



GOSPORT
Borough Council

Climate Change Strategy **2022**

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Forewords

Gosport Borough Council has a vital and unique role in tackling climate change, due to its role as a local authority and its ability to enable and promote community action. Although we do not have control over the majority of emissions in the Borough we will enable, encourage and support action across Borough.

We recognise that climate change is real, that big change starts small and everyone can help to reduce emissions. We will work in partnership, engage with the community and collaborate to ensuring decisions on climate change are local, accessible to the community and protect the most vulnerable.

We are already working hard to rise to this challenge by reducing emissions from Council Operations and encouraging everyone to take action too. Recent progress includes using renewable electricity for our buildings, carrying out extensive tree planting, placing climate change at the centre of our draft Gosport Borough Local Plan 2038, helping establish Greening Campaigns across Gosport to help whole communities work together to become more sustainable, and creating the Gosport Climate Change Partnership.

However, we understand that our journey to a sustainable Borough still has a long way to go and the path to a sustainable Borough can also be a path to a healthier, prosperous, and more socially connected Borough.

This Strategy sets out Gosport's long term vision, driven by central policy, and how the Council will lead by example by reducing its own emissions and work with the community and in partnership to reduce emissions Borough-wide.

Councillor Zoe Huggins
Chair of the Climate Change Board

The senior management team at Gosport Borough Council recognises that the climate crisis requires urgent action throughout the Council. Meeting these aspirations will require a concerted and sustained effort across the whole Council. As Chief Executive, I am committed to driving this work forward, leading and supporting our officers to implement the changes necessary to deliver this Strategy.

David Williams
Chief Executive Officer

Executive summary

Climate change, as a result of human activities, is predicted to have wide-ranging impacts across the world. Many of these impacts will be felt locally so Gosport will need to adapt and be resilient. However, the impacts can be lessened by a collective effort to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions. There are opportunities for reducing emissions in Gosport but this will require a collective effort by everyone and be delivered by working in partnership and engaging with the community. The Council has committed to doing what it can to reduce its own emissions and to work with others to contribute towards this local, national and global effort within its accountability.

The Council has a long-term vision driven by central policy with a mission statement describing how it will work towards this, which includes the key enabling principle of community engagement and partnership working.

For each priority, short, medium and long term aims and ambitions are identified and an accompanying action plan contains the necessary delivery activity. Actions will take into account the Carbon Hierarchy and a cost benefit analysis including impact, co-benefits and financial implications, to ensure action is realistic, proportionate, affordable and equitable.

The Climate Change Board is responsible for monitoring delivery of actions and of the priorities and advising if the Council is on track with its aims and ambitions in this Strategy. The Climate Change Board's work programme allows for regular review that is driven by local need, central policy as well as advancements in innovation, technology and behavioural change.

Vision

A sustainable environment, adapting and mitigating the impacts of climate change, reaching net zero by 2050.

Mission

To act now, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations and be on the journey, working in partnership and engaging the community, for Gosport to reach net-zero by 2050 and be as resilient as possible to climate change.

Aspirations

Priorities

Emissions from Council operations

A1
Emissions of greenhouse gases¹ from Gosport Council operations to reach net-zero by 2050.

P1: Supported housing and operational buildings

P2: Refuse collection

P3: Employee travel

P4: Procurement

Gosport wide emissions

A2
Borough-wide emissions of greenhouse gases² to reach net-zero by 2050, and for the Borough to be as resilient as possible to the impacts of climate change.

P5: Domestic emissions

P6: Transport emissions

P7: Emissions from consumption

P8: Resilience to flooding

Gosport's resilience to climate change

P9: Resilience to heat waves

P10: Ecosystems and biodiversity

Engagement and Partnerships

Enabling principle E1

To ensure the whole community is collectively involved in Gosport's journey to net zero and increasing the Borough's resilience to climate change

¹ Includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions but not scope 3, as these are not currently measured, but efforts will be made to reduce this majority source.

² Initial focus on CO₂ reduction as this is a key source and addressing it will reduce emissions of other gases too.

Introduction

Scientific context

In the last 11,000 years the global average temperature was relatively stable, until approximately 150 years ago when human activities notably increased atmospheric greenhouse gases. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has described the consequences of this which includes global sea level rises, extreme heat and precipitation³. Met Office records show that the UK climate is getting warmer and wetter⁴.

IPCC projections indicate that global temperature increases will lead to more frequent and more extreme heatwaves, droughts, precipitation and storms. While these changes are now unavoidable, their severity depends on how far global temperatures rise and therefore the speed of reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

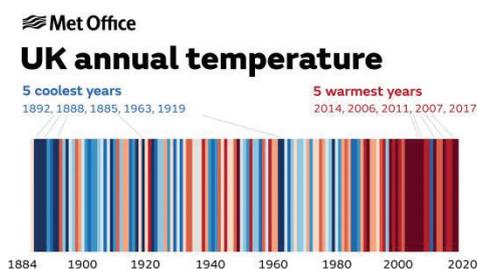
Gosport Borough Council recognises that it has a responsibility both to adapt to climate change and to contribute to the local, national, and global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with innovation and technology being key to those efforts.

Policy context

Central policy drives the ambition, with the Climate Change Act 2008⁵ defining a legally binding target for the UK to reach net-zero emissions by 2050, underpinned by the Government's Net Zero Strategy, which sets out policies to achieve this target and an interim target of a 78% cut in emissions by 2035⁶.

Local authorities will deliver many of these policies and most have committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, or earlier. Hampshire County Council has set a target of reaching net-zero emissions across Hampshire by 2050, and is collaborating with local Councils, including Gosport, to implement measures to achieve this.

Gosport Borough Council passed a resolution in 2020 to acknowledge climate change and the need for action: to embed work to address climate change in all service areas, reduce emissions from Council operations, establish a Climate Change Partnership, work in partnership across the Borough, county and region, engage with residents (especially with young people), and call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make this possible.



Changes to UK annual mean temperatures 1884 to 2020. Source:
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/climate-change/what-is-climate-change>

³ See the IPCC Sixth Assessment Working Group 1 Report for more information: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

⁴ See the Met Office UK Climate Projections for more information: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp/index>

⁵ As amended in 2019

⁶ Compared to 1990 figures and approved by Parliament in 2021

Local context

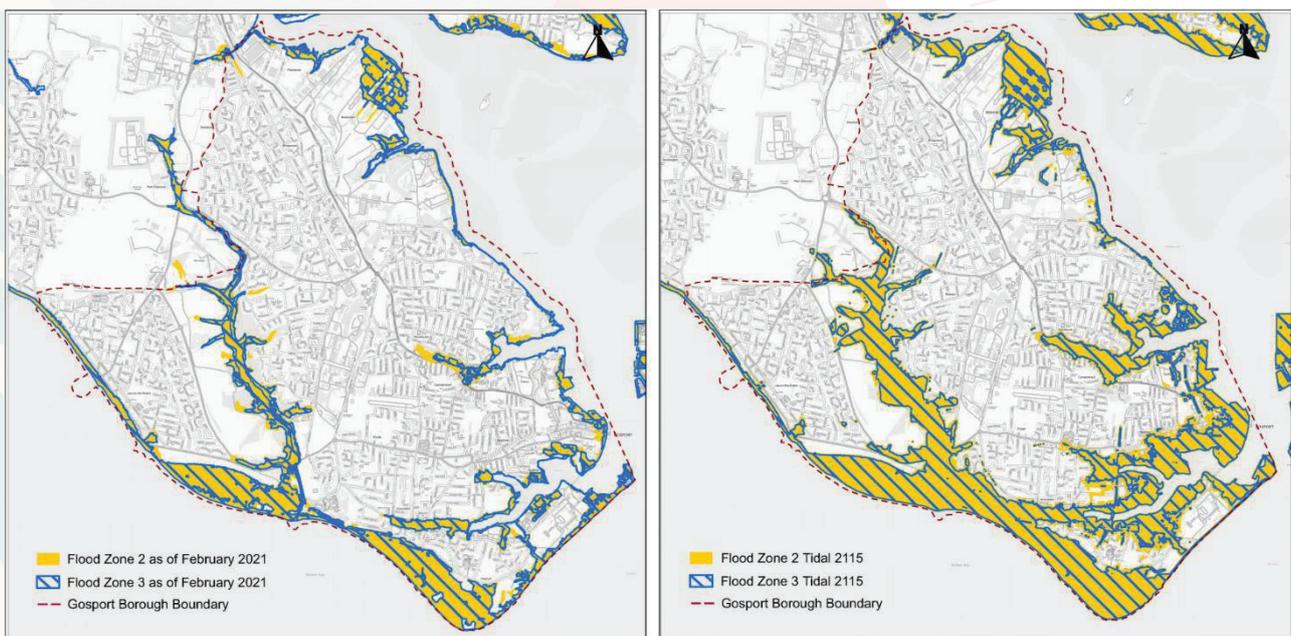
Gosport's location, demography and built environment will influence its approach towards and resilience to Climate Change. A profile of the Borough is available at www.gosport.gov.uk/gosportprofile.

Gosport is predominantly urban in character with a population density nine times the England average. The over 65 year old population is projected to increase from 21% (2021) to 28.5% (2038).

Based on average ranking of Indices of Multiple Deprivation for neighbourhoods within each local authority area, Gosport is the most deprived local authority area in Hampshire, and the 130th most deprived out of 317 areas in England.

There are 0.52 jobs per working-age resident, the 13th lowest figure in the UK, resulting in high levels of out-commuting. Gosport is one of the largest towns in England with no rail service, although the Gosport Ferry provides access to Portsmouth and a train station. The Bus Rapid Transit runs frequent buses between Gosport and Fareham although bus services outside this route are more limited.

This coastal Borough's land is flat and low-lying, which provides opportunities for cycling and walking but also risk of flooding: 14% of the land is classed as vulnerable to flooding, and this is predicted to increase as shown below.



Current and projected areas at risk of flooding. Source: https://www.gosport.gov.uk/media/3538/Interim-SFRA-Regulation-18-GBLP2038-September-2021/pdf/Interim_SFRA_Regulation_18_GBLP2038_September_2021.pdf

Vision and mission statement

The Council's vision is for a sustainable environment, adapting and mitigating the impacts of climate change, reaching net zero by 2050.

This vision encompasses the many benefits that acting on climate change will bring and envisages Gosport becoming a town with a thriving local economy and strong communities, whose residents enjoy a healthier, more active lifestyle, cleaner air while living in homes that are more energy efficient.

The Council recognises the scale of the challenge in realising its vision which is reflected in its mission statement.

To act now, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations and be on the journey, working in partnership and engaging the community, for Gosport to reach net-zero by 2050 and be as resilient as possible to climate change.

The Council, organisations, businesses, community groups and individuals all have a role in achieving net zero, which will be delivered through a combination of factors including innovation, technology, government policy, investment and behavioural change.

Reducing emissions from Council operations

Aspiration and approach

A1: The Council's aspiration is for emissions of greenhouse gases⁷ from Council operations to reach net-zero by 2050.

The Council's operations are a small percentage of the total greenhouse gas emissions in Gosport⁸. However, the Council has full control over these emissions and a responsibility to lead by example by reducing these accordingly with a longer-term aspiration.

To reach this aspiration, the Council will aim to reduce measured emissions by at least 10% each year on average from a 2019/20 financial year baseline. While emissions reductions will fluctuate, with possible plateaus and abrupt reductions (reflecting technological advances or national policy), interim targets have been set to help monitor progress:

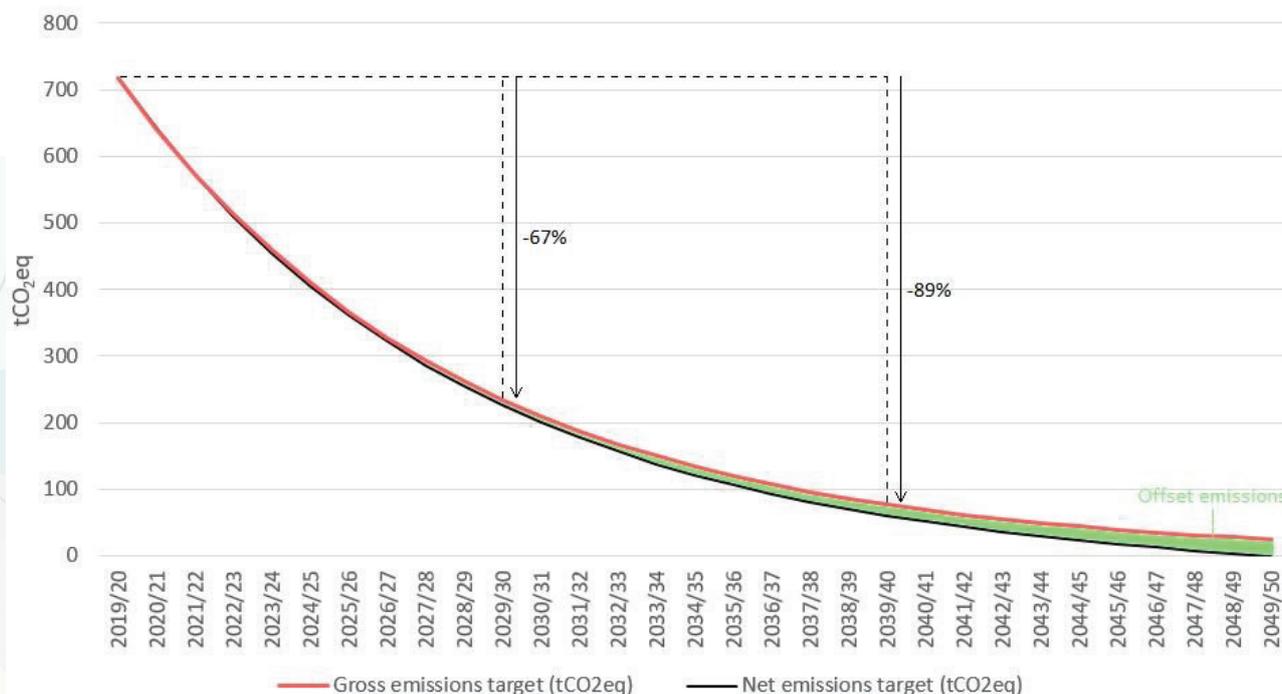
- Reduction of at least 67% compared to 2019/20 by 2029/30.
- Reduction of at least 89% compared to 2019/20 by 2039/40.

It is likely there will still be some residual emissions by 2049/50 which will need to be offset to reach net-zero, but the Council will aim to keep this as limited as possible.

⁷ Includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions but not scope 3, as these are not currently measured, but efforts will be made to reduce this majority source.

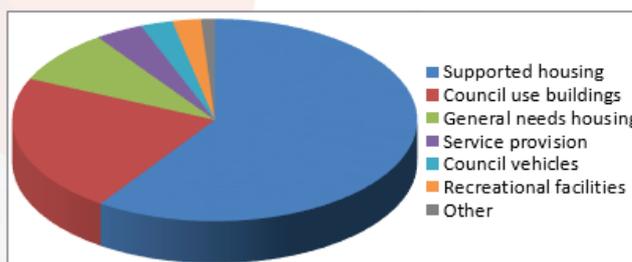
⁸ Scope 1 and 2 emissions calculated as approx. 0.4%

Emissions reduction targets



Priorities and key aims

The Council's scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions are primarily from **supported housing and operational buildings**⁹ (see <https://www.gosport.gov.uk/ghg-emissions> for details) so these will be a priority for reduction effort.



The areas that are likely to contribute the most to scope 3 emissions will also be addressed: **refuse collection, employee travel** and **procurement**.

The key aims for each priority are set out below.

⁹ The Council's emissions from supported housing are mostly accounted for by hostels and communal areas of sheltered housing schemes, which will therefore be the main focus of emission reduction actions.

Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P1: Supported housing and operational buildings	CB1. Energy demand in operational buildings will be reduced through behaviour changes. CB2. No fossil-fuel based heating systems will be installed in new buildings. CB3. All new buildings will be as energy efficient as possible.	CB4. All Council managed buildings will be as energy efficient as possible. CB5. All suitable Council managed buildings will have solar panels.	CB6. No new fossil-fuel based heating systems will be installed in Council managed buildings.
P2: Refuse collection	CR1. Fuel used by diesel refuse collection vehicles will be minimised.	CR2. All refuse collection vehicles will use alternative fuels to minimise or eliminate emissions.	-
P3: Employee travel	CT1. Distances travelled by employees for work purposes will be minimised.	CT2. Use of sustainable travel options by employees will be significantly increased.	-
P4: Procurement	CP1. All new contracts will be awarded taking into account lifecycle emissions of products and services, and commitment of suppliers to achieve net-zero emissions.	CP2. The amount of material resources used by the Council will be minimised. CP3. Lifecycle emissions of material resources used by the Council will be minimised.	-

Further emissions reductions from these areas will be driven by Government policy, legislation and investment for decarbonisation; for example emissions from buildings will only reach zero after full decarbonisation of the UK's electricity grid.

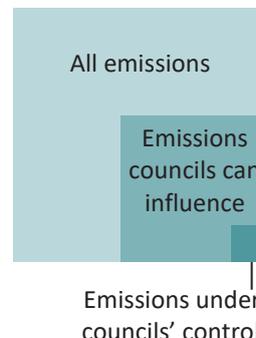
Once major emission sources have been addressed, action for non-priority areas will be reflected in this strategy although if opportunities arise, actions will be included sooner (e.g. electric vehicles considered for purchase/lease when the present lease expires).

Gosport Borough

Aspirations and approach

A2: The Council’s aspiration for Gosport is for Borough-wide greenhouse gas emissions¹⁰ to reach net-zero by 2050, and for the Borough to be as resilient as possible to the impacts of climate change.

These emissions are not fully under the Council’s control, but it has a substantial influence over the future of Gosport through its role as a planning authority, policy maker, service provider and purchaser. Approximately one third of an area’s emissions are estimated to be directly influenced by the actions of the local authorities¹¹. The Local Plan is a key mechanism through which the Council can influence Gosport’s emissions and resilience to climate change and is, along with other strategies/policies, being aligned accordingly.



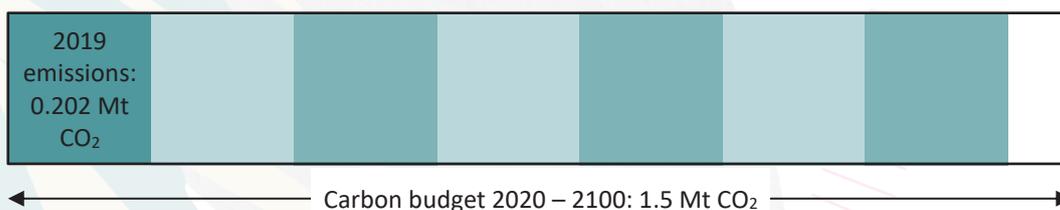
The Council works with partners, where it does not have direct control or influence.

Partnership working includes Hampshire County Council, neighbouring councils (directly and through partnerships such as the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Coastal Partnership), the regional Energy Hub, local schools and colleges, community/voluntary sector and the private sector to promote climate action, and this is reflected in the action plan.

Reducing emissions

Carbon budget for Gosport

The Tyndall Centre has calculated that for Gosport to contribute its fair share to the goal of limiting global warming to 2°C with a chance of staying below 1.5°C, Gosport’s CO₂ emissions¹² between 2020 and 2100 must be no greater than 1.5 MtCO₂. This 80-year carbon budget represents just over seven times the emissions generated in 2019.

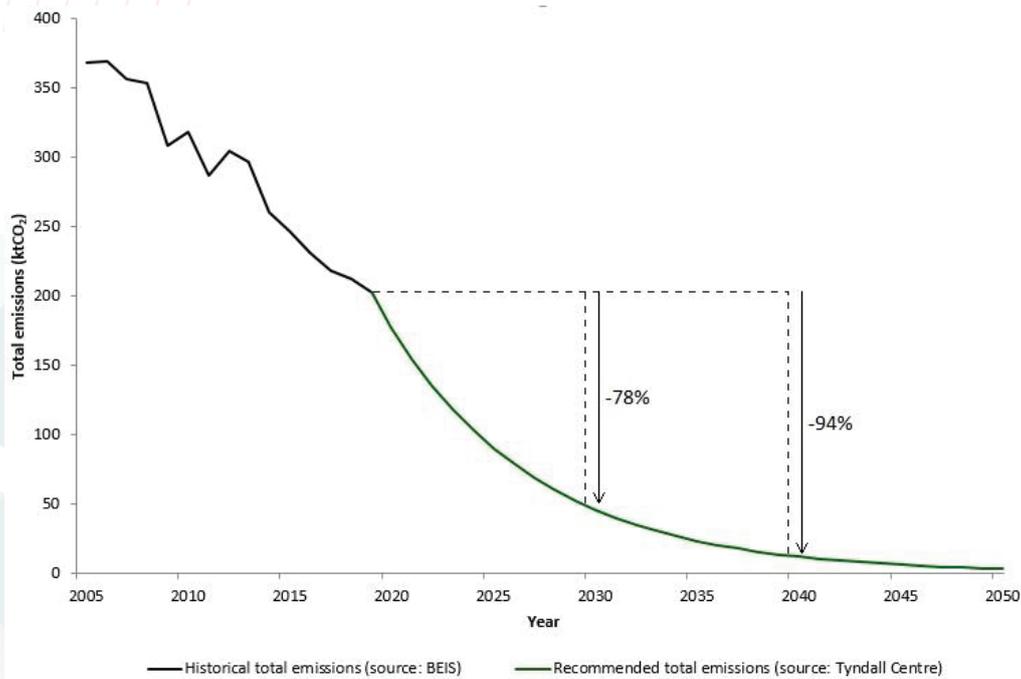


The Tyndall Centre has also calculated that to stay within the carbon budget, Gosport needs to decrease CO₂ emissions by 12.6% every year from 2020, as shown below. This implies a 78% reduction by 2030 and a 94% reduction by 2040, compared to 2019 levels. The Council will work to encourage and enable reduction of emissions and report annually on the area’s progress compared to this recommended pathway, indicating if the Borough is on track to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

¹⁰ Initial focus on CO₂ reduction as this is a key source and addressing it will reduce emissions of other gases too.

¹¹ See Climate Change Committee report “Local Authorities and the Sixth Carbon Budget”: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/local-authorities-and-the-sixth-carbon-budget/>

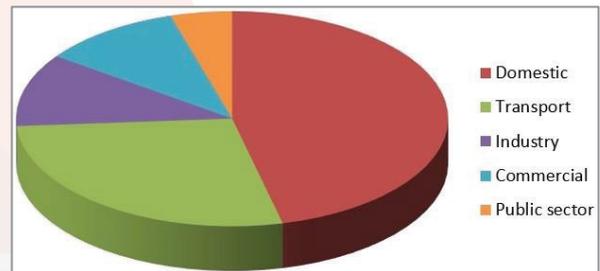
¹² This only includes Scope 1 and 2 emissions (see glossary for definitions)



Priorities and key ambitions

Gosport’s scope 1 and 2 emissions are primarily **domestic** and **transport** related (see <https://www.gosport.gov.uk/ghg-emissions> for details) so these will be a priority for reduction effort.

The areas that are likely to contribute the most to scope 3 emissions will also be addressed: **consumption of goods and food** produced outside Gosport.



The key ambitions that the Council will contribute to realising in each priority area are set out below.

Once major emission sources have been addressed, action for non-priority areas will be reflected in this Strategy although if opportunities arise, actions will be included sooner (e.g. helping businesses to access decarbonisation grants or loans).

Priority

P5: Domestic emissions

P6: Transport emissions

	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P5: Domestic emissions	<p>GD1. Residents have implemented zero or low cost measures to reduce energy remand.</p> <p>GD2. All new housing is as energy efficient as possible.</p> <p>GD3. All new housing is fitted with solar PV and/or solar thermal systems where appropriate.</p>	<p>GD4. No new housing uses fossil fuel based heating systems.</p> <p>GD5. At least 7500 homes in Gosport are fitted with non-fossil fuel based heating systems by 2030.¹³</p>	<p>GD6. All homes in Gosport have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of C or better by 2035.¹⁴</p> <p>GD7. All homes in Gosport are fitted with non-fossil fuel based heating systems by 2050.</p>
P6: Transport emissions	<p>GT1. All new developments and infrastructure transport network improvements are designed to make sustainable travel the most convenient option.</p> <p>GT2. All suitable new residential and commercial developments include electric vehicle charging points.</p>	<p>GT3. Amenities, shops and leisure opportunities are enhanced, reducing travel demand.</p> <p>GT4. Public transport services are a convenient and affordable option for residents, for commuting, shopping and leisure purposes.</p>	<p>GT5. Gosport’s job density is at least the Hampshire average, reducing travel demand due to out-commuting.</p> <p>GT6. At least 350 public electric vehicle charging points are available by 2030.¹⁵</p> <p>GT7. Active travel modes are a convenient and safe option for all residents, for commuting, shopping and leisure purposes.</p>

¹³ This aligns with the Climate Change Committee’s recommendation for the number of heat pumps that will need to be fitted across the UK by 2030.

¹⁴ This aligns with the Government’s target for all homes in the UK to have an EPC rating of least C by 2035.

¹⁵ This aligns with the Climate Change Committee’s target for the number of public charging points that will be needed across the UK by 2030.

Priority

P7: Emissions from consumption

Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
-	GC1. The amount of food wasted by residents and businesses is minimised. GC2. A culture of sharing and buying second hand is established. GC3. Products are routinely repaired to extend their lifespan. GC4. At least 68% of waste is reused, recycled or composted by 2030. ¹⁶	GC5. The proportion of locally produced foods in diets is significantly increased. GC6. The proportion of meat, dairy, and other carbon intensive foods in diets is significantly reduced.

Adapting to climate change

Expected impacts

The Climate Change Committee produces five-yearly assessments of UK climate change risk and its 2017 report identified six key areas that need to be addressed, as shown below.

Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure (Ch3, Ch4 Ch5, Ch6)	MORE ACTION NEEDED
Risks to health, well-being and productivity from high temperatures (Ch5, Ch6)	
Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry (Ch3, Ch4, Ch5, Ch6)	
Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity (Ch3)	
Risks to domestic and international food production and trade (Ch3, Ch6, Ch7)	
New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals (Ch3, Ch5, Ch7)	RESEARCH PRIORITY
NOW -----> RISK MAGNITUDE -----> FUTURE 	

¹⁶ This aligns with the Committee of Climate Change’s recommendation for the proportion of waste reused, recycled or composted across the UK.

Priorities and key ambitions

These impacts will affect UK areas to different extents. Gosport is particularly vulnerable to **flooding** due to its low-lying and coastal location, and to **heat waves** due to its location in the south of the UK and its urban character. The Climate Change Committee has identified these two risks as the largest and most certain and therefore are main priorities for increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Risks to **ecosystems and biodiversity** are also considered to be a priority area for adaptation, as the Climate Change Committee report highlighted loss of coastal habitats and impacts on marine wildlife as areas of particular concern.

Other risk areas have a more limited impact in Gosport or the nature/severity of the impacts are less certain. These will be kept under review and opportunities will be taken to promote adaptation in these areas as they arise.

The key ambitions that the Council will contribute to realising in each priority area are set out below.

Priority	Short term (< 3 years)	Medium term (3 to 10 years)	Long term (> 10 years)
P8: Resilience to flooding	<p>GF1. Residents are prepared for flooding emergencies.</p> <p>GF2. Flood risks in new developments are minimised.</p> <p>GF3. No new developments increase surface water run-off.</p>	-	<p>GF4. Sustainable drainage systems are implemented throughout the Borough.</p> <p>GF5. The storm sewer system is able to cope with predicted heavy rainfall events.</p> <p>GF6. Sea defences are able to protect against predicted high tides and storm surges.</p>
P9: Resilience to heat waves	<p>GH1. Residents are prepared for extreme heat.</p> <p>GH2. All new housing allows for summer shading.</p>	<p>GH3. Urban centres have significantly more vegetation to provide shade and evaporative cooling.</p>	<p>GH4. All homes in Gosport have measures fitted to allow for summer shading.</p>
P10: Ecosystems and biodiversity	<p>GN1. Risks to habitats and species are understood.</p> <p>GN2. All new developments achieve a net gain in biodiversity.</p>	<p>GN3. Non-climate change related pressures on at-risk habitats and species are minimised.</p> <p>GN4. New sea defences avoid habitat loss from sea level rise where possible.</p>	-

Engagement and Partnerships

E1: An enabling principle to deliver the aspirations in this Strategy is:

To ensure the whole community is collectively involved in Gosport's journey to net zero and increasing the Borough's resilience to climate change.

The aspiration set out in this Strategy will only be achieved with national support and community-wide participation by residents, businesses, educational establishments, the community and voluntary sector, and other organisations. Community engagement and partnerships will provide opportunities for local residents and organisations to contribute to decision making at operational and strategic levels within local control, to drive behavioural change and take action to tackle climate change.

The Council, as a community leader, will facilitate:

- **Engagement**

Through community and individual action - The Council will encourage and enable individual and community action, helping address emissions and resilience measures over which the Council does not have direct control.

Through young people - The Council recognises the long-term interest of young people so it is exploring engagement preferences to ensure that these mechanisms are appropriate and effective.

Through business – The council will seek to empower local business to build a green economy and not only adapt but be part of the solution and seek innovation. The Borough's Local Plan will have climate change at its centre with other strategies and policies aligning accordingly.

Through key organisations – The Council will work with the third sector, government bodies, education establishments, utility companies, housing associations, transport operators, strategic partnerships, and other bodies that have the potential to make significant impact.

- **Partnership**

The Council will build on existing partnerships and develop new ones where appropriate. This partnership working will enable co-ordination, best practice, optimisation of resource, improved knowledge/understanding and a shared endeavour, while increasing the number of individuals and organisations participating in this effort.

Gosport's Climate Change Partnership has been recently established to co-ordinate a collective local response to the climate change challenge and includes a wide range of stakeholders. Gosport Council is represented on this independent body by the Climate Change Board Chairperson.

The Council also recognises that external partnership with other authorities and organisations are just as vital in enabling change and producing action.

- **Communication**

The Council, using multiple channels and tailored communications, will reach out and raise awareness to engage key and target groups on issues pertaining to climate change.

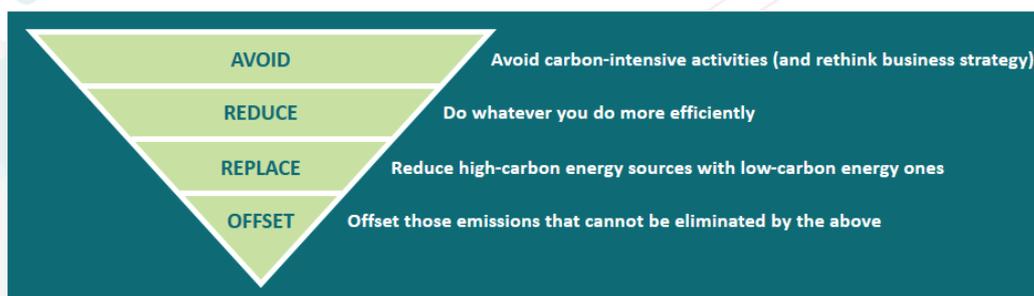
Delivery and governance

Actions

Delivery of this strategy is through an accompanying Climate Change Action Plan detailing delivery actions, with timescales, key partners and responsible officers.

The Plan is used to establish and monitor activity and is refreshed annually to reflect changes in circumstances, new technologies, emerging best practice, progress and strategy updates.

The Carbon Hierarchy will guide actions and decisions, as shown below.



Source: Green Restoration Ireland

The Council's democratic decision process includes an impact assessment requirement which aims to embed climate change considerations into policies and operations.

Central Government resourcing, policy and powers and investment in innovation and technological advancements will also be key to the actions that can and need to be taken locally.

Resourcing

The Council recognises that actions will require resource allocation, and this will be done in accordance with its financial and governance processes facilitating proportionate, affordable and equitable spend.

Some actions after initial spend, especially those to reduce emissions, may generate long term savings or income. Actions to mitigate and adapt may offer multiple benefits and opportunities such as better health and wellbeing outcomes, reduced fuel poverty, improved air quality, better use of resources and improved resilience.

Business cases will be developed for actions that require specific financing, with a cost benefit analysis and identification of suitable funding sources, which may include the following:

- Council funding via existing or additional budgets.
- Government funding.
- Other external funding schemes.
- Levy funding sources or charges.
- Other green financing options e.g., community-based fundraising¹⁷.

¹⁷ See <https://www.local.gov.uk/financing-green-ambitions-full-report> and <https://issuers.abundanceinvestment.com/council-climate-bonds>; there are also potential benefits for community engagement

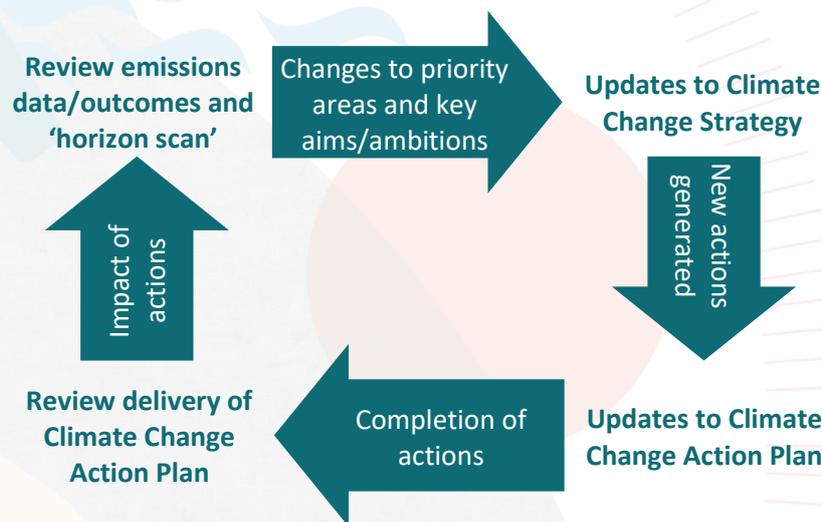
Governance

The Governance of this Strategy is provided by the Climate Change Board which will monitor and review delivery and effectiveness of its aspirations, strategic priorities, and engagement enablers.

It will also ‘horizon scan’ for strategic issues by considering new legislation and guidance, emerging best practice, new technologies, research findings, views, behavioural change and feedback.

The Board’s key activities include priority setting, monitoring and reviewing the action plan, review of key performance indicators and target achievement, oversight of wider partnership progress and outcomes, identification of enablers that have led to results (e.g. strategies, management approaches, policies and communication) or barriers, overseeing consultation activity and lobbying Government for resources and powers.

An annual work programme has been established to facilitate this, as shown below.



The Climate Change Board also provides report to Full Council which is the approval body for the Climate Change Strategy.

Glossary

Carbon sinks	Natural features that absorb greenhouse gases, such as peat bogs, seagrass meadows or forests.
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
Climate Change Committee	A body established by the Climate Change Act 2008 to advise the Government on measures needed to meet the UK's targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change.
Decarbonisation	The process of reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with a system, operation, product or service to net-zero.
Energy Performance Certificates	Information providing an assessment of the energy efficiency of a building, using a rating scale from A (highly efficient) to G (very inefficient).
Greenhouse gases	Gases which are transparent to incoming solar radiation but absorb infra-red radiation emitted by the Earth, leading to a net increase in the amount of energy in the Earth system. The most significant greenhouse gases relevant to human-driven climate change are carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide.
Gross greenhouse gas emissions	The total emissions due to the activities of an organisation or within a geographical area.
Lifecycle emissions	The total emissions generated by a product, including its manufacture, transport and disposal as well as emissions from its use.
Net greenhouse gas emissions	The gross emissions of an organisation or geographical area, minus any emissions that it offsets.
Net-zero	This is shorthand for net greenhouse gas emissions being zero.
Offsetting	Activities that do not directly reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, but either prevent emissions or degradation of carbon sinks elsewhere, or increase absorption of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Absorption of greenhouse gases can be achieved directly, for example by planting trees, or indirectly by purchasing offset credits from a certified scheme that guarantees to implement measures that will absorb greenhouse gases. Prevention of emissions or degradation of carbon sinks can only be achieved by purchasing offset credits, and the availability of these will decrease to zero as net-zero emissions are achieved globally.
Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions	<p>Emissions scopes categorise emissions for which an organisation or geographical area is responsible, based on where and how those emissions are generated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope 1 emissions are those released directly by an organisation, or from within a geographical area. • Scope 2 emissions are those released when generating electricity or other energy services (such as district heat, steam or cooling networks), that is used by an organisation, or within a geographical area. • Scope 3 emissions are all other emissions generated outside an organisation or geographical area, to provide services or materials used with the organisation or area.



See <https://www.gosport.gov.uk/climatechange> for more information about climate change, the Council's response and what you can do. If you have any queries, comments or suggestions, please get in touch with us at climatechange@gosport.gov.uk.