way this work is delivered and monitored will change. Internal governance structures are being revised to better reflect members' priorities, and the management and oversight of services, projects, and programmes will be more closely aligned with the corporate plan objectives.
- 1.8 As a result, the setting of actions for 2026/27 will take place later in the year. As a consequence, the annual Environment and Sustainability update report will not be presented to members in the same manner as it has been for the past four years and work on how best to monitor and track progress will be considered having regard to these broader changes.

- 1.9 Nevertheless, a summary showcase of interventions and case studies will continue to be provided.

2.0 Summary of Achievements to Date

- 2.1 Below are a some of the key numbers that represent our delivery over the last 12 months.

- Warm Homes (HUG2): 215 household upgrades completed in 2024/25 (final reconciliation on scheme closure).
- Local Energy Advice (LEAD): 791 residents received bespoke advice to cut energy bills and carbon.
- ECO-Flex: 169 applications processed since January 2024, delivering measures such as insulation, solar PV, efficient heating and battery storage.
- On-street EV charging (LEVI): county procurement concluded to deliver 50+ additional charge points in West Lindsey (site rollout under way).
- Flood resilience: flood-preparedness leaflets mailed to over 42,000 households in the district with joint EA/LRF engagement.
- Gainsborough Leisure Centre solar: scheme delivered using £402k from the Swimming Pool Support Fund. 545 solar panels, cutting 42 tonnes of CO2 per year, which is the equivalent of planting 1,966 trees, and saving of 221 MWh of annual energy production
- Solar Together: 58 households installed solar PV through the council backed, group-buying scheme since September 2025
- Commercial food waste: service launched (March 2025) to support more than 500 businesses using WLDC's trade services ahead of household rollout in 2026.

- 2.2 A highlights document summarising activity this year across the district, looking at business, community & of course the Council is in production. The current version published in November 2024 can be viewed [here](#)).

- 2.3 As well as these actions, the Council in recognising its important role in providing advice and signposting, continues to update and refresh leaflets and the website to ensure the Council remains, one of a number of trusted sources on environment and sustainability.

- 2.4 Refreshing and updating our website during 2025 has been an important step in promoting our role as a trusted source of information on environment and sustainability information.

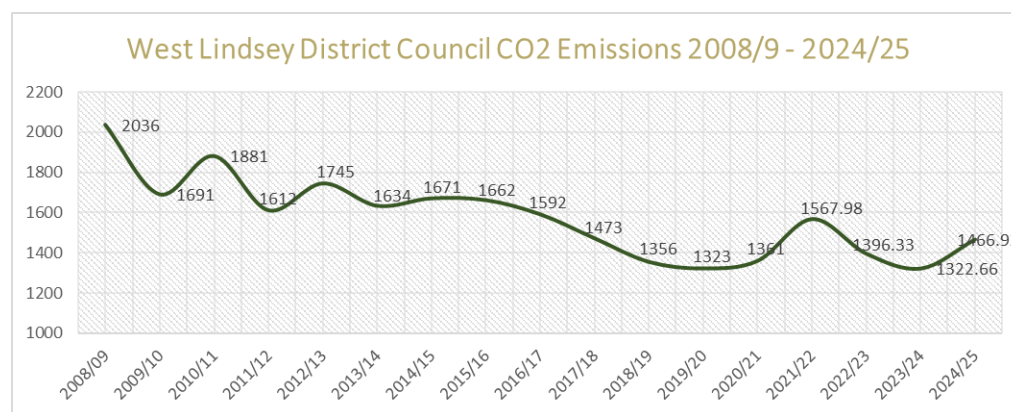
3.0 WLDC Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

- 3.1 The Greenhouse Gas Emissions has been collated and published annually by the Council since 2009. The full report can be found at <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/environment-climate/sustainability-climate-change-environment/greenhouse-gas-emissions> along with a summary, explanatory text and previous report editions.
- 3.2 Following guidance from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the report provides an update on scope 1 and scope 2 CO2e emissions which are owned or controlled by the Council

across its operations. In line with good practice, some scope 3 emissions are also included to account for indirect emissions as a consequence of the Council's operations. These include emissions from business travel and the Council's leisure centres. Methodology has remained broadly consistent since 2009, which allows for benchmarking and comparison.

- 3.3 CO₂e emissions increased from 1350 tonnes in 2023/24 to 1467 tonnes in 2024/25. This increase is mainly due to greater energy and fuel use, higher mileage and increased service demand. However, some of the increase is a result of a change in conversion factors used in the calculations this year. Whilst there has been an increase this year, levels are still lower than that of pre-covid years.
- 3.4 The Council has also however continued to benefit from its green energy tariff, which resulted in a reduction of 83.56 tonnes CO₂e.

Fig 1. WLDC Combined CO₂e Emissions over Time (2008/9 – 2024/25)



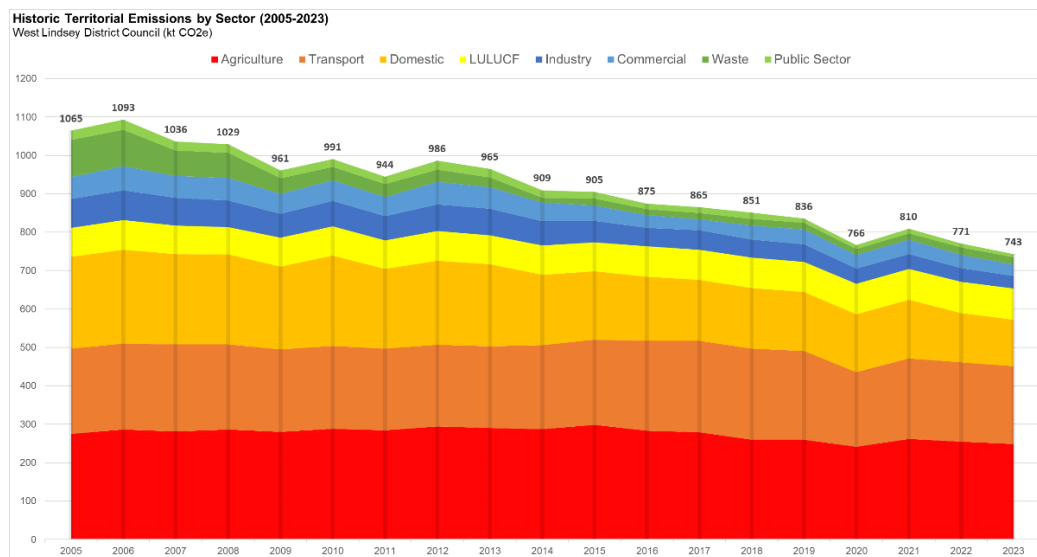
- 3.4 The Property Service Team continue to work with the Policy and Strategy Team to look at all opportunities to continue to reduce emission and continue the downward trend. This includes continued close working with the leisure centres, demand reduction and energy efficiency measures across the estate through the effective use of the Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan and positive maintenance interventions.
- 3.5 In relation to scope 1 emissions, as further waste collections, such as food waste are introduced and the district population grows emissions will only increase. Ongoing, positive asset management and the continued application of the Vehicle Decarbonisation Strategy are primary approaches to addressing potential future increases in CO₂e.

4.0 District Wide Emissions

- 4.1 Full emissions estimates for West Lindsey district currently only go to 2023. They rely on publicly available datasets from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. Emissions are defined as is the grand

total from industry, commercial, public sector, domestic, transport, land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF), agriculture, and waste management. It measures greenhouse gas emissions, minus any removals (by things like carbon capture) from the atmosphere.

- 4.2 As shown in the graph below, in 2023, the estimate of total greenhouse gas emission in kilo tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (kt CO₂e) emissions for all sectors in West Lindsey was 743.0, down from 771.0 in 2022. The data from 2005 shows steady reduction over the last 20 years. The data also shows that the highest contributors to these emissions year on year are unsurprisingly agriculture, transport and domestic, giving a good indication of those priority sectors for change.



*For further information on district wide emissions and other metrics, the Council has developed a new interactive State of the District, including dashboards which are available on the website. The dashboards provide data on a number of key areas, including an Environment and Sustainability theme. These dashboards can be accessed via this link [WLDC State of the District Interactive Dashboards](#). As evidence and data grows around this subject area, further metrics will be added for review.

- 4.3 It is anticipated that the impact of the Climate Change policies within the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan will over the next decade coupled with greater availability of renewable energy solutions on the market and improved retrofitting will see the domestic figure reduce even further.
- 4.4 Equally it is considered that the modernisation of agriculture and farming techniques and broader policy support for agricultural growth zones and associated research and development being promoted within West Lindsey and Lincolnshire more broadly will help expedite technological developments to further reduce this sector. Understanding the sectors needs and using or roles and influence in economic development and planning policy effectively is an important

aspect to supporting this shift and ensuring West Lindsey and Greater Lincolnshire remain at the forefront of agri-tech and food production.

- 4.5 As West Lindsey District Council has experienced with its own fleet, decarbonising transport continues to be a challenging issue for large rural areas where sustainable transport options remain limited.
- 4.6 It is important to understand that these estimates assist us in working with our partners in developing emissions reduction strategies. As acknowledged in the previous paragraphs it is recognised that some elements of our emissions are not solely in our direct control and/or will require additional support to achieve, e.g., the availability of low carbon technology, decarbonisation of the power grid and sustainable transport options. The Council does however continue to advocate for actions in these areas.
- 4.7 Equally, behavioural change will also be an important factor in significantly reducing emissions in West Lindsey. This means that we cannot rely entirely on low carbon fuels and technologies. The Committee on Climate Change estimate that nearly 60% of the changes needed rely on societal and behavioural changes. Actions under theme 4 'Influencing Others' specifically communications and sign posting will be crucial in supporting this.

5.0 Progress Against Delivery of the ESS Strategy during 2024/25

- 5.1 Below provides a detailed progress against each of the Strategy's ten themes along with an update against priority actions last year.
- 5.3 To support the target of being Carbon Net Zero by 2050, the Council committed to, the following 3 mid-term targets of:
 - 1. Have a fully decarbonised fleet by 2035.
 - 2. By 2028 the Guildhall will be heated using a renewable energy source.
 - 3. By 2030 all other buildings occupied and owned by the Council will have carbon management plans which will include proposals to deliver a fully costed carbon net zero estate.
- 5.4 As a result of the impacts of LGR it is acknowledged that these mid-term targets may change. Further work on the impacts of LGR and priority setting will be undertaken with members in the coming months.
- 5.5 Each of the 10 themes within appendix 1 include an update on the actions from the previous year. Progress against each action is rated on a Red, Amber, Green basis. Red being off target, will not be delivered within timescales, Amber being off target, may be delivered within timescales and Green meaning the action is on target to deliver within the timeframes.

6.0 Next Steps & future Action Plan

- 6.1 Despite LGR it remains a priority for the Council to continue to deliver against our target to be a net zero District by 2050. As such the Council will continue to promote strong leadership and enabling and will:
- Take action to reduce carbon emissions across all aspects of the Council's operations to achieve a net zero Council by 2050
 - Enable and support residents, businesses and local communities to reduce carbon emissions across the West Lindsey district.
 - Deliver positive communications and sign posting, including our 'small steps, big impact' campaign.
- 6.2 However as a result of LGR, the adoption of a new Corporate Plan and changes to the Councils internal governance processes, the development of the action plan and the way in which this will be monitored and reported going forward will be subject to review.
- 6.2 The review will be undertaken with the Cross-Party Member Environment and Sustainability Working Group, informed by new internal governance processes and performance monitoring and with regard to findings and recommendations by internal audit.

Appendix 1

R	Off target, will not be delivered within timescales
A	Off target, may be delivered within timescales
G	On target, will deliver within timescales
B	Completed

1.0 Theme one: Buildings and Assets

Strategic Aim	• All buildings and new development across the West Lindsey district are net zero by 2050
Strategic Objectives	• Reduce all Council Building emissions to net zero • Improve housing standards through net zero new build requirements and retrofitting existing buildings
Key Outcomes	• West Lindsey Council buildings and assets are net zero by 2050 • Buildings and development in the district are net zero by 2050

1.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
Our Council	Implement energy audit of WL operational estate to deliver energy efficient design principles for maintaining and retrofitting existing buildings, in summary: 1. Fabric first 2. Optimisation of services 3. Utilisation of renewable technology 4. Off-setting Initial focus on operation building surveys will be: • Lighting & controls • Insulation • Glazing • Solar shading • Energy use monitoring	The asset portfolio has been mapped by the service manager and EPCs updated where required, identifying priority operational and rental properties for targeted decarbonisation interventions – Levered in resources and worked with Midlands Net Zero Hub for external validation; Options are now being packaged for phased delivery through the Strategic Asset Management Plan. Delivery sequencing remains aligned to the intervention hierarchy, with final scoping contingent on Government confirming MEES timescales and requirements (WLDC responded to call for evidence.) Consultancy report funded by Low Carbon Skills Fund bid identified fully costed options for Guildhall – including solar panel upgrades	2023 - 2030	RAG rationale: MEES uncertainty ; EPCs updated; interventions phased via SAMP. Team restructure underway but no resource yet agreed for energy efficiency work. SAMP not formally approved yet
Our Place	Implement new monitoring framework for the CLLP, including measures for impact of Climate Change Policies	The first monitoring report covering 2023/24 for the new Central Lincolnshire Local Plan has been completed, with work underway for 2024/25. The report looks at key themes of the plan as well as monitoring the performance of policies including the new Climate Change policies. Whilst the plan has been	Monitoring Framework 2024/25 Impacts of Policy Mar 25 onwards	RAG rationale: Framework drafted; data flows set; first outputs from Mar 2025.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		adopted since 2023, due to the time it takes for new development to be permitted and developed there is always a lag in terms of true policy impact. However, even in that relative short time, there are 33 permissions approved since the adoption of the Local Plan that are in delivery or have delivered new housing across the district. These are all subject to the new policies requiring higher energy efficiency standards. As more permissions are delivered, further metrics around efficiency will be available. As a proxy an assessment has been undertaken of EPCs across Central Lincolnshire which has already found an increase in homes rated as 'A' during the period 2023 – 25. Whilst not exact this helps demonstrate a positive trajectory.		
Our Place	Delivery of recently announced 3 – 5yr Warm Homes Local Grant scheme	HUG2 delivery stands at 215 homes completed to date in 2024/25, with final reconciliations due following scheme closure (Mar 2025). Alongside this, the LEAD programme reached 791 residents with bespoke home-energy advice to support uptake and behaviour change. Since Jan 2024 we have processed 169 ECO-Flex applications; while this scheme does not capture pre/post EPCs, installed measures include insulation, solar PV, boiler replacements, heat pumps and battery storage and we can use this to estimate a carbon saving of over 50 tonnes per annum.	2025 - 2030	RAG rationale: HUG2 215 completions; LEAD 791 advice; ECO-Flex 169 apps processed.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
Our Council	Bid for PSDF to replace the Guildhall gas heating system	Before the national pause of PSDS funding , the Council used Low Carbon Skills Funding (£37k award) to commission a detailed options study to prepare a PSDS bid. This concluded that a whole-building ASHP solution is not currently value-for-money (c. £600k+), and that carbon/financial returns are stronger via a package of high-efficiency boiler replacement, solar PV and fabric/controls improvements across the estate through the Strategic Asset Management Plan. We have also engaged funded support from the Midlands Net Zero Hub to validate the study and help identify alternative options to reduce CO ₂ and energy spend at the Guildhall. A costed proposal to upgrade the existing roof solar PV, (that cuts energy / revenue costs and carbon output has emerged and will be put forwards in Q1 of 2026.	2024 - 2026	RAG rationale: LCSF study complete; alternative package progressing after PSDS pause.
Our People	Redevelopment of the West Lindsey Leisure Centre to improve energy efficiency of the site.	Options appraisals have been commissioned to inform a pathway to improved energy performance (fabric, plant and on-site renewables). Findings will be presented to Members for consideration of next steps and funding routes.	2025 - 2026	RAG rationale: Options appraisals complete; Member consideration next.

2.0 Theme Two: Campaigning and Lobbying

2.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Strategic Aim	Policy and Strategy relating to climate change, environment and sustainability and funding is aligned to and meets the needs of West Lindsey District Council and its communities
---------------	---

Strategic Objectives	Effective campaigning and lobbying strategy which elevates the needs of the district
Key Outcomes	Appropriate policy and strategy both nationally and locally in place supporting net zero ambitions by 2050

7.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
Our Council	Using the Climate Change Member & Officer working groups continue to engage in active campaigning and lobbying in relation to key priorities for West Lindsey Residents Considered as a monthly standing agenda item Implement a targeted lobbying and campaigning strategy	- The E&S Member Group kept “Consultations & Lobbying” as a standing monthly item, enabling timely submissions and coordinated positions across services. - In 2024/25 responses included: (i) supported the LGA’s “Back Local Climate Action” asks on a national funding framework and a local climate action test and coordinated a Lincolnshire response; (ii) submitted/endorsed responses on MEES proposals (Private Rented Sector and social housing) to press for clear timelines and resourcing; (iii) engaged with Government’s community benefits work for low-carbon infrastructure; - and (iv) amplified sector positions	Target for 2024 onwards: Number of policy consultations responded to annually (target: at least 5) Number of meetings with regional/national policymakers – including representation at webinars and conferences (target: at least 4 per year) Successful inclusion of West Lindsey's priorities in regional strategies or funding allocations	RAG rationale: Standing monthly item; coordinated submissions/alliances.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		via support for LARAC (EPR/DRS) and APSE Energy networks.		
Our Place	Engage proactively with the new Mayoral County Combined Authority (MCCA) on environmental and sustainability issues" for 2025.	- Officers prepared and socialised WLDC priority asks for the MCCA's emerging programmes (place-based retrofit funding, rural transport decarbonisation, grid capacity/community energy, and waste reform readiness) and participated in preparatory discussions/briefings at Lincolnshire Sustainability Officers Group (LSOG) / East Midlands level to ensure a strong rural voice in early scoping. - We will continue to track formal consultations and escalate WLDC positions through member/officer routes as MCCA governance and workstreams are established and confirmed. - Whilst Carbon reduction clearly won't be a priority for the Reform led MCCA, Officers will continue to	Narrative relating to MCCA meetings/consultations participated in Inclusion of West Lindsey's priorities in MCCA environmental strategies	RAG rationale: Engagement underway; governance/workstreams forming.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		engage and look for 'levers' in areas of alignment such as strengthening green economy and climate adaptation and resilience.		
Our People	Expand collaborative work with the Lincolnshire Sustainability Officers Group (LSOG) and other key stakeholders	- Increased knowledge sharing and collaborative working on lobbying and campaigns - Joint funding bids developed and submitted (e.g. Home Energy Grant schemes) - Unified Lincolnshire voice on key issues facilitated by joint working groups: - The LSOG joint working group remained active, with WLDC contributing to lobbying/briefing lines on MEES and community benefits, and aligning waste policy messages with LARAC (EPR/DRS) for consistency. - WLDC officers also used APSE Energy and Carbon Trust forums to share evidence and amplify local authority positions on energy policy and delivery	Number of joint initiatives or campaigns launched (target: at least 2 per year) Number of successful joint funding bids (target: at least 1 per year) Narrative report on outcomes of collaboration to Member group	RAG rationale: Joint lines and shared lobbying maintained.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		sustainability issues. • LSOG and Greater Lincolnshire Energy Efficiency Network (GLEEN) have been chaired by WLDC Officers. • A summary report will be presented to the E&S Members group before year end for review		

3.0 Theme Three: Decision-Making

- 3.1 It has long been acknowledged that in order for the Council to achieve the identified environment and sustainability related ambitions, it is imperative that such matters are at the forefront of the Council's decision making. This means ensuring priorities are appropriately reflected in all corporate documents and that decision makers are presented with accurate, reliable and up to date information and be sufficiently knowledgeable to effectively scrutinise the information to achieve the best outcomes.

3.2 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
Our Council	Continued roll out of staff training & broader awareness raising across the Council	Climate change outcomes form core part of decision making across the Council. Training Opportunities identified and supported – standing update item at the E&S Member Group. 3 members of staff qualified to deliver carbon literacy training. Energy Efficiency training sessions and 'mythbusting' delivered (internally and externally).	Narrative	RAG rationale: Capacity and awareness strengthened this year.
Our Council	All new and reviewed strategies to include an appropriate approach to mitigating the impacts of Climate Change.	New strategy delivery action plans will include deliverables against Climate Change priorities Growth strategy Climate Change / E&S included in the new corporate plan KPMG Climate Risk Audit completed- Structured risk assessment of council's climate risks and opportunities Examined governance and potential liabilities	Number of new & reviewed strategies with Climate Change priorities & associated actions	RAG rationale: Climate priorities included in strategy refreshes

		Full report presented to Management Team and E&S group.		
Our Council	Continue to monitor the impact of the CESIA tool across all decisions and Governance structures in the Council	Demonstrable outcomes of the use of the CESIA tool in decision making for all Council business. Recent assessments have been refined slightly at suggestion of E&S Members, to include climate optimal suggestions in addition to standard CESIA All tier 1 projects now involve a CESIA at stage 1 or stage 2	Number of decision outcomes impacted as a result of CESIA assessment	RAG rationale: Tool consistently applied in decision-making; examples to be collated.

4.0 Theme Four: Influencing Others

Strategic Aim	West Lindsey residents, businesses and wider stakeholders share the aspiration and are striving for a carbon net zero district by 2050
Strategic Objectives	- West Lindsey District Council have a key role in providing regular, proactive and engaging communication - Clear collaboration on key messaging and project delivery across Greater Lincolnshire
Key Outcomes	- Engaged and proactive residents and businesses striving to deliver net zero across West Lindsey by 2050 - External organisations support and enable the delivery of the Sustainability, Climate Change and Environmental Strategy

4.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
Our Council	Increased communications output in line with strategy and campaign 'small steps, big impact' and publishing a summary achievements document (appendix 1)	General promotion of activities led by West Lindsey, including grants that are available and how we as a Council can support community agendas. RAG rationale: Year-round comms with strong reach and targeted campaigns.	Narrative	RAG rationale: Year-round comms with strong reach and targeted campaigns.
		Between Nov 2024 and Nov 2025 we carried environment and sustainability content in every parish newsletter, every business e-brief and every residents' newsletter, supported by 16 press releases. Social reach grew	Number of Climate Change related articles published Audience number achieved	RAG rationale: Year-round comms with strong reach and targeted campaigns.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		strongly: the Council's Facebook page recorded 8.1 million post views and 42,500 interactions (c. 10% up year-on-year). Topics covered included community funding, energy advice, Solar Together, flood preparedness, tree planting, green spaces and the leisure centre solar scheme.		
Our People	Continued improvement of the Climate change & sustainability web pages to raise awareness support our Parish Councils and Community Groups to access information	New climate and sustainability webpages are scheduled to launch in Dec 2025, featuring practical "Small steps / Big strides / Giant leaps" tips tailored for residents, businesses, schools, community groups and parish councils, plus a dedicated funding page for parish councils. Draft pages were tabled for E&S Working Group on 19 Nov for feedback and amendments. [Data needed: total page views of climate/sustainability pages in 2024/25].	Narrative & number of webpage hits annually	RAG rationale: Ongoing staff engagement activities delivered.
Our People	Actively encourage all new Neighbourhood Plan Groups to include specific policies to deliver the strategic aims of the Sustainability,	All new Neighbourhood Plans include policies aimed at supporting the delivery of carbon net zero in 2050 and respond to wider sustainability and climate change issues relevant to their area	Number of Neighbourhood Plans which include specific policies relating to at least 1 of the 10 Climate Change Strategy Themes	RAG rationale: Ongoing support to embed climate policies; count to confirm.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
	Climate Change and Environment strategy	Officers continued to signpost exemplar climate and sustainability resources with groups to support policy wording and development Active advice to support plan-making, meaning that 13 NP's (either in development or completed) now have E&S or Biodiversity themes linked to climate strategy. Officers have mapped activity and displayed on the WLDC website.		
Our People	Support particularly small, medium-sized enterprises (SME) to access funds and expertise for reducing carbon pollution – promote resilience support grants.	Low Carbon Lincolnshire programme access fully funded, practical support to cut carbon and save costs, including: masterclasses, Peer learning groups 1:1 consultancy for a Strategic Carbon Reduction Roadmap Updated carbon footprinting and action plans Environment and sustainability content was included in every business e-brief during 2024/25 - more than 4000 subscribers per month reached.	Number of Businesses receiving support annually, including cases studies & narrative (NB - Continued delivery of UKSPF business support programmes until March 2025 (CO2 and energy cost savings will continue to accrue)	On going

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		Projects developed through the “green growth” UKSPF received circa £450k in grant funding -providing an estimated CO2 Reduction of 65 tonnes of CO2e PA -with significant cost savings to the businesses and safeguarding of jobs.		
Our Place	Working with community groups to support raising awareness of environment and sustainability actions & opportunities	Improved Awareness raising of grant applications opportunities - Residents’ newsletters shared funding opportunities, energy-efficiency tips for community buildings and local sustainability initiatives (e.g., tree planting). Twelve editions of the parish newsletter promoted funding and grant opportunities to parish councils for onward sharing across community groups. Officers regularly attend parish events and meetings. Conducted 7 informal energy audits at village halls and helped commission professional studies to facilitate evidenced grant applications.	Narrative, including number of communities supported & sign posted	RAG rationale: Ongoing staff engagement activities delivered.
Our Place	Mapping exercise to understand pipeline of businesses	Improved understanding of environmental business operating in West	Narrative	2025 onwards

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
	investment opportunities which deliver objectives relating to Environment & Sustainability objectives. Examples include STEP, Scampton, Agri-Zone, Waterways Strategy, Gainsborough Masterplan refresh, Agri-Tech Twinning, Eco Settlement, and the circular economy	Lindsey through consultation and subsequent development of the Economic growth strategy • Improved engagement to deliver synergies - contributed to development of GLLEP Circular Economy evidence base and consultancy report. • Improved understanding of inward investment opportunities inwards - Created a repository hub for innovation focused on the environment and sustainability across multi-sectors in the E&S Teams Channel. Member visits undertaken to Riseholme, Hemswell AD plant, Step Café etc. • Contributed to multi-agency development of local area energy plans (LAEP's) Helps to understand and map limitations of grid capacity and areas of opportunity. Taking part in		

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		greater Lincolnshire study to help understand and unlock socio-economic potential of LAEP's (£25k funding by Midlands Net Zero Hub)		
Our Place	Develop and implement targeted campaigns on key local environmental issues	Increased public awareness and engagement on local environmental priorities Behavioural changes supporting sustainability goals Enhanced support for Council's environmental initiatives: We applied the 'Small Steps, Big Impact' message across national awareness moments and local priorities to drive behaviour change. Campaigns included Global Recycling Day (1k reach), Great British Spring Clean (1.7k), Walk to Work Day (900), Earth Day (400), World Environment Day (2.1k), Plastic Free July (1.7k), Big Butterfly Count (3.5k), Second-hand September (3.3k), #LowWasteSummer (16k) and Recycle Week (6.3k). Locally, we mailed flood-preparedness leaflets to every household (Dec 2024) and promoted Solar	Number of local campaigns launched (target: at least 3 per year – Waste minimisation, energy efficiency, community energy, flood preparedness already identified) Reach and engagement metrics for campaigns (e.g., social media interactions, event attendance) Survey results showing increased public awareness of environmental issues	RAG rationale: Multiple hooks incl. flood preparedness and recycling.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		Together via newsletters and social (>4,000 reach) resulting in 58 households taking up the group buying offer with trusted local contractor and having Solar PV Panels fitted.		
Our Place	Continued support of Lincolnshire Wolds AONB Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) Funding	Continued support of Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service. RAG rationale: MoA support continued with signposting in comms.	Narrative	Continued support of Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service

5.0 Theme Five: Land Use

Strategic Aim	Land use across West Lindsey aligns with and supports the objectives of the Sustainability, Climate Change and Environmental Strategy
Strategic Objectives	- Promotion of positive land use creating sustainable and connected places - Enhancement and creation of green spaces and bio-diversity opportunities
Key Outcomes	- Sustainable and resilient communities - Improved health & wellbeing of residents across the district

5.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Actions	Update	Timeframe	RAG
Our Place	Continued implementation of bio-diversity net gain as part of development management process, including	During 2024/25 we begun embedding BNG in casework: officer/Member training delivered;	Narrative with the potential to develop measures in relation to net gain in the future, including links to other	RAG rationale: Baseline reports on track for publication

Corporate Plan Theme	Actions	Update	Timeframe	RAG
	continued training & monitoring	validation wording and condition/obligation templates applied on qualifying applications; and a BNG register initiated to track habitat units and post-permission management. Data reporting is being aligned to the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) draft and to the first Biodiversity Duty report due March 2026 , so monitoring returns can be compiled consistently across Lincolnshire and on time.	nature-based projects in West Lindsey.	
Our Place	Green Space Management Implement UKSPF: 1.6 Green Space Management and Community Project Development	Improved management and operation of WLDC owned green spaces following appointment of UKSPF funded Green Space Officer. Woodland management plans and green space projects are being targeted, where feasible, in areas identified in the Greater Lincolnshire	Narrative	RAG rationale: UKSPF audits/projects progressing; metrics pending.

Corporate Plan Theme	Actions	Update	Timeframe	RAG
		LNRS as priorities for woodland, hedgerows or urban nature, to maximise contributions to nature recovery and improve access to high-quality green space.		
		Adoption of woodland management plans to improve accessibility biodiversity, and overall management..	Adoption of woodland management plan. Option to measure actions following this.	UPDATE NEEDED. RAG rationale: UKSPF audits/projects progressing; metrics pending

6.0 Theme Six: Power

Strategic Aim	Reduction in energy demand across West Lindsey, with all energy consumed from sustainable and renewable sources
Strategic Objectives	- Actively enable the reduction in the Councils own energy consumption - Understand and influence the energy markets - Support the district to deliver decentralised energy networks for heat and power
Key Outcomes	- A reduction in energy usage across the Councils estate - Sustainable and efficient decentralised energy networks located across West Lindsey

6.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframes	RAG
Our Place	Use new mapping exercise with DNO to increase understanding & influence over the energy market, including supply & demand to better support communities deliver community energy solutions Work with other Lincolnshire districts to develop a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) to guide the transition to a low-carbon energy system	In 24/25 Officers worked directly LCC and Northern Powergrid to share WLDC datasets and planned development pipelines (including Scampton and Hemswell Food Enterprise Zone, plus sustainable urban extensions) to inform the Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) process and the regional area strategic planning We secured access to the LAEP+ tool and coordinated officer participation in DNO onboarding/training during 2025 to enable local scenario-testing. This collaboration is improving our visibility of grid constraints/opportunities and positioning WLDC to support community energy proposals and future funding bids. We are able to view energy demand maps and are better informed and able to provide support to those exploring community energy solutions.	Narrative, case studies Progress in completion of the LAEP. Projected carbon emissions reduction from LAEP measures Number of identified renewable energy and energy efficiency projects Amount of external funding secured for energy projects	RAG rationale: Data supplied; LAEP+ access/training; scenarios in use.
Our Place	Switch parish street lighting to well-designed and well directed LED lights	The parish lighting programme continued on an opportunistic replacement basis (upgrade to LED at point of repair), delivering incremental power and CO ₂ e reductions while we explore alternative routes to market to accelerate progress.	Narrative including % of total lighting upgraded to LED	RAG rationale: LED upgrades continued; % conversion to confirm status

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timeframes	RAG
		[DATA NEEDED: % of parish lights now LED / number upgraded in 2024/25]. RAG rationale: Opportunistic LED upgrades; % conversion to confirm.		

7.0 Theme Seven: Protecting the Vulnerable

Strategic Aim	All residents of West Lindsey have the resilience and ability to adapt to the impacts of Climate Change
Strategic Objectives	Ensure all vulnerable communities are equipped to deal with the impacts of climate change
Key Outcomes	Impact of Climate Change on vulnerable residents is reduced through greater resilience

7.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
Our Place	Develop and adopt a Communities Strategy	Update needed on progress of communities strategy with climate-related vulnerability embedded (linking flood, heat and health) following publication of the LNRS in 2026. The Council will use LNRS mapping of habitats that help reduce flood risk and improve water quality, alongside Environment Agency data, to help target community resilience and engagement work in those settlements most exposed to climate-related flooding. Officer and Member Flood Working Groups continue to meet regularly. Practical delivery was strengthened by district-wide flood-preparedness	Adoption of Communities Strategy & associated action plan	RAG rationale: Drafting progressed; flood WG inputs embedded.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		leaflets to every household (with waste calendars Dec 2025) and joint communications and events with the Environment Agency to build community readiness; this aligns with the county adaptation plan's emphasis on governance, data and parish engagement.		
Our People	Develop resources to support communities vulnerable to the impacts of climate change	Resources were expanded around flood preparedness: Officers designed and printed leaflets (with help of LCC funding) and all homes in district received one (Dec 2025); web content was refreshed to signpost how to prepare, who to contact and Floodline; and we supported EA's "Flood Ready Eddie" engagement locally (Market Rasen event/coverage). Messaging also linked to national preparedness guidance and campaigns to encourage household plans and simple resilience steps.	Narrative & numbers	RAG rationale: District-wide leaflets and EA joint comms delivered.
Our People	Engage with the new LRF Resilient Communities project designed to provide tailored support to communities at risk	Officers coordinated with the Local Resilience Forum, contributing to joint comms and EA activation of "Flood Ready Eddie" in West Lindsey, and continued to attend officer and member flood groups. This supports the adaptation plan's high-priority actions: parish engagement on emergency planning, improved early warning and community data capture, and prioritising vulnerable communities..	Narrative & numbers	RAG rationale: Joint comms/events with LRF and EA continued

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
Our People	Implement and delivery LEAD project on behalf of Central and South Lincolnshire consortium	The LEAD programme provided bespoke home-energy advice to 791 residents in 2024/25, targeting hard-to-reach cohorts and signposting to relevant grants and winter/heat preparedness information.	Target number of 500 hard-to-reach cohorts across consortium	RAG rationale: 791 residents advised in-year.
		Delivery of HUG2 and ECO-Flex continued to reduce energy vulnerability in harder-to-treat homes (HUG2 completions: 215; ECO-Flex applications processed since Jan 2024: 169). In parallel with the adaptation plan's property-level resilience recommendations, we promoted household-level preparedness (e.g., flood plans, safe electrics, insurance checks) through web and leaflet signposting.	Installation target of energy efficient measures across over 162 homes	RAG rationale: Residents advised in-year and measures undertaken above target

8.0 Theme Eight: Resources and Finance

Strategic Aim	To be a financially sustainable Council through ethical investment in both goods and services
Strategic Objectives	- Create a sustainable Medium-Term Financial Plan which supports climate change initiatives - Council finances and resources are used to support initiatives which promote ethical investment & enable communities & business to support the delivery of a net zero District by 2050
Key Outcomes	- The council achieves a financially viable approach to delivering carbon net zero, including ethical investments - Communities & business has access to support to enable delivery of net zero initiative

8.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
Our Council	Preparedness for future funding bids	We maintained a bid-ready pipeline aligned to service business plans and the E&S Strategy, using the climate reserve to enable early project development and assurance. We used money that we'd secured from a funding bid in 2024 and, following extensive procurement, appointed VEV consultancy. They delivered a (staged) depot electrification study and plan, which positions us well for funding depot infrastructure bids. Likewise money bid in from the Govt's low carbon skills fund last year delivered a Guildhall decarbonisation study in 2025, as well as an investment grade audit that has given us a greater understanding of costs and carbon savings. Unexpected Govt closure of PSDS fund has halted the project, but the learning will be used in	Number of bids submitted & outcomes	RAG rationale: Bid pipeline maintained; SPSF £402k confirmed and delivered with new solar PV

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		bringing a heating proposal in Q1 2026. Unfortunately a bid that would have cut carbon and running costs in a similar way at Trinity Arts Centre was successful in September, but preparatory work was undertaken and free energy audit support was levered in from Notts CC via Midlands Net Zero Hub. Delivery of work associated with successful funding bids continued in 2025 with the commissioning and completion of leisure centre solar scheme, with £402,000 of Swimming Pool Support Fund money. Governance and horizon-scanning were strengthened through the Members' Group and annual audit enquiries (KPMG), improving our evidence base for future bids.		
Our Council	Continue to refresh Treasury Management Strategy to	Fin Officers continued to evaluate and place surplus cash in ESG-	Narrative which includes a new Treasury Management Strategy which	RAG rationale: ESG approach maintained

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
	ensure the Council invests a proportion of funding into ethical & sustainable investments. It is anticipated that as ethical and environmental investment becomes more mainstream that a greater choice of investment opportunities will be available.	screened products where suitable. Officers have committed to monitor market availability as ethical instruments broaden. This balanced approach supports the Strategy and aims to balance security, liquidity and yield while factoring ESG considerations into investment decisions; KPMG audit enquiries response confirms this approach and informed disclosures and controls for 2024/25. Substantial assurance was received.	delivers opportunities for green and ethical financing	with advisory support
Our Council	Develop an employee benefit scheme which includes promotion of active travel, sustainable travel options & opportunities to deliver positive environmental outcomes to the broader district.	Articles promoting the benefits of walk to work and 'walk the last mile' were published on Minerva to coincide with national campaigns. Promotion of WLDC's existing cycle to work scheme. Proposal made to increase to spend limit submitted to HR for consideration and options being investigated for	Narrative, & take up numbers	RAG rationale: Options scoped; approvals pending for 25/26.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		safe cycle storage to increase take up. A cross-service options review has scoped potential benefits for renewed cycle scheme launch in 2025/26 Proposals will align with staff wellbeing and travel demand management to support emissions reduction and cost-of-living resilience.		
Our Council	To reduce our carbon footprint through use of digital technology	Work in 2024/25 focused on service digitalisation and smarter meeting practices: projects progressed to expand hybrid meeting capability and to enhance Benefits self-serve, targeting fewer site visits, lower printing/postage and reduced staff travel emissions. Impact measures (usage, avoided trips and paper) are being baselined for reporting in 2025/26.	Narrative on specific projects identified for 2024, including but not exhaustively: - Improved hybrid options for meetings - Digital technology to allow Benefits customers to self-serve	RAG rationale: Hybrid/self-serve expanded; metrics baselining.

9.0 Theme Nine: Transport and Connectivity

Strategic Aim	To reduce carbon transport emissions across the District of West Lindsey
---------------	--

Strategic Objectives	• Move towards a fleet replacement programme which is net zero • Enable and support modal shift across the district
Key Outcomes	• Reduction in Council fleet emissions • Improvement in sustainable travel options across West Lindsey • Reduction in District wide transport emissions

9.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
Our Council	Implement the new de-carbonisation vehicle replacement strategy	We moved from strategy to preparing the grounds for decisions on implementation in 2025. A depot-electrification options appraisal for the Caenby Corner waste depot was commissioned and completed (funded via the Midlands Net Zero Hub competition). The study validated the ~400 kVA grid-capacity need, assessed smart charging, PV and battery storage, and set out a phased implementation plan with costs, risks and operational impacts; the draft VEV depot electrification report was delivered to the delivered to the Commercial Board any E&S Member group. Further progress has been slow due to	Reduction in CO2e emissions from the fleet. Metrics for reduction to be established as part of the recommendations in the strategy.	RAG rationale: Depot electrification study to Board; LEVI 50+ charge points successfully procured

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		absence and departure of key operational staff but the project now needs to be properly examined to inform capital planning and fleet transition sequencing. In parallel, with Lincolnshire County Council acting as lead for the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) programme, a joint procurement was published in April 2025; following contractor appointment in summer 2025, the programme will deliver 50+ additional on-street charge points in West Lindsey (subject to final site selection), improving resident access for those without off-street parking. WLDC is now working with LCC to map priority streets/car parks and coordinate delivery windows.		
Our Place	Improve connectivity & access to Broadband across the District	Improved digital access to support a reduction in travel where services can be accessed digitally. Improvements ongoing; data pending for 24/25.	Narrative which includes the number of communities that have received improved broadband speed	RAG rationale: data pending for 24/25
Our Place	Undertake review community	Improved community access to digital services	Narrative and number of communities receiving WiFi hot	2022 - 2028

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
	'Wi-Fi' hotspots		spots and or reviews to support technological improvements.	

10.0 Theme Ten: Waste

Strategic Aim	- Reduce waste arisings from residents and businesses across the district - Accelerate the transition towards a circular economy
Strategic Objectives	Continue to support the direction of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership and delivery of the high-level action plan
Key Outcomes	- Residents and businesses across the district are more aware of the impacts of their waste and are working to reduce, reuse and recycle. - Measurable improvements are made in the levels and quality of household and commercial waste recycled and reused across the district; and - Established circular economy involving key industry across the district

10.1 Update against actions achieved during 2024/25

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
Our Council	Prepare for and implement separate weekly food waste collections	During 2024/25, we moved from planning into delivery readiness: LWP confirmed the county approach and treatment route, and Lincolnshire County Council secured a 5-year contract with BioteCH4 at Hemswell Cliff. WLDC aligned procurement and comms to the	Percentage of households with food waste collections; tonnage of food waste collected to be recorded in 2026	RAG rationale: Readiness progressed; commercial service live; 2026 start in comms.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		county timeline, purchasing food caddies and designing / fitting branding to the newly arrived vehicles. Officers promoted the county-wide weekly household food waste collections starting in 2026. We also launched a commercial food-waste collection service (from March 2025) to help local businesses comply with new requirements and to build operational experience ahead of household roll-out.		
Our Council	Improve Recycling Quality and Quantity by Continuing to promote and expand the "Right Thing, Right Bin" campaign	Through the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership, 'Right Thing, Right Bin' was promoted year-round via social media, residents' newsletters and press. 2024/25 activity covered recycling basics, safe disposal of electricals/batteries, reducing food waste, and household food-waste collections starting April 2026. Campaign reach included a Christmas recycling push (Dec 2024) >10,000, Easter campaign ~8,000, and a September 2025 Facebook post showing a waste-truck fire that exceeded 300,000 views, reinforcing	Recycling contamination rates; overall recycling percentage	RAG rationale: Strong reach including >300k battery-safety post; quality contamination trend data still TBC.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		battery-safety messaging. Twin-stream collections became more embedded in 2024/25, with continued contamination-reduction messaging through resident, parish and business channels (including Recycle Week) resulting in a reduction in contamination of XX%(Wastedataflow published December but 23/24 at 6.94% overall) Operational and comms activity focus on maintaining the high paper/card quality achieved since roll-out and preparing residents for Simpler Recycling changes signalled nationally.		
Our Council	Adapt to Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) Changes: [Action] Develop strategies to minimize residual waste sent to Energy from Waste facilities	Following the UK ETS interim authority response (July 2025), we worked through the LWP and sector networks to understand likely impacts on Lincolnshire's EfW and modelled local tonnage/financial exposure to inform forward planning (mitigation via waste prevention, recycling and service design). We will continue aligning positions via LARAC as	Tonnage of residual waste; estimated carbon emissions from waste	RAG rationale: Scenario work via LWP; awaiting national detail.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
		national detail evolves.		
Our Council	Enhance Waste Prevention and Reuse Initiatives: [Action] Develop and implement a comprehensive waste prevention and reuse program	In 2024/25 we scoped a wider reuse and waste-prevention work programme for implementation from 2025/26, identifying potential local partners, venues and priority material streams, and linking with comms strands. This has not progressed as hoped due to key staff absences and turnover. A community reuse paint scheme was launched in the Market Rasen Household Waste Recycling Centre, and we have continued to promote charitable donations, community swap events and other local initiatives through all of our media channels. Audited Residual waste per household not published until January 2026. Internal figures will be prepared for report.	Total waste per household; participation in reuse schemes	RAG rationale: Programme scoped; pilots to follow.
Our Council	Prepare for Extended Producer Responsibility: Develop systems to accurately measure packaging	We used indicative EPR payment notifications (Nov 2024) and subsequent DEFRA guidance updates (Mar 2025) to plan indicative budgeting. Data/process changes are being	Accuracy of waste data reporting; EPR payments received	RAG rationale: Data/process planning started with LWP.

Corporate Plan Theme	Action	Update	Timescales	RAG
	waste for EPR payments	looked at through LWP. Internal workstreams on data quality, reporting and financial tracking need to be established and embedded so we are ready for the payments service go-live and year-one reconciliation.		
Our Council	Prepare for Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) Impact: [Action] Assess and plan for the impact of DRS on waste collections and recycling rates	Through 2024/25 we tracked national policy and prepared to align communications, so residents understand how DRS interacts with kerbside services. We will coordinate with LARAC on messaging and planning assumptions following confirmation of the DRS start date (Oct 2027), to minimise disruption to recycling performance.	Changes in recycling composition; overall recycling rates	RAG rationale: National Policy delays, but planning aligned to Oct 2027 implementation.